



Donald Thompson Jr.

March 1, 1963 - October 23, 2024

Donald Paul Thompson, Jr., 61, Topeka, Kansas, passed away Wednesday, October 23, 2024.

Donald was born, March 1, 1963, in Topeka, the son of Donald Thompson Sr. and Eileen Snook Thompson. He graduated from Seaman High School in 1981. Donald married Betsy Jackson on May 11, 1996. He was the owner of The Doughnut Shop from 1986 to 1992, and he retired from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas on March 1, 2023, after 22 years of service. Following his retirement, Donald and Betsy opened his dream business, Pinballs Plus LLC, on March 4, 2023.

Donald was a member of the Arab Shrine. He loved fishing, watching the Chiefs and had a passion for pinball machines. Donald was a loving and caring father and grandfather. He would drop everything to help anyone in need. His final helpful action was donating both of his kidneys.

Donald is survived by his wife, Betsy; children, Cody Thompson (Katie), Rebecca Christiansen (Tanner) and Sara Cirilo (Bruce); grandchildren, Carter Thompson, Camden Christiansen and Sophia, Presley and Wyatt Cirilo; sister, Tammy Cameron (Kirby); uncle, Ross Myers; and aunts, Arlene, Jackie and Sharon. He was preceded in death by his parents and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Visitation will be 12 to 2 p.m. Friday, November 1, 2024, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614, where funeral service will begin at 2 p.m. Burial to follow in West Lawn Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Midland Care and sent in care of the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com

Cemetery Details

West Lawn Memorial Gardens

I-70 & Auburn Road
Topeka, KS 66615

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 1. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Funeral Service

NOV 1. 2:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Tribute Wall

WS

“ I met Don when I listed a few games to sell. He invited me out to tour his pinball garage and we had a great time talking games and pins. He and I did quite a few trades over the years, sharing our knowledge and joy of the hobby. He was a tough negotiator and all around enjoyable fellow. He will be missed.

Will Shaffer - March 22, 2025 at 06:32 PM

RN

“ I'm sorry to hear about Don. I met him 1 time about a year and h as of ago. I was driving down to Texas from Sioux Falls Sd to drop off a pinball machine. I looked on pinside for places to b play pinball in Topeka on my way and I found pinballs plus, so I called the number and don answered. I was already sitting in the parking lot and got to talking and he asked me where I was from and I told him and I also told him I was sitting in the parking lot. He said give me 1 minute. He came outside and we talked a bit and he invited me in to play his machines. He also gave me a tour of the place. He couldn't have been a nicer guy. Im sorry for your loss!

Ryan Nelson - March 05, 2025 at 10:14 PM

SD

“ Betsy and Family,
I worked with Don at Blue Cross and Blue Shield. He was a kind person and always had a smile. He touched a lot of lives and will be missed greatly.
Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. Sandy Deines

Sandy Deines - October 31, 2024 at 06:28 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Thompson Jr..

October 31, 2024 at 08:00 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..



October 31, 2024 at 08:00 AM



“ Russell Franklin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Thompson Jr..

Russell Franklin - October 30, 2024 at 08:05 PM



“ Russell Franklin purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..



Russell Franklin - October 30, 2024 at 08:05 PM



“ Tammy. Kirby.Andy.Austin.Sawyer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Thompson Jr..

Tammy. Kirby.Andy.Austin.Sawyer - October 30, 2024 at 04:02 PM

TK

“ Tammy. Kirby.Andy.Austin.Sawyer purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..



Tammy. Kirby.Andy.Austin.Sawyer - October 30, 2024 at 04:02 PM

JR

“ Too soon, Paul. Too soon. I can, and always will be able to, hear that laugh of yours. Carry it and the joy you brought with you to the next adventure.

James Reigle - October 29, 2024 at 06:38 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Thompson Jr..

October 29, 2024 at 06:33 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose* was purchased for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..



October 29, 2024 at 06:33 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..*



October 28, 2024 at 06:16 PM



“ *Betsy and Becca,
I am so sorry for your loss.
If you need anything, please let me and Rebecca know.
I talked to Don in a hardware store not too many weeks ago.
I will miss being able to talk with Don.*

Steve Meier - October 28, 2024 at 11:30 AM



“ *He had that special talent to make people feel welcome in all things and he was chatty fellow our prayers are with the family may God bless and keep all of you safe.*

Patrick and Mary Robinson - October 28, 2024 at 07:10 AM



“ *MacAulay Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..*



MacAulay Family - October 26, 2024 at 10:59 PM

MF

“ MacAulay Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Thompson Jr..

