



Donald Gibbs

August 2, 1912 - June 4, 2010

Donald Stephen Gibbs, 97, Topeka, born August 2, 1912 in Newcastle NE to John F. Gibbs and Mary E. Malone. died in his home with his family gathered around him on Sun., May 30, 2010. He was preceded in death by his siblings: Melvin, Larry, Lois and Vera Gibbs; his wife Maxine H. Marx Gibbs and their daughter, Mary Jane (Janie) Gibbs Basile. Don graduated from Yankton College with a BBA in 1932, in Yankton SD then worked as a photographer in Minnesota followed by Field Agent for Dunhan Bradstreet until he was drafted into the US Army, 103rd Division in 1942. He married Maxine H. Marx in Falls City NE, Oct. 18, 1941. After his discharge in 1946, they moved to Topeka KS where Don was a business manager in downtown Topeka for Midwest Appliance Store and retired from Ed Marlings' Stores in 1979. After retirement, Don remained active in the Topeka Community renovating homes/rentals during the 1970s and 1980s then managed his son's small farm in Rantoul, Kansas. Don was an active member of Holy Name Catholic (Mater Dei) parish, Knights of Columbus Council No. 8059 and Hayden High School Father's Club. Don remained an avid supporter and fan of all his children's and grandchildren's academic, athletic, and music activities for the last 60 years. Don volunteered for many years at Brewster Retirement Community and Heart of America Hospice where he presented information to staff and support groups regarding the family's perspective on caregiving for those who live with Alzheimer's Disease. Don was instrumental in development and fundraising for the Maxine Gibbs Celebration of Life Fund, Brewster

Foundation, created at the time of his wife, Maxine's death. Don's children and grandchildren include, the late Janie Basile, children Anne, Steve, and Dave; Steve (Lynn) Gibbs, children Leah, Lara and Jake; and John (Diane) Gibbs and son Will, all of Santa Fe NM; Joyce (Joe) Smith of Liberty MO, Sue (Steve) Huston of Topeka KS, children Tom, Dan and Katie; and Pat (Bernie) Bottenberg, Perry KS, children Joe and Tim Pennington; four step-grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren and eleven step-great-grandchildren. Family will greet friends from 5 to 6:30 Fri. at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka KS 66614, followed by a presentation of family memories. Due to road construction, please approach from 21st and Urish Road. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Sat. at Mater Dei Assumption Church. Burial will be in Mt. Calvary Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Maxine Gibbs Celebration of Life Fund at Brewster Place sent in care of the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ Donald Gibbs

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Unca Don Gibbs was larger than life to me since I came to know him in the 1960s. He seemed to be a gentler clone of my grandfather, his older brother Mel. What an extraordinary family they were. Always kind, well spoken, hilariously funny, incredible personal integrity and so charismatic.*

Don was father-like to my mother Marylois after her dad died. I loved to read his letters to her and listen to the family history he knew so well and was so patient in conveying. We all appreciate his attentiveness to her.

I regretted so not being able to travel to pay tribute to the last of that generation. You all have endured so much lately; I pray often that you can find peace with their losses.

*The world indeed has lost a role model to us all. Godspeed Don!
God bless you,*

Sara

Sara Skochdopole Holman - June 13, 2010 at 07:20 PM



“ *Dear Gibbs Family,*

We are so sorry that we can't be with you this weekend to celebrate the life and mourn the passing of your wonderful father and grandfather, Don. We think of you with love--especially today.

Bruce and Connie (Waetzig) Holmes - June 05, 2010 at 07:45 PM

LM

“ Pat,

Sorry to hear of your father's passing. Memories of him will be with you always, and you can be assured of his continuing legacy.

With Sympathy,

Lee

Lee Metzenthin - June 03, 2010 at 08:01 PM

LM

“ *Family of Don*

Don was a pillar for us at Brewster. His thoughtful kindness and warm smile was a welcome sight. He believed in living life to it's fullest and to hold tight to the little moments along the way that bring us pain or joy. His family devotion included everyone at Brewster and he will always be thought of highly! Thanks for sharing Maxine and Don with us.

Lea MorganLPN Brewster Health Center

Lea MorganLPN - June 02, 2010 at 08:44 AM