



Donald R. Perricone

August 23, 1931 - August 14, 2017

Donald R. Perricone, 85, of Syracuse, NY and Jacksonville, Florida, died on August 14. He was born in Oneida, NY on August 23, 1931, the eldest of two children of Ralph and Jean Perricone. After graduating from Oneida High School, he attended Colgate University where he was a member of Theta Chi, a national social fraternity, and Psi Chi, a national psychology honorary society. He graduated from Colgate, with honors in social psychology. Upon graduation, he received his commission as a Second Lieutenant, U.S. Air Force. He retired as a Captain and continued to serve in the USAF Reserves, FAA, and private civil air patrols.

Don was married to Donna Gail Todd on December 26, 1954 at St. Joseph's Church in Oneida, and they had four children. Don and Donna were world travellers, attended many concerts and plays, and were devoted to their grandchildren who they loved and cherished. Don was also a devoted husband, faithfully caring for Donna at home for many years following her diagnosis of supranuclear palsy, a rare brain disease. He was a devout Catholic and a parishioner of St. Michael's Church.

Don was the Director of Printing Services at Syracuse University, where he pioneered the transition to desktop publishing on Macintosh computers. He retired in 1993 after 23 years of service but maintained an active interest in computer technology, keeping in touch with his children and grandchildren on his iPhone until the end of his life. In his retirement, Don continued to build

and fly airplanes, including an ultralight aircraft. As an FAA Certified Flight Instructor and Accident Prevention Counselor, he also continued to successfully certify many pilots, and was a member of remote control model airplane clubs.

Don was predeceased by Donna, 77, and their son, Mark, 16; surviving are his daughters Lynn Stormon, PhD, Julie Perricone Flagg (Christopher), and Nancy Gibbs; four grandchildren, Reese, Hayley, Luke, and Marcus; two step-grandchildren, Rebecca and Jeff; a sister, Jean Cappon, and her three children, Ralph, Chris and Beth.

Calling hours will be held from 4 to 7 PM September 22nd at B.L. Bush and Sons Funeral Home, 10 W. Genesee Street, Camillus, NY. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 AM September 23rd at St. Michael and St. Peter Roman Catholic Church, 4782 W. Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, New York. Burial will be in Highland Cemetery, Marcellus.

Contributions may be made to ARCS (Aero Radio Club of Syracuse), 4403 Limeledge Road, Marcellus, NY, 13108 or St. Michael and St. Peter RC Church..

Please sign the guestbook at www.BLBUSH.com

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **22**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home
10 W. Genesee Street
Camillus, NY 13031
(315) 672-3400
info@bushfuneralhome.com
<https://www.bushfuneralhome.com/>

Service

SEP **23**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Michael and St. Peter Church
4782 W Seneca Turnpike
Syracuse, NY 13215
(315) 469-6995
stmichaelstpeter@syrдио.org
<https://www.stmichael-stpeter.org/>

Tribute Wall

HZ

“ I flew RC planes with Don for years. What a great guy! Always cheerful and helpful. The flying field just isn't the same without him. We miss you Don.

Herb Ziegler- ARCS President

Herb Ziegler - September 22, 2017 at 11:50 AM

HZ

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Herb Ziegler - September 22, 2017 at 10:45 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald R. Perricone.



September 19, 2017 at 10:51 AM

DR

“ Jules,

My deepest condolences in the recent passing of your beloved father. I loved reading about him and all of these beautiful tributes found here. What came to mind is that Mr. Perricone was a true Renaissance man - gifted with so many interests and talents from home improvements, to theater goer, to University professional to world traveler to pilot. Amazing. And yet always soft spoken and with a gentle and kind word. When Jules and I lived in the sorority house together there was one pay phone that all the girls made their weekly calls to their parents. Jules was found at the top of the stairs reviewing her weekly successes and challenges with her dad. He was always a calming and grounding influence. I was always impressed by their special relationship. I know how much you will miss him. He resides in good company in heaven and I am sure he is thrilled to be reunited with Donna and Mark. Life is short and he made the most of his. May you, Lynn, and Nancy find comfort in a life well lived. And may your dad's memories continue to be an inspiration and a light in your lives.

Our deepest sympathies Donna Ricciardi, Michael Eron and family.

Donna Ricciardi - September 15, 2017 at 08:53 PM

PH

“ Hey Don, This is your old buddy and flying companion, Paul Hannon. I thought I'd cheer you up with some fond memories that you and I shared , like flying to Kamp airport in my warrior, with you screwing around with my radios, and having lunch with "Boom Boom", What great food, Boom Boom wasn't bad either!!!

Seriously Don, You got me back into flying after a 12 year hiatus and rekindled a love I had ever since I was a kid, and what a love it was. We flew together, ate together and laughed together. I was proud to call you my friend.

