



Donald "Donnie" Wayne Trowbridge

July 1, 1957 - July 9, 2023

Donald "Donnie" Wayne Trowbridge

A faulty heart finally did what the Edgewood and Cloverdale defenses could never do ... stop #39.

Donald "Donnie" Wayne Trowbridge of Spencer, IN left Earth on July 9, 2023. Our hearts are heavy with his absence, but our memories are endless (and entertaining).

Donnie was born in 1957 to, Charles and Catherine Trowbridge. Growing up, Don was a talented athlete with a hard work ethic, incredible confidence (maybe too much?), hardnosed, and a heart of gold. This would go on to shape his life as an adult.

Donnie had many titles: husband, dad, father-in-law, son, brother, uncle, teammate, coach, friend, and perhaps his favorite title Papaw or "Pap".

After graduating from Owen Valley High School, Donnie attended Anderson University and played on the Ravens football team. He held multiple sports records (we'll say 40 knowing he'd exaggerate) at Owen Valley for many years. His wife and daughters would get bored hearing people praise his athletic abilities in the good ol' days. But apparently, we're learning it was all

true!

Donnie married Jama Hammond in 1977. They enjoyed traveling the US together and somehow always ended up at a beach.

They welcomed two daughters, Amber and Hannah. Donnie's support and humor was the foundation of his family. He was a giving man who worked tirelessly to ensure that his family had everything they needed.

Donnie finally decided it was time for someone else to take the spotlight. He would go on to spend the next four decades dedicated to his family and youth sports. With Coach Donnie's expertise, his daughters, nephews, nieces, and hundreds of children were able to win on the field and in life. But if they didn't win, they laughed.

Donnie spent many years as a truck driver. As he often said, "I've driven more miles backward than you have forward."

During retirement, Donnie worked with his son-in-law, Charles Mullin, at Mullin Equipment. He enjoyed the hard work, operating the forklift, and meeting new people to share his stories with. Donnie holds the record of "Salesman of the Month" for 144 consecutive months, a self-appointed title. Mullin feels lucky to have known him and fortunate to still be walking this earth after being around Donnie while he ran a forklift.

Many wouldn't believe it, but in his later years Donnie enjoyed attending the theater; vocal performances; band and violin concerts. He was his granddaughter, Macy's, biggest fan.

His youngest granddaughter, Nola, and he enjoyed gardening, pony rides, the beach, and baby dolls. Under his tough exterior he was a true Girl Dad and

Pap, and proud of it.

Please note that while no services will be held (as per Donnie's wishes), our family would feel honored if you shared any memories or photos you have of Donnie. They will be read and cherished by those who loved him most.

Then, forego a funeral and dress pants. Instead wear your jeans to go fishing, boating, play or watch a sport, eat at your favorite restaurant (order the Donnie special, burnt meat with gravy) or spend time with your loved ones and dog.

Donnie is predeceased by his parents; his aunt, Donetta Scott; brothers-in-law, Charles "Eddie" Hammond and Dennis Sheese. He is survived by his wife, Jama Trowbridge; his sisters, Rhonda Sheese, Debbie (John) Greene; his children, Amber (Charles) Mullin, Hannah (Brandon) Powell; and his granddaughters, Macy and Nola. Donnie is also survived by his in-laws James and Doris Hammond; brothers-in-law Mike (Kelly) Hammond, John (Glenda) Hammond, sister-in-law Sue Hammond; uncle Elva "Junior" Scott; cousins Kathy (Doug) Biggs, Jody (Shane) Spurgeon and their four children. He is also survived by 9 nieces and nephews and 17 great nieces and nephews, all of whom he was proud to know and love.

"For it's one, two, three strikes, you're out, at the old ball game."

Too soon? Nah. Donnie would be laughing! We'll keep rooting for your Cubbies, Dad/Pap.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37 is handling the arrangements and online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencare.com

Tribute Wall

WS

“ *Jama and Family*

I had the distinct pleasure of meeting Donnie my Freshman year at Owen Valley High. Donnie was a great running back and was hard hitting, dedicated and always had strong desire to win. Little did I know that Coach Eaton would always put me in to go against him in drills and in scrimmage. I do believe that only Lyman Bowiing ever hit me harder than Donnie. In life and as I reflect on our time as teammates, he was the iron that sharpened me in every drill, sximmhe and hame preparation. I would never have become the defensive player that I was at Owen Valley. He always welcomed the competition and he always brought his A game everyday. The iron that sharpened iron in those seasons at Owen Valley stayed with me to this day. My heart goes out to the family as we celebrate his life and I celebrate the fact that I had the honor of being his teammate. Blessings to the family as you celebrate not losing hom but celebrating his life. Thank you Donnie!

