



Donald Francis Beyer

November 26, 1936 - October 31, 2025

Donald F. Beyer, 88, beloved husband, father, and grandfather, passed away at his home in Longwood, Florida, on October 31, 2025, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. He was surrounded by his loving family.

Born in New York, New York, on November 26, 1936, Don was the son of the late Harold and Dorothy (Kurs) Beyer. Don grew up in Astoria, New York, and graduated from Long Island City High School.

Don lived a life dedicated to service. He first served as a police officer for the New York Police Department (NYPD) before joining the Fire Department of New York (FDNY), where he was a firefighter with Ladder 2 in Midtown Manhattan. In total, Don served the City of New York for 20 years. After moving to Florida, Don continued his service as a firefighter with Seminole County at Station 16 from 1979 to 1996. Don maintained close ties with his FDNY and Seminole County colleagues throughout the remainder of his life and considered them extended family. Don also proudly served his country in the Coast Guard Reserves.

A man of deep faith, Don attended Catholic Mass every Sunday. He met his future wife, Gloria (Ackalitis) Beyer, at a church dance when she was 16 and he was 18. They married in 1959 and shared 66 wonderful years together, filled with love and countless adventures. Don and Gloria enjoyed traveling

the world on cruises, with trips to Russia and Israel among Don's favorites.

Don had a lifelong love for sports, playing softball, basketball, and tennis, and rooting for all Florida and New York teams. As all three of his daughters attended the University of Florida, Don was a devoted fan of the Florida Gators. Notably, and contrary to most New Yorkers, Don was a fan of both the NY Yankees and NY Mets.

Don's greatest joy, however, was his family. He was a devoted family man and served as a role model for his three daughters, teaching them the values of hard work, kindness, and dedication to family.

Don is survived by his beloved wife Gloria; his 3 daughters: Terry D'Amico (Ken), Jeanne Beyer, and Nancy Beyer; his grandchildren, Lauren and John D'Amico; and his brother, Robert Beyer (Helen).

Family and friends are invited for visitation on November 9, 2025 from 4-7 pm at DeGusipe Funeral Home, 9001 N. Orlando Ave, Maitland, FL. A Funeral Mass will be held on November 10, 2025 at 10 a.m. at Annunciation Catholic Church, 1020 Montgomery Rd, Altamonte Springs, FL followed by interment in Queen of Angels Cemetery, 1901 Queen of Angels Drive, Winter Park, FL.

Previous Events

Public Visitation

NOV 9. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory
9001 N. Orlando Avenue
Maitland, FL 32751
<https://www.facebook.com/DeGusipeFH/>

Funeral Mass

NOV 10. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Annunciation Catholic Church
1020 Montgomery Road
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

Graveside Service

NOV 10. 12:00 PM (ET)

Queen of Angels Catholic Cemetery
1901 Queen of Angels Drive
Winter Park, FL 32792

Tribute Wall

US

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We are so sorry about Don’s passing. We always enjoyed hanging out with him when he was visiting in CA. It was a beautiful service. Thank you for sharing it online for those of us who couldn’t attend in person. With deepest condolences.

Michelle, Uwe, Kayla & Parker

Uwe Schaefer - November 10, 2025 at 11:45 AM

JM

“ I was so sorry to hear that Donald had passed away. We were great friends and I enjoyed working with him in Manhattan. I called him Don and he referred to me as Kid. We car pooled to work and socialized outside work including playing tennis together. I don't think I ever beat him. I couldn't get the ball past him when he came to the net. Donald would laugh and say "The kid heard the thundering footsteps". He was a great firefighter. One of his Lieutenants said he always put him on the forcible entry team because he was so determined and he knew nothing would stop him from getting through the door. In the firehouse he would play Gin with Moose and Donald always seemed to beat him. Donald would announce "Gin" and Moose would get so mad and say "Is that all you can say, "Gin"? Donald would snicker and try not to laugh. He had a great sense of humor. He was a great guy in every way, with his family and friends and he will be missed by anyone who knew him.

Joe Mulryan

Joe Mulryan - November 09, 2025 at 11:52 AM

LM

“ Lorraine M. purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Donald Francis Beyer.



Lorraine M. - November 07, 2025 at 11:30 AM

TG

“ Timothy (Toad) Guy purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Donald Francis Beyer.



Timothy (Toad) Guy - November 03, 2025 at 07:16 PM

TG

“ Timothy (Toad) Guy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Francis Beyer.

Timothy (Toad) Guy - November 03, 2025 at 07:16 PM



“ Met Don at a fire right after he joined SCFD, Talk and learned he was not a typical FDNY , He was down to earth guy, Didn't throw the FDNY in your face. We worked at Station 16 for several years, He was good friend and great mentor, taught me alot about firefighting, His knowledge was passed along to whom ever met him. He will be missed.

Timothy Guy - November 03, 2025 at 07:11 PM