



Harold D. "Don" Barth

February 15, 1949 - March 4, 2026

Harold D. "Don" Barth passed away on March 4, 2026, succumbing to a long battle with several undiagnosed health conditions and the aftereffects of the COVID-19 virus.

Don was born to Harold A. and Edna (Schreiner) Barth on February 15, 1949. Being given the same first name as his father, he was known by his middle name, Donald, going by "Donnie," Don, or in his later years "Poppy" to his children and grandchildren.

He grew up and attended school in Ferdinand and graduated from St. Ferdinand High School in 1967.

Don and his two sisters lost their parents at a very young age, with their father passing away from heart failure in 1963, and their mother passing from complications of polio shortly after in 1964. Along with the help and kindness of individuals in their community, he and his sisters took care of each other until adulthood.

Don focused much of his energy on athletics in his youth and continued to do so through most of his adult life. He excelled in every sport he tried his hand at, particularly baseball, softball, track and field, and basketball. He also coached youth basketball, baseball, and softball. Many people still remember

stories of, or watching, Don playing sports, as his intensity and dedication were like no other.

In his later years, he developed a love of bicycling and spent much of his adult life pursuing that passion with fierce intensity. Don often went on 50–100 mile solo rides, logging well over 25,000 miles during his lifetime. Being a spiritual person, when cycling he felt most at peace and most connected to his inner self.

Upon completing high school, he was offered a scholarship to the University of Evansville to play basketball and played on the team under legendary coach Arad McCutchan. After two seasons at the University of Evansville, a heart condition affected his ability to perform at the demands of college basketball. Shortly thereafter, he returned to Ferdinand to be close to his family, started working as an electrician, and reunited with his high school sweetheart, Brenda Oser.

He and Brenda were married in 1972, and in 1978, he started Barth Electric in Mariah Hill, Indiana. He owned and operated the business until his retirement. Don applied the same passion he had for sports to his electrical work and to taking care of his family. Anyone who hired Don to do a job could attest to his great attention to detail and the care he put into his craft, and his handiwork can still be found in many homes in the surrounding area.

He was also a charter member of the Ferdinand Optimist Club, volunteering many hours to his community.

Don took great pride in his children and grandchildren, and was an amazing husband, father, brother, and Poppy. He is survived by his wife, Brenda; two sisters, Janet Knabel and Brenda K. Barth; a son, Phil Barth and his wife Dana Weidenbenner; a daughter, Allison Heichelbech and her husband Klint

Heichelbech; five grandchildren: Rory, Quinn, Roan, Parker, and Rhett; a godson, Eric (Robyn) Knabel; two sisters-in-law; a brother-in-law and their spouses; along with many other very close nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life for Don will take place on Friday, March 20, at the Jasper Parklands Pavilion. The celebration will be an open house from 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., with time to visit with Don's family and friends. Sharing of stories will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. . (Carpooling is advised.)

In lieu of flowers or gifts, memorial contributions in memory of Don can be made to the Dubois County Community Foundation to the "Don Barth Memorial Fund". This fund will be used to benefit the community in the spirit of Don's legacy. https://duboiscountycf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=4531

Online condolences will be made at www.becherkluesner.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Visitation

MAR 20. 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM (ET)

Parklands Pavilion
800 W 15th Street
Jasper, IN 47546

Celebration of Life Memorial

MAR 20. 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Parklands Pavilion
800 W 15th Street
Jasper, IN 47546

Tribute Wall

SM

“ Sympathy to Donnie's family, I pray that he is at peace and playing basketball with Greg Gehlhausen! May they rest in peace ❤️

Susan Uebelhor McCubbin - March 20 at 11:16 PM

JK

“ Janice K. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Harold D. "Don" Barth.



Janice K. - March 17 at 07:55 AM

MS

“ So sorry for your loss. Donnie was a great guy, and I know he was loved by many. Prayers for peace and comfort to you all. You are in our thoughts at this difficult time.