Take care Don, I'm not far behind you (almost 85), Next we meet, I hope it's with our Lord in His great sky and we can fly again, forever in his care.

Thanks for all the help you gave me and Greg. With every good wish,

Your friend, Paul

Paul Hannon - September 15, 2017 at 08:50 PM

“ I wanted you to know, Don, how much you have meant to me in my life. You have been wonderful teacher, mentor, and great friend. I still remember the day when I was 11 years old, and you took me for a ride in that Cessna 150, tail #45 Golf. It was one of my greatest joys when you let me take the throttle and the yolk, and I will never forget that day. As I grew older, you gave me one of the greatest gift I could ever receive, I learned how to fly. And I learned because of you.

You were there for me when I applied to Syracuse University, and gave me that work-study job. During all that time, you continued to watch over me and to mentor me. For all of this, I am eternally grateful. You were there the day I was married, and i'm so glad we kept in touch these many years.

As you look back on your life, you should be a very proud man. First, you nurtured a wonderful family of your own. Your children and your grandchildren are your enduring legacy. Secondly, you served your country with honor and distinction. And lastly, you touch the lives of hundreds of people in your community. You were only one man, but so many lives were affected by your patience , your wisdom, your knowledge, and your care.

God asks us to love one another as He has loved, and you have done that well. May these words comfort you:

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:8

The older I've become, I realize that this life is not the end. As the world gets crazier and crazier, I often look forward to the world to come. A promise fulfilled because of our Lord Jesus Christ. If I'm unable to see you soon, I know we will see each other in God's house. And in that place, I pray they have a flying club, long green runways, quick sunrises, gentle winds, and good friends.

God bless you Don.

Your pal, Greg Hannon

Greg Hannon - September 15, 2017 at 08:45 PM

JM

“ To the Perricone gals and family: Sad to hear that one of the finest gentlemen I ever worked with, your Dad, Dod died in Jacksonville last month. I was curious why he wasn't answering his cell phone, I thought he was out "on a date!"

After serving as a vendor, supplying the University typesetting services for years, your Dad hired me on 8/8/88 as an estimator and promoted me to production manager and eventually assistant director of the Electronic Publishing Center (EPC) which we co-founded.

On that anniversary date, we always reconnected - discussing about the present and "the good ol' days." When I relocated to Daytona Beach as the photography editor at The Daytona Beach News-Journal, we'd meet for lunch oceanside and enjoy each other's company. I valued my time with him immensely. He was a Dad I never had. He took me to my first Broadway play "Into the Woods" while on a "business" trip to the Big Apple and introduced me to innumerable people I have grown to love.

He could "read" a person a mile away (i.e. administrators, deans, printing and paper salesmen and even a frequent "charlatan.") He took me under his "wings", literally, and mentored me for the five short years we worked closely together, allowing me to finish my B.S. in photojournalism '93 at Newhouse and encouraged me to attend grad school for a M.P.S. (NEW/MGT) '95.

I learned volumes from him and will be forever grateful for knowing him for the past 40 years. R.I.P. Don. (Pictured: Donna and Don Perricone)



James Michalowski - September 14, 2017 at 07:37 PM

SK

“ Dear Perricone Family:
I worked for Don Perricone in the late 1970s /mid-1980s. He took a chance on hiring me for an entry-level job when I had little experience. Hiring me set the course for my education and my career, for which I am very grateful. In later years, I saw him at Upstate when he was volunteering at the hospital and I was working in marketing...always a treat. I appreciated reading about his many accomplishments and experiences. Mr. Perricone was a nice man with a ready smile. I am very sorry for your loss.
--Susan Keeter

susan keeter - September 11, 2017 at 06:25 AM

JA

“ Dear Julie ,Nancy and Lynn ,
I was saddened to hear of your dad's passing . I for one was glad to have had the privilege of
Knowing Don . He was a great guy and am sure he will be greatly missed. I also know how much he loved all his daughters and was very proud of you all. I hope to make his services because it's an Italian thing to do to show respect to him which he deserves. After all that's what we had in common two Italian guys who loved the Perricone girls. I'm also hoping all you Florida girls and your families are safe from the crazy storms.
All my prayers and blessing are with you all,
John Angotti aka Facia

john Angotti - September 10, 2017 at 08:50 PM

CN

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Captain Joseph L. Naselli - September 08, 2017 at 06:13 PM

CN

He was very special, my instructor and friend Donald Perricone. I will always remember the first time at the Marcellus airport, when he said to me "OK take her up by yourself". Was I the fledgling bird ready to leave the safety of earth, the comfort of my nest?

This was the experience that this pilot will remember for the rest of my life.

