



Mr. Donald Lilenfeld

June 2, 1934 - June 26, 2013

Donald (“Don”) Lilenfeld passed peacefully in his sleep on June 26, 2013 after a three month battle with lung cancer. He was born on June 2, 1934, making him 79 at his death.

Don was born in Brooklyn, New York to Charles and Dora Lilenfeld. He is preceded in death by his parents, sister, Lyn Macklowsky and brother, Howard Lilenfeld. Don is survived by his loving wife, Barbara Lilenfeld, who he married in 1990 in Reno, Nevada. He is also survived by his children, David Lilenfeld and Lisa Lilenfeld-Riso, by Barbara’s children, Ken Markovits and Lisa Markovits Kohn and by grandchildren Ariel Kohn, Alana Riso, Hannah Riso, Alec Riso, Pace Lilenfeld, Rafael Kohn and Weston Donald Lilenfeld.

Don served in the U.S. Army from 1954 through 1956. After his military service, he earned a bachelor’s degree from Brooklyn College and went on to work for the American Management Association and the New York City Metropolitan Transit Authority, among others. A life-long resident of New York City, Don moved to Asheville with his wife Barbara after Don retired from the Transit Authority in 1997.

In Asheville, Don became an active member of the community. He was a member of the Buncombe County Transportation Advisory Board, Aging Coordinating Consortium, Alternate Delegate to the Senior Tarheel

Legislature, Asheville Jewish Community Center, Beth Israel Synagogue and Council on Aging of Buncombe County. He worked as precinct captain for County elections and was a lecturer at Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College. Don also entertained children (and adults) as a clown and enjoyed twisting balloons into animal and other shapes.

Don stated regularly that his primary objective each day was to make people smile, which he did with great success. Everyone who knew Don knew that his primary joy in life was making others happy through jokes, dancing, singing and puns he wrote and drew. Don also greatly enjoyed deep conversations on a range of challenging topics, for example, personal liberties, domestic and foreign affairs and religion. In an act of selflessness which was routine for Don, he gifted his body to the Duke University School of Medicine for study.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, July 14, at 4:00 p.m. at the pond house near the entrance to Eastmoor subdivision (Moffitt Road, left onto Eastmoor Drive). Donations may be made to Brother Wolf Animal Rescue or Asheville Humane Society.

www.morrisfamilyfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Private

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Donald Lilenfeld*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *May Mr. Donald Lilenfeld RIP, he is no longer in pain, despair or at a loss of control let your hearts be sure towards the True God who is in full control. "...Everything he has made pretty in its time. Even time indefinite he has put in their heart... I have come to know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and to do good during one's life; and also that every man should eat and indeed drink and see good for all his hard work. It is the gift of God." Ecclesiastes 3:10-13*

"The hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out, ... to a resurrection of life." John 5:28,29

A Neighbor - July 18, 2013 at 06:40 AM



“ *I am so glad to have known Don and to have called him a friend. He had the rare gift of being passionate about important things without taking them, or himself, too seriously. He was always ready to help or to make a joke, and to make those around him feel appreciated. But I never saw him ready to be "normal".*

The world is poorer without Don, but we are richer for having had him in our lives.

Witt love and sympathy for Barbara and the rest of the family,

Ethan

Ethan Benatan - July 13, 2013 at 11:02 PM

MW

“ Don was kind, giving, gentle and gifted with an innate sense and love of the Arts.
While I spent the last several years living off and on in Italy, Don entered my thoughts so many times..
Don, my ole friend, you will be missed. Maybe one day we will be having coffee together at Heavens Starbucks...I hear they're expanding all over the place.
" To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die."
I love you,
Malcolm

Malcolm Wolff - July 08, 2013 at 10:59 AM



“ A Full Life was purchased for the family of Mr. Donald Lilenfeld.



July 02, 2013 at 10:51 AM

JN

“ Don once told me with a straight face that there are 3 kinds of people in this world: Those that can do math, and those that can't.

Don - I miss you. You made Election Day fun!

John Noce

John Noce - July 01, 2013 at 08:44 AM

AK

“ Dear Barbara,
We were so sorry to hear of Don's passing. He was indeed a philosopher at heart. He will be sorely missed.
Judy and Alan Kaufman

Alan and Judith Kaufman - June 29, 2013 at 01:00 PM

AN

“ I am so sorry for your loss. The Bible provides comfort during these difficult times. Revelation 21:3,4 states "And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away. Very soon now, we will never experience losing our loved ones in death. Hope these words give you a new hope.

Ana - June 28, 2013 at 09:05 PM

NJ

“ I have the fondest memories of Don at all the meetings we attended together. We would crack small jokes, laugh, get serious and sometimes deep, laugh some more. I enjoyed hearing his perspective and struggled at times watching others who didn't. Don carried himself everywhere he went and one always knew when Don had something to say. I appreciated and learned from what he had to say and will miss our conversations together.
Peace to you Don and to your family,
Nathan Johnson
Council on Aging friend

Nathan Johnson - June 28, 2013 at 07:58 AM

ED

Dear Ken and family. I met Don the same way many other members at the Downtown Y met your Step-father. Don was always friendly to others, just as you have been Ken. I will always remember how he shared a joke, pun, or his philosophy of life with others. Don will be missed.

Edward J. deVerges - June 30, 2013 at 11:16 AM