



## Donald Paul DeVale

May 5, 1936 - February 10, 2026

Donald P. DeVale, of Woodridge, Illinois, passed away peacefully in Naperville on February 10, 2026, with his loving family by his side.

Born on May 5, 1936, in Chicago, Illinois, Donald was the cherished son of John and Caroline (Palma) DeVale. He attended the Illinois Institute of Technology and went on to enjoy a distinguished career as an engineer spanning more than 50 years. A brilliant and curious mind, Donald held numerous patents and found great joy in inventing and problem-solving.

Donald had a deep love for woodworking and sailing, hobbies that reflected both his creativity and adventurous spirit. Above all, he treasured his family. He especially loved spending time with his grandchildren; working together on science projects, playing, and simply enjoying one another's company. Those moments brought him immense pride and happiness.

He proudly served his country in the United States Navy as a communications technician and was in the Naval Reserves for nearly a decade. His patriotism was a defining part of who he was. Donald was also devoted to his faith and generously shared his musical talents as a church organist and choir director for many congregations throughout the years.

He was preceded in death by his beloved parents.

Donald is survived by his devoted wife, Bonita (Blouin) DeVale; his children, Bonita (Michael) Swanson, Jeanmarie (Stephen) Malherbe, and John (Kobey) DeVale; his grandchildren, Meredith (Vitor) Itaborahy, Caroline Lantz, Evan Malherbe, Jane Malherbe, Phoenix DeVale, Lex DeVale, Mark DeVale, David Swanson, and Kyle (Janae) Swanson; two great-grandchildren; two sisters, Sue Carter DeVale & Jeryl DeVale, and was a beloved Uncle Don to many. He leaves behind a legacy of love, faith, innovation, and dedication to family.

Services will be held privately at a later date. Cremation services have been entrusted to The Daleiden Mortuary, 220 North Lake Street, Aurora, Illinois 60506. For information, please call 630-631-5500.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Marmion Abbey. <https://host.nxt.blackbaud.com/donor-form/?svcid=tcs&formId=ea693637-68a4-4fa6-abbf-9e38b1bce501&envid=p-qJboHnrZt0iPVrTM7pXa0w&zone=usa>

# Cemetery Details

## **Marmion Abbey Cemetery**

850 Butterfield Rd.  
Aurora, IL 60502

# Tribute Wall

WC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



West Coast Caroline - March 12 at 02:16 PM

BS

Great photo, Caroline! 😊

Bonita Swanson - March 20 at 04:17 PM

A(

“ St Catherine of Genoas choir has never risen again to the level of the DeVale led choir. Don and Bonnie made the choir so much fun (especially for a dorky kid like me) and the songs they picked were both challenging and fantastic. They believed in us more than we did in ourselves. I think the whole congregation was appreciative too. My mom Marge Dreska also wanted me to forward her condolences. Don was definitely a JOY TO THE WORLD (and that intro will ALWAYS be a fond St Cats memory!) ha ha! Annette (Dreska) McGowan

Annette McGowan (Dreska) - March 05 at 04:09 PM

BS

Thank you, Annette! 😊

Bonita Swanson - March 20 at 04:17 PM

GL

“ *The Dominican Friars will pray for the repose of Donald's soul in their chapel at Fenwick High School in Oak Park. May peace find all those who loved Donald.*

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**Gerald Lordan** - March 05 at 10:05 AM

BS

*Thank you. Dad would love that.*

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**Bonita Swanson** - March 05 at 03:24 PM

KJ

“ *Karen and Johnny planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Paul DeVale.*

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**Karen and Johnny** - February 18 at 01:06 PM

RS

“ *Roger Stigger planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Paul DeVale.*

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**Roger Stigger** - February 14 at 05:57 PM

DW

“ I would like to share a very special memory of Don that I have, which I will keep with me forever. As a matter of fact, my dining room/living room contains all of the benefits of Don’s generosity, for they are on display for everyone who enters this room to see.

One day a few years ago, my cousin, Bonnie, told Don that Debbie liked hummingbirds. It just so happened that their granddaughter had drawn a beautiful picture of a hummingbird, which Don was able to use as a template for his design on his C&C Machine, which he turned into the most beautiful hummingbird figurine that I have ever seen! Bonnie called me and asked me for my address and told me to expect something special to come in the mail! Wow! She wasn’t kidding when she said to expect something special! I treasure that hummingbird figurine made with love by Don! The hummingbird figurine is very detail oriented and very delicate! Every line and shadow were picked up in the creation of this design! It is really very beautiful! I treasure it! I feel very special that Don thought about me when he created this for me. I loved him. Since then, he lovingly created a beautiful memorial plaque for both me and my sister, Karen, when my brother passed away. He was an Air Force veteran. That is very, very special to us. And for fun, he creatively made candlestick holders for all five of us Blouin cousins! Don was a very kind and thoughtful man. His family is very fortunate to have had him for as long as they did.

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**Deborah L. West** - February 14 at 02:30 PM

IB

So agree!

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**Irene Buchtenkirch** - February 14 at 07:00 PM

BS

Thank you for sharing that beautiful story about Dad.

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**Bonita Swanson** - March 05 at 03:30 PM

IB

“ Irene B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Paul DeVale.

Irene B. - February 13 at 09:48 PM

IB

“ So many good memories shared with Don, Bonnie and our families over the years it could become a book. Visiting the farm is a highlight and our sailing trips are so memorable. But just time spent together discussing our faith journeys is a wonderful memory. Don had an amazing grasp of many subjects as well as his woodworking abilities and his bread making...generously sharing with so many. I can imagine the greeting he received from Jesus, telling him “Well Done my Good and Faithful Servant”!

Irene Buchtenkirch - February 13 at 09:43 PM

BS

Well said, Irene. Thank you.

Bonita Swanson - March 05 at 03:31 PM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Paul DeVale.

February 13 at 08:34 AM

LD

“ when I was i think 6, I was playing with my play kitchen, and was making him a bowl of 'dragon soup'. and everything i saw him since up until I was 12 he asked for a bowl of dragon soup.

Lex DeVale - February 12 at 09:14 PM

BK

“ One of our best memories was the sailboat trip to the British Virgin Islands. Rest in peace Captain Don. Barbara and Marty Kuminowski

Barbara Kuminowski - February 12 at 04:15 PM

LG

“ Love, cousins Chris, Gina & Greg purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Donald Paul DeVale.



Love, cousins Chris, Gina & Greg - February 12 at 09:23 AM

BB

“ Uncle Donnie, thank you for a wonderful childhood memory at the family reunion at your farm house. The fun, the laughter, and riding in the tractor bucket picking corn. Too many more memories to share ❤️  
Thank you, Love You REST IN PEACE

Bobby Brigante - February 11 at 10:52 PM

MP

“ His Special way of making you feel Loved.

Mary Palma - February 11 at 03:16 PM

BS

He certainly did, Aunt Mary!

Bonita Swanson - March 05 at 03:32 PM