



Donald Washington Keefer

FEB 22, 1933 - JAN 9, 2025



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6
Media	Page 7



Donald Washington Keefer

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It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Donald Washington Keefer, a cherished husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and decorated Korean War veteran, on January 9, 2025, at the age of 92.

Donald was born on the bicentennial of the birth of George Washington, February 22, 1932, in Baltimore, Maryland. A man of extraordinary service and intellect, Donald answered the call to duty, serving his country with honor during the Korean War from 1951 to 1954. His exceptional skills in codebreaking provided critical intelligence that contributed to the war effort, cementing his legacy as a quiet hero.

Donald was truly a Renaissance man. While most of his life was spent in business management, later he excelled as a mechanical engineer, designing both mattresses and the intricate machinery required to create them, among many other achievements. Beyond his professional success, Donald had a deep love of the arts. His passion for writing, painting, comedy, and acting fueled his creative spirit and boundless imagination, resulting in three published mystery novels among other works.

Donald was also a devoted lover of classical music. His passion for the art form extended beyond appreciation—he served as a former board member of the South County Concert Association, where he contributed to supporting and promoting classical music in his community.

Donald was blessed with two great loves in his life. He was married to his beloved Muriel Keefer (née McCoy) for 56 wonderful years until her passing from cancer in 2009. Together, they raised three children: Donald R. Keefer, Terry L. Keefer, and Gerald S. Keefer. He was preceded in death by his daughter Terry L. Keefer, a loss he bore with great strength and grace.

In the later years of his life, Donald found love again with Malvina Perlman Becker, whom he lovingly referred to as his wife. Together, they shared 14 beautiful years of joy, laughter, and fulfillment.



Obituary

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Donald is survived by his son Donald R. Keefe and his wife Toby, and his son Gerald S. Keefe and his wife Lori. He was the proud and loving grandfather to Luc Dicus, Lunan Keefe, Victoria Keefe, and Alice Dash (née Keefe), who, along with her wife Madeline, brought him the joy of two great-grandchildren, Ella and Julian.

Donald will be remembered as a man of boundless creativity, intellect, and devotion. He lived a life of service to his country, ingenuity in his profession, passion for the arts, and dedication to classical music. His wisdom, kindness, and creative spirit will continue to inspire and live on in the hearts of all who knew him.

A service to celebrate Donald's life and legacy will be held with close family and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Donald's memory to the South County Concert Association, reflecting his lifelong love of the arts and classical music.

Rest peacefully, Donald. Your legacy of love, creativity, and service will endure forever in the lives of those you touched.

Adiós.



Events


Donald Washington Keefe

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Visitation

 **Saturday**, January 18, 2025


 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET


 **Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care**
814 Bestgate Rd, Annapolis MD 21401

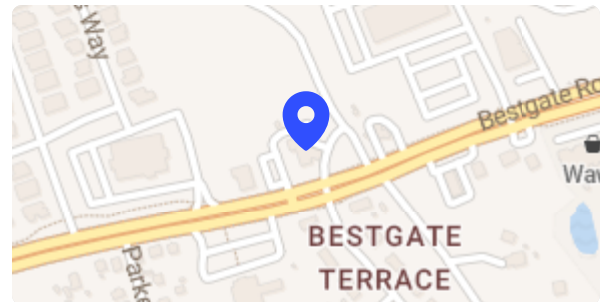


Funeral Service

 **Saturday**, January 18, 2025

 2:00 PM ET

 **Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care**
814 Bestgate Rd, Annapolis MD 21401





Tribute Wall

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TA

Toby Ayers shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



The world has lost a beautiful person, my father-in-law Donald Washington Keefer (yes, born on Washington's birthday). When I married Don's son and became part of his family, I won the lottery. Don's was a home where the neighborhood kids gathered because they felt comfortable and welcomed (and well-fed). A home with unending jokes and funny stories, with Don and his sons competing for who could tell the worst ones. A home with so many family, extended family and friends that it felt like its own little town. For over 30 years, I've been welcomed and loved by this family. But more than that -- I learned from Don how a father can truly love and care for children, how a husband can truly love and cherish a wife, how a family can be a source of joy and laughter no matter what tragic things may happen, how unconditional love can be returned unconditionally. Seeing how Don always led with a selfless love that put concern for others over self, made me a better person. I'll miss his incessant Dad jokes and even his Rodney Dangerfield imitation. I'll miss his curiosity about the world, his acceptance of everyone, and his willingness to talk about anything. I'll miss the way that every time he looked at you, you saw friendship and love in his eyes. I love you too, Don. I'll miss you.

January 17 at 5:52 AM

HO

Howard posted:

I worked with Don for many years at classic ..he would always stop me when passing and tell me a joke and we would share a laugh together.. what a great man.. rest in peace my friend

January 15 at 12:59 PM

JK

Jerry Keefer shared 12 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.



This was the last outing we did with my Dad. Mal, my brother Don and Toby took him to Patuxent Naval Air Museum

January 12 at 1:21 PM

DK

Don Keefer posted:

Dad and I always signed off from our near daily phone calls with "Adios." At least 50% of our conversations were joking! At 7pm the night before he died, he called only to tell me a job. I am so glad that his final hours were spent with laughter!

January 12 at 1:21 PM



Media

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Toby Ayers shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

January 17 at 5:52 AM





Media

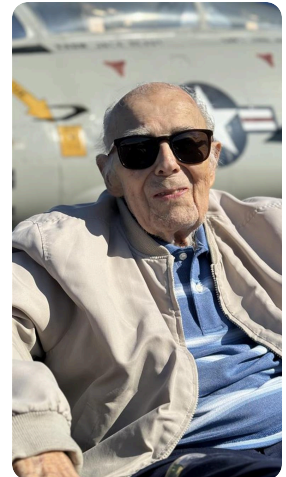
Donald Washington Keefe

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Jerry Keefe shared 12 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

January 12 at 10:38 PM

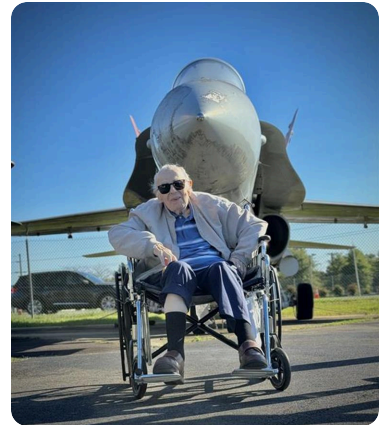
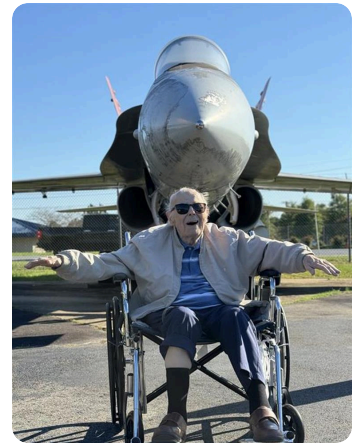




Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Donald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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