Monica and Ken sicard

monica sicard - March 15 at 08:42 AM

RM

“ My sympathy goes out to Don's family, which I know he truly loved. Many moons ago, I was lucky enough to have worked for Don; its where I learned the electrical trade and a lot about life. Throughout my career, I've had the opportunity to cross paths with many fine electricians, but in my mind, Don was one of, if not the best. No stranger to hard work, he took great pride in a job well done. Always efficient, but never cutting corners or surrendering to compromise. He expected the best from you and always had a way of making work enjoyable. We shared many laughs. I'll bet he's looking down and smiling right now. Ron Meyer

Ron Meyer - March 09 at 08:50 AM

MH

“ I am a WC graduate and I remember WC playing at Ferdinand for their homecoming game Don's senior year. It was quite a battle on the floor and in the stands. Don't remember who won .

Mike Healy - March 08 at 12:22 PM



“ Sending so much love to you Brenda, Phil, Allison and your families. I am so sorry for your loss💕💕



Shaun Witte - March 08 at 11:06 AM

JV

“ *Jill Vandeventer lit a candle in memory of Harold D. "Don" Barth*



Jill Vandeventer - March 07 at 07:03 PM

JV

My deepest condolences to Brenda and family. So very sorry for the loss of Don. Prayers and hugs. Jill

Jill Vandeventer - March 07 at 07:06 PM

JH

“ *Deepest sympathy to the family. Don was a very good man likeable and kind in every way. He treated everyone with great respect and kindness. He will be missed. Jim and Marguerite.*

Jim Hubers - March 07 at 01:43 PM

AH

“ *Brenda So sorry to hear of Don passing. Prayers for you and family*

Ann Hostetter - March 07 at 06:13 AM

PL

“ *We are so sorry at the news of Donnie's passing. His obituary describes Donnie and his life journey so well. Donnie was a good man and our prayers are that he is now at peace and is enjoying his eternal reward. Pat and Ruth Lueken.*

Pat Lueken - March 07 at 04:24 AM

KE

“ Judy and I were so shocked to hear of Donnie’s passing. If there was a better man than Donnie, I am not aware. Judy recalls Donnie coaching Darin and Eric in baseball along with Gibby and Ralph. Such good times she said. I first met Donnie and Brenda at a dance at the Community Center. I had a great time, and got to know them both. From that point on we would not have anyone else perform our electrical work. We loved talking to Donnie, he was a class guy with great stories. He will be so very missed. To Brenda, Phil, Dana, Allison, Klint, and the five Grandkids he so loved, Judy and I are so, so sorry for your loss.

Kerry and Judy Eckerle

Kerry and Judy Eckerle - March 06 at 06:15 PM

SM

To all of Donnie’s family, I am very sorry to hear of his passing. He was an incredible athlete and guy, always enjoyed seeing him in all sports!! May he be at peace 🙏❤️

Susan Uebelhor McCubbin - March 06 at 10:10 PM

LB

“ *I had the privilege of competing on the basketball court with Don and it is safe to say that he was one of the most gifted and competitive athletes to ever play for the St. Ferdinand Crusaders. He was a great team mate and good friend. My deepest sympathy to Brenda, Phil, and Allison. Know you are all in our thoughts and prayers. Take comfort in knowing that he is no longer in pain.*

Lee Begle - March 06 at 05:43 PM

MS

“ Mike and I send our sincere condolences and prayers to Brenda and family on the passing of Donnie. Mary

Mary Schriefer - March 06 at 04:44 PM

WH

“ Don and I spent a lot of hours together coaching little girls softball teams, keeping times at High School track meets and helping with Optimist events. He really enjoyed helping kids and always wore a big smile on his face. I have great memories of my time with Don. He loved his family very much and he'll be missed by everyone who knew him. May he rest in peace.

Wayne Hobbs - March 06 at 04:40 PM

JK

Brenda, I am so sorry for this happening to you. I loved working at the bank with you. When my son worked in Ferdinand and he had to drop off a deposit at the bank, he described you as the best and at that time he didn't even know your name! You will get through this with prayers and support from your family and friends!

Janice Kress

JANICE KRESS - March 17 at 08:05 AM

PD

We got to know Don through activities with our children's sports as he was their coach and became good friends having lots of good and fun times together! He also was an excellent electrician doing nothing but the best job for his customers! Loved his family with all his heart and will be missed! Prayers for all to reach consolation that he is at peace!

Albert and Pat Dilger 03/21/26

Pat and Albert Dilger - March 21 at 08:16 AM