MacAulay Family - October 26, 2024 at 10:59 PM

LK

“ Love, Steve, Stephanie & Noyes Kids purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..



Love, Steve, Stephanie & Noyes Kids - October 26, 2024 at 04:17 PM

LL

“ Lori A Lininger purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..



Lori A Lininger - October 26, 2024 at 02:27 PM

SF

“ Scott Ferguson lit a candle in memory of Donald Thompson Jr.



Scott Ferguson - October 26, 2024 at 10:41 AM

MM

“ Matt And Elizabeth Miller lit a candle in memory of Donald Thompson Jr.



Matt and Elizabeth Miller - October 26, 2024 at 09:35 AM

DS

“ My prayers go out to all the family.may he Rest In Peace.

Dennis Spain - October 25, 2024 at 10:44 PM

DE

“ I worked with Don at Blue Cross Blue Shield and enjoyed visiting with him in the Cafeteria. He always had a smile on his face. May beautiful memories bring you comfort in the days to come
Deb Eamigh

Deb Eamigh - October 25, 2024 at 06:08 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..



October 25, 2024 at 08:19 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Thompson Jr..

October 25, 2024 at 08:19 AM

MC

“ Don was one of the good guys. I knew him from work and I count on Don to have a smile on his face and a song in his voice. Prayers to his family and friends.

molly coplen - October 25, 2024 at 01:26 AM

AS

“ Paul,, we will miss you so much down here, but I know your Mom Dad and so many Family members were so happy to see you. What a Celebration that was. Please be the angel to watch over Betsy, Becca, Cody, and Tammy, and rest of your family. I will always remember the horse at our farm. You decided to ride without a saddle, it stopped fast and bucked you off. You gave us all a scare on the way to the Hospital, but Betsy and us could laugh about this later. Love and miss you so much. Prayers for Betsy, Becca, and Tammy. Love you all

Aunt Jackie Snook - October 25, 2024 at 12:03 AM

JM

“ Julie McNickle lit a candle in memory of Donald Thompson Jr.



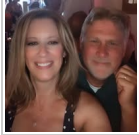
Julie McNickle - October 24, 2024 at 11:26 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donald Thompson Jr..



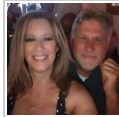
October 24, 2024 at 11:04 PM



“ *Kristy Eaton-Harvey lit a candle in memory of Donald Thompson Jr.*



Kristy Eaton-Harvey - October 24, 2024 at 10:22 PM



What a wonderfully kind friend gone way too soon! The proof of the impact he left on so many people shows in all the beautiful stories told by all. That makes me smile through this sad time, and I hope it brings some comfort to his family all the more. Sincere condolences from the Harvey family.

Kristy Eaton-Harvey - October 24, 2024 at 10:27 PM

DH

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Donalds' passing. When I heard he had fallen and was in the hospital, my thoughts went directly to the family and his friends. He was too young for something like this to happen. I know our extended family also sends their thoughts and prayers. Diane Hester, daughter of Margaret (Snook) and Ron Logan. They have both passed, so I know a grand reunion full of conversation and laughter is in the heavenly works. 💕*

Diane Hester - October 24, 2024 at 09:27 PM

SG

“ *Donald or as we always called him Paul, one of our younger cousins, was the cutest ring bearer in our Wedding back in 1968. He grew up to be an important part of our family, left us way too soon and will be missed!*

Sheila Gillespie - October 24, 2024 at 08:14 PM

EM

“ I have just known Don for maybe 3 months. I had heard him being interviewed about the new business PINBALLS PLUS and the formation of a pinball playing league forming. I emailed him, he responded that he would keep me posted regarding when it would start up. He kept me updated and as soon as the women's league started I was ALL in!! ❤️ I Love playing pinball and played on both the WOMEN'S & the OPEN league. Don shared his Love & passion for the games and their history and playing tutorials. Through the league play I met sister Tammy & then wife, Betsy. The most delightful, welcoming people I have met in a long time. I feel so blessed to have known Don, even though the time was brief. He leaves a pinball legacy with this who bought from him, had repair work done by him and played pinball with him. He made a difference for many and will be missed & remember fondly.

Ellen Mushock - October 24, 2024 at 06:36 PM

DW

“ Rest in peace Don! Our pinball interests started a friendship that ended too soon! 😞 Condolences to the family!

Derrick Weigel - October 24, 2024 at 06:24 PM