I soared for hours and never wanted to come back to those limitations of earth.

Don you are now flying with the angles under the wings of God. Be free and enjoy that freedom for all eternity.

Rest in peace my friend, you who have touched so many people in your lifetime, people who you never knew, but they knew you, and saw the good you left while on the your earthly time.

Captain Joseph L. Naselli

Captain L. Naselli - September 09, 2017 at 11:17 PM

RB

“ *He was my inspiration to lean to fly; he took me flying when I was a teenager and actually let me land the plane. My 24 year flying career with the Marine Corps is attributable directly to me wanting to be like "Mr. Perricone". I always looked forward to our short visits when I was home and eager to share flying stories.*

The Perricone family was in the center of my life in Manor Hill and will always be in my heart and memories.

Ross (Rob) Baker

Rob Baker - September 07, 2017 at 10:13 PM

SC

*Nancy, Julie and Lynn,
I had every intention of joining you tonight to pay tribute to your father. Unfortunately, unforeseen circumstances made it impossible for me to attend. I loved both your parents and the times we all spent growing up with all of you, your parents and and Mark. Lynn, I also enjoyed the times your children and mine spent around my parents pool. It reminded me of the times playing Marco Polo in your pool.*

Your Father was a special man with the most infectious smile. I loved when he would fly over the neighborhood and "tip his wings"!! The memories will sustain you forever. I hope this message reaches you!

*Love,
Stacey (Baker) Cibula*

Stacey Cibula - September 22, 2017 at 10:58 PM

MQ

“ J. G. Magee : *High flight or the Pilot's creed*

*Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth of sun-split
clouds,--and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless falls of air...
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, nor eer eagle flew--
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high, untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.*

*Thank you Don for the gift of flight
Mike and Martha Quigley*

mike quigley - September 07, 2017 at 11:55 AM

JF

“ I am the person I am today because of my dad. He was a kind, generous, loving and funny father. I am organized, diligent, hard-working and successful due to his guidance.

I hung out with him all the time when I was young so I learned how to fix just about anything around the house. Among his many lessons, he taught me how to take care of a car, change a tire, balance my checkbook and even fly a plane when I was 16.

His passion was flying and I shared his love of flight and the feeling of freedom, liberated from the constraints of Earth. To this day, I always look to the skies when I hear a plane fly over.

I will miss him for the rest of my life. I will especially miss his whistle. He whistled all the time. Be at peace now, dad. All is well here. Your legacy will live on.

Julie Perricone Flagg

Julie Perricone Flagg - September 05, 2017 at 01:51 PM

DL

“ My condolences to you all, Don was the Director when I started at SU, seen him a few years ago, he came in for boxes and had his "retiree" business cards reprinted! His curiosity and his opinions about business was always on target! A kind soul who I'll never forget and a good man, may you all find peace at this time.



Doreen Livadas - September 04, 2017 at 08:36 PM

LH

“ I just learned of Don's passing. First of all, Lynn, Julie and Nancy, I am sorry to hear of your daddy's passing! I am so happy for the wonderful memories he's left you with! The absolute best memory I have of my brother-in-law, Don, was when he was dating my big sister, Donna. My paternal grandparents were visiting from Missouri and we didn't really like her. We were sitting down to dinner and she said something that really hurt my feelings. I burst out crying and ran from the room. About that time Don came to take my sister on a date. When he saw I was crying he asked why. When I told him, he picked me up and told my sister that I could come with them to his dad's grocery store. He put me in the car and then we went to the store. He took my hand and brought me into his dad's grocery store and picked me up and put me up on the counter. He told his father that I had really gotten my feelings hurt and they gave me all kinds of goodies from the store. That is my most fond memory of him because he was so understanding and compassionate. Another fond memory I have of him is when I traveled by bus back to Oneida from Texas for a visit. I had gotten robbed on the bus trip and left with no money. When I was leaving to catch the bus back to Texas Donna came up to tell me goodbye because she had to go to work. She said she had left me some money on the counter and I could pay her back when I got a chance. She said whatever I didn't use to share with my twin sister for groceries. I thanked her and hugged her goodbye and when I went downstairs there was a \$20 bill waiting for me. I was shocked. I asked Don if he knew how much she had left me. He asked how much she had left me and I told him what she had said to me. He laughed and shook his head and then reached into his pocket and gave me more money to get back to Texas on. He said don't tell Donna! The trip from Texas to New York State by bus took three days and two nights. That's why I was so shocked that she thought I actually would have money left over to share with my sister for groceries when all she left was \$20. Again Don came through for me. Those are my two favorite memories of my brother-in-law. Linda Hoyt

Linda Hoyt - September 01, 2017 at 09:43 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments - August 22, 2017 at 09:44 AM