



Donald Kieth Hurlbert

June 23, 1941 - April 9, 2018

“Gone Hunting” On Monday, April 9, our father, grandfather, great-grandfather and beloved husband, Donald Kieth Hurlbert, 76 passed peacefully to rest eternally after a short battle against cancer.

Memorial service will be held Monday, April 23, at 11:00 a.m. at the Gold Hill Lutheran Church, Butte, MT.

I was born in the early morning hours on June 23, 1941, weighing 9 lbs. 4 oz., in Bottineau, ND. I was the first of eight children born to George and Elnor (Bjornseth) Hurlbert. On August 6, 1941, I was baptized in Salem Lutheran Church in rural Bottineau. Back on the farm growing up I always liked animals. It was my job to drive the tractor from the farm to town for my Grandpa to use, I was 7.

I started school in Eckman, ND, the fall of 1946. I remember at times the teacher, her daughter and I were the only ones making it to school do to blizzards. Dad drove a team with a bobsled; we kids would ride with him to school. I don't ever remember walking to school, but we did walk home the 3 ½ miles plenty of times. When school was over it was my job to bring the milk cows in from the big pasture. I'd get them started for home and then crawl up on Roany's back and ride her home.

1950, (age 9) this year I held down my first job, running the tractor raking hay. I earned \$10, and with \$5 of that I bought a little sorrel colt and later sold him for \$28 and bought some chicks. I sold fryers and traded some for another horse. About this same time I got 3 ewes, a ram and some geese on shares with my Uncle Cecil.

I finished my schooling in May of 1955. I graduated from the 8th grade. I was the top of the class or maybe it was the bottom-depending on who you asked. I was the only one in the 8th grade. From there on all my schooling was from the school of hard knocks. The first winter out of school I worked milking about 17 cows by hand. I always had a job working for someone, family or neighbors.

The fall of 1956 we moved to town from the farm, a lot of adjustments had to be made now, we had electricity and an inside bathroom. A short time later my family moved to Montana, I was 15 and stayed behind in North Dakota.

The summer of 1957 I received a pen pal letter from a Montana gal. She described herself and said that if I come to Montana she would like to meet me. It sounded pretty good so

that fall I went to Montana and met her. We went together for a few years before getting married when she was 17 and me a whole 19. On January 31, 1961, we started our 57 years together. I have worked for the Anaconda Co. Smelter, cattle ranches, dairy farms, feed lots, bar tending, Correctional Officer at the Montana State Prison, Phillips County Road Crew, Auctioneer, Logging Cat Skidder and a Plummer. I never left an employer on bad terms because I thought I might need to go back.

Though all this working and moving around we had time to have 5 kids, Corliss, Donavon, Dennis, Darin and David; they have given us 30 grandkids and so far 13 great-grandchildren. After 40 some years of working for others I decided to strike off on my own and started my own company-Don's Plumbing Service. I retired to enjoy more time with family and friends playing cards (cribbage) and hunting. I've hunted the same area in SW Montana for almost 50 years, and got my share of deer, elk, antelope and 2 moose. I'd tell a few hunting stories but I'll leave that for family and friends to share.

My one wish is that all my honesty, hard work, ambition, determination and faith in family in passed on from generation to generation.

Survivors include the love of his life, Katheryn Rae Hurlbert, children, Corliss Nelson, Donavon Hurlbert, Dennis (Rachelle) Hurlbert, Darin Hurlbert and David (Megan) Hurlbert, sisters, Gloria Forward, Karen (Pat) Mulcahy, Nancy (Serge) Myers, and Marlys Hurlbert and brother, David (Cheryl) Hurlbert. Grandchildren, Chancey (Tia), Lacey, Kristi (Keelan), Mark, Christopher (Jenessa), Dalton (Ashlee), Rayce, Christina (Mike), Jenifer, Joshua (Sandra), Abreia, Anthony, Adam, Brayden, Seth, Jasmine, Travis, Harli (Bobby), Devaun, Nathan, Kinsley, Kevin, Izzy B, and 13 great grandchildren; extended grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and many more to numerous to mention.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Jerome Hurlbert and Duane Hurlbert, son-in-law's John Watson and Greg Nelson.

Cemetery

New Hill Cemetery

Anaconda, MT, 59711

Events

APR Service 11:00AM

23

Gold Hill Church

934 Placer St., Butte, MT, US, 59701

APR Graveside Service 02:00PM

23

New Hill Cemetery

Anaconda, MT, US, 59711

Comments



“ Kaye Lystad Kirk lit a candle in memory of Donald Kieth Hurlbert



Kaye Lystad Kirk - April 23, 2018 at 05:04 PM



“ Kathy & family, so sorry to hear of the passing of Don. Enjoyed knowing you folks in Malta.