Walt Smith - July 15, 2023 at 04:07 PM

CM

“ *Jama and the girls...We are so very sorry for your loss. I never knew Donnie, but from what I read, he was a very accomplished young man. I know your family will miss him and I hope you find comfort in knowing he was very much loved and will live on in your hearts.*
Crystal (Ragland) and Larry Minnix

Crystal Minnix - July 15, 2023 at 02:59 PM

JP

“ *Donnie will be missed! Prayers for the whole family!* 🙏



Jim and Amy Portteus - July 13, 2023 at 07:56 PM

JR

“ *James Reynolds lit a candle in memory of Donald Trowbridge*



James Reynolds - July 13, 2023 at 08:42 AM

SC

“ *R I P Donny*

Scott Chandler - July 13, 2023 at 07:19 AM

DL

“ *I was freshman when Donnie was a senior on the football team. He was such a leader and positive influence. He never gave up. He was a good role model. He was like a bull as a running back. I never got to know him well but over the years when I was competing in sports I would think back on his 110% effort and it would motivate me to try harder.*

David J Livingston - July 13, 2023 at 05:22 AM

DW

“ Donnie I am sure you and Lowell are discussing some piece of machinery, You were the first thing he would look for at a farm auction, then you two would spend LOTS of time discussing and dissecting what was available for sale. Sorry you are gone, but sure you are now out of all issues that you have had to deal with for so long. Love and hugs to all of the family.

Donna Woodruff - July 12, 2023 at 09:55 PM

FM

Hello to the family sorry for the loss of a great warrior. He was always a good friend when I worked at Walmart in Spencer Indiana he will always come in and say I was related to the Waltons. His laughter and smile brought so much joy and he will be forever missed. But we know now he's in a better place where we're all looking forward to.

Felix McBeath - July 13, 2023 at 06:07 PM

BR

“ So sorry to hear of your loss but if I know Donnie he's up in heaven playing sports with the kids! Our prayers and thoughts are with you all.

Becky & Jim Reynolds - July 12, 2023 at 08:47 PM

JC

“ We were either competing or teammates from kindergarten through high school in every sport we could. In either case and outside of sports he was my friend. His dad Charlie and Donnie were positive influences in my life when I needed them. I have lost a little piece of my childhood but have many amazing fond memories. RIP my friend.

Jeff Carpenter - July 12, 2023 at 05:08 PM

AH

“ I did not get the pleasure to "know" Donnie like the rest of the family, but he was always so kind to me. He'd give me a hug when we'd see each other and always find something humorous to say to me. My condolences for your loss and he will be missed dearly. - Alyssa Hammond

Alyssa Hammond - July 12, 2023 at 03:51 PM



“ Where to begin - I developed an adoration for Donnie sometime in middle school when we first met through cheerleading, through Amber and Hannah. I always loved seeing his face and in his smile in stands while I was cheering. Donnie was there to watch the sports, but just as invested in the cheerleaders because he supported Amber and Hannah and their love for cheerleading as well. Donnie liked to give me a hard time, but I always looked forward to the attention from him, especially after not having many father figures in my life after losing my Dad when I was 11. I have so many fond memories of Donnie through middle school and high school. Donnie will surely be missed and my thoughts and prayers are with all the girls; Amber, Hannah & Jama. So much love to you all! <3

Eden Slaughter - July 12, 2023 at 03:47 PM

DR

“ This is Dick Ranard...I first came across Donnie in September of 1974. At the time I was a young assistant football coach at Clinton High School We had an undefeated 10-0 football team that year. Our first game would be at Brazil and we beat them 13-0. That was the only game Brazil would lose that season and they beat Edgewood 28-14 and that was the only game Edgewood lost that year. We beat West Vigo in our second game 20-0. They had a good team and would lose only to us and Brazil that year. We were playing a new team on our schedule Owen Valley in our third game. We had never heard of Owen Valley and went into that game very over confident I am sure. It was a rainy night and the field was full of mud puddles. We kicked off and a kid named Don Trowbride started ripping our defense and after 7-8 carries he scored a quick touchdown on us which was the first time we had been scored on. That woke us up and we eventually beat them a couple of touchdowns but Donnie Trowbridge made quite an impression on the Clinton team and coaching staff.

I got to personally get to know Donnie after I came to Owen Valley in 1989. We became good friends. I especially remember the time a several years ago when we made a trip to Des Moines, Iowa to watch a couple of Iowa Cubs baseball. Iowa is the AAA farm team of the Chicago Cubs. We had a lot of fun for sure.

RIP old friend. Needless to say you will be missed. However you and your Dad will be up there watching the Cubs play while laughing a having a good time.

Dick Ranard - July 12, 2023 at 03:22 PM

TH

“ I’ve known Donnie since I was little. He was mine and my twin sister Stacy’s softball coach for a few years. He wasn’t just a coach, he was a friend. Always laughing, always joking. I would have to say though my favorite thing he would say was when he would see us out whether it be at the ball field or at the grocery store. There’s those Hiter boys! He will be greatly missed. Thoughts and prayers to you all ❤️

Tracy Hiter - July 12, 2023 at 02:47 PM



I have so many fond memories of Donnie - as my 5th grade basketball coach, driving us to Bedford for a week in middle school for Damon Bailey's basketball camp (my mom credits those drives for the reason I still love country music), tricking me into eating deer meat...

What I remember most is his hearty laugh, how much he loved his family, how he always showed up to support those he cared about, and how proud he was of his kids.

Sending lots of love and prayers to his family- especially Amber.

Emily Nestel - July 12, 2023 at 07:45 PM