



## Donald Lewis

January 27, 1948 - October 8, 2020

Donald Kneibert Lewis, 72 of Brazeau, Mo passed away October 8, 2020 at Mercy South Hospital.

He was born January 27, 1948 in Jackson to Richard and Mary Elizabeth (Kneibert) Lewis.

Don was a 1967 graduate of Jackson High School where he played football and was proud of dressing up as "Chief Raring Horse" in a parade. He was an avid Indian fan and St. Louis Cardinal fan. He proudly served in the U.S. Army and Vietnam War. After his service he took over his father's Mobil Oil Distributor business and later sold the business and went to work selling automobiles for Ford Motor Company. Don later was a bus driver for the Jackson School District, drove for SEMO Ready Mix and retired from RMC Perryville. After his retirement he drove for Superior Ag.

He was a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, lifetime member of the VFW Post #3838, life long member of the American Legion Post #158, participated in the American Legion Honor Guard, donated almost 10 gallons of blood, was a volunteer Jackson Fire Fighter, Brazeau Cemetery Association Treasurer and was often referred to as the "Mayor of Brazeau" and "Smokey the Bear".

Don loved to volunteer, hunt, go camping and was a bluebird enthusiast. He was known as a cornucopia of history and family information. He loved to talk with people and could easily strike up a conversation with a stranger.

Don is survived by his wife, of 26 wonderful years, Rebecca (Becky) Weber Lewis; two beautiful daughters, Heather (Wayne) Brown of Jackson and Heidi (Scott) Little of Jackson; brother, Robert (Jean) Lewis of Port Angeles, WA; sister, Mary Ann Haynes of Cape Girardeau; step-sons, Aaron (Amanda) Hager of Frohna, Joshua (Jerry Scott) Hager of Dallas, TX, Lucas (Kristin) Hager of Altenburg and Cody (Chelsey W.) Hager of Chicago.

Don was a much loved Papa and shared a special relationship with each of his 7 grandchildren; Nicholas and Joshua McIntyre, Guthrie and Avery Hume, Madilynn, Jackson and Will Hager. Several nieces and nephews, and other members of his extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard and Mary Elizabeth (Kneibert) Lewis and beloved brother, Richard "Dick" Cyrus Lewis.

The family will have a private funeral service at the Brazeau Presbyterian Church where there will be an Honor Guard service following in the Brazeau Cemetery.

A camp fire celebration of life will be held from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. November 7, 2020 outside the Brazeau Hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Brazeau Cemetery Association or Brazeau Presbyterian Church at 106 Church Lane, Frohna, MO 63748 Cape Girardeau County History Center, 102 S. High Street, Jackson MO 63755, or your local American Legion Post.

Ford and Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

NOV 7. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn  
1001 N Mt Auburn Road  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Tribute Wall

CK

“ I first met Don at a restaurant in the East End. Very happy and easy to talk to.

*I also drive and had run into Don at local quarries etc.*

*Always a happy man and great conversations with him!*

*God Bless you Don and your family!*

*You will be missed.*

*Chris Koesterer, Sr.*

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**Chris Koesterer, Sr.** - October 18, 2020 at 10:57 AM

MH

“ As the youngest brother, Don was into everything! Amazingly, he has remembered everything from very early. I think he must have had a photographic memory, I loved asking him to recall stores on Main Street or on High Street back in the 50's. He could start at an intersection and name every business AND the tenants on the upper floor!

*He loved "giving tours" - which included family names, events, and even who had*

*resided in a particular house before the current residents. After I left home and needed help moving into an apartment in St. Louis, he*

*was there to help. Later, I lived in KS for 30 years and when I*

*returned back to Cape, he was fond of reminding me of people and*

*names that I had not heard since I had moved away. We would call*

*each other every night to check on each other. After he retired from*

*ready mix, I shared that I had plans for him to be a docent at the*

*History Center in Jackson so he could help identify photos and*

*family histories. Sadly, he died too young.*

*Our family is so grateful for the outpouring of love and support we have received.*

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**Mary Ann Haynes** - October 16, 2020 at 02:24 AM

KD

“ So sorry for your loss. I just remember his smile whenever we saw him at the winery. Very soft spoken and friendly. May God be with you.

kathy dillahay - October 13, 2020 at 09:14 PM

LD

“ Becky, I am so sorry for the passing of your husband. God bless your family and cherish the many special times you had together. Sincerely,  
LaWanna Difani

LaWanna Difani - October 13, 2020 at 07:24 PM



“ A wonderful brother even though separated by distance. He always kept in touch and when I visited he monopolized our time together. The twelve years age difference prevented knowing his early, formative years. Memories start after his Viet Nam service and from then until now he was the best brother ever. He gave of himself to whom ever was in need as well as to whatever organizations he was associated. His ever day knowledge of surroundings and machines was readily apparent and utilized by many. I cannot overstate his three county memories of people, locations and history. It was a joy to ride the country roads and, some times, tiring to listen to his dissertations. He made an impact on all of his communities. He will be missed and remembered by me, the extended family, neighbors and friends. RIP with a Stag Beer Brother. Bob

Robert Lewis - October 13, 2020 at 12:24 PM

GP

Don Lewis such a nice man , known to me by only a short time but made a big impact. Condolences to the family and friends. Gary Pierce

Gary Pierce - October 13, 2020 at 03:58 PM