Terry Lodmell - April 20, 2018 at 01:24 PM



“ My deepest sympathy goes out to all of Don' family. Don was always so friendly and fun to visit with when you lived in Malta. May he rest in peace.
Diane F Smith,
Malta

Diane Smith - April 20, 2018 at 11:21 AM



“ Southwest Transplant Alliance purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Donald Kieth Hurlbert.



Southwest Transplant Alliance - April 19, 2018 at 12:08 PM



“ Kathy and Family, I'm so sorry to hear Don has passed. I'm in Oregon and Debbie told me she had seen it on FB. I just talked to him a week or so ago. He sounded so good. My Thoughts and prayers are with you all. I didn't expect to hear this so soon. I know he was looking forward to coming to ND this Summer in July. I will call you Kathy when I get home from Oregon. I'll be home next week. Love and hugs from

Cousin Elaine and Eugene Hett ND.

Elaine Bjornseth Hett - April 18, 2018 at 09:46 PM



“ Tom, Ruby Reighard And Family lit a candle in memory of Donald Kieth Hurlbert



Tom, Ruby Reighard and family - April 14, 2018 at 01:23 AM



“ Merlyn & Sandra Chaffin lit a candle in memory of Donald Kieth Hurlbert



Merlyn & Sandra Chaffin - April 13, 2018 at 11:12 AM



“ Donald was my grandfathers cousin. He found me on Facebook and taught me so much about my family that I never knew. He even mailed me an entire genealogy book about our family along with photos of my great great great grandparents and other family members. He treated me and my wife as close family even though we had never met before. My wife and I took a road trip from San Diego to Yellowstone and on the way back we stopped into Butte so we could meet him and his wife. I'm so glad we did that because he brought along his sister and brother. It felt like a family reunion even though it was the first time we ever met. He was so kind and I am so great full for everything he shared with me.

Robert Hurlbert - April 12, 2018 at 11:34 PM



“ I regret not getting to meet Don at the Aasness-Bjornseth Reunion this summer. My condolences to family and friends. Benda Gronneberg Berseth



“ I loved reading Donnie’s posts on Facebook. He made me smile. We will miss him at the 4th. Of July gathering at Washoe Park! Fly with the angels!

carol driver - April 12, 2018 at 07:31 PM



“ Betty Mattson lit a candle in memory of Donald Kieth Hurlbert



Betty Mattson - April 12, 2018 at 05:20 PM



“ I met Donold when he sent me a chat message one evening, asking if I was related to Alfred Teigen. I told him Alfred was my uncle. From there, he started telling me stories about Eckman, and different things. I loved his stories. He was a wonderful facebook friend, and will be missed dearly.

Lisa A. Rosenthal-Wies

Lisa Wies - April 12, 2018 at 04:33 PM



“ Tana Chaffin lit a candle in memory of Donald Kieth Hurlbert



Tana Chaffin - April 12, 2018 at 04:30 PM



“ I was so very sorry to hear of Donald's passing. We had communicated several times about the upcoming Bjornseth-Aasness Family Reunion happening in the Turtle Mountains of North Dakota this summer. He was so excited about it and I'm so sad he won't be there to celebrate with us.

Just by exchanging family history information through letters and emails, I could tell what a special person he was. I was really looking forward to meeting this man who was so enthusiastic about family history, the reunion and the Turtle Mountains! So because of this, I will never forget him.

May the wonderful and happy memories of Donald bring you peace and comfort in the days ahead. Blessings to you all.

Kaye K. Lystad Kirk - April 11, 2018 at 09:13 AM



“ LeAnda lit a candle in memory of Donald Kieth Hurlbert



LeAnda - April 10, 2018 at 11:02 PM



“ I remember the first time I met Uncle Donnie and Aunt Kathy. It has been several years after they had lost contact with my parents, their teenage childhood friends. It could have been like 50 years since they last saw each other and when I had met him and Aunt Kathy and watch them with my parents it was like they never had any separation between them. It was so fun to see that friendship lasts over the decades and the spaces between them it was even more fun to get to hear the stories of "delinquent" trouble-maker teenagers. I will always treasure those stories of things they had done and things that they got caught in with and the things that got away with rest in peace Uncle Donnie and may you have strength Aunt Kathy. I love you both.

LeAnda - April 10, 2018 at 11:01 PM