



## Donald Wayne Wilber

June 21, 1953 - August 24, 2025

Donald Wayne Wilber, affectionately known as Don to his friends and "Poppy" to his adoring grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, passed away peacefully on August 24, 2025, in Ocala, Florida. Born on June 21, 1953, in Lake Hill, New York, Don's journey through life was marked by love, service, and an unwavering commitment to his family.

Don's early years were spent in the scenic environs of Lake Hill, where he attended Oteora High School, graduating in 1971. Soon after, he answered the call of duty and served his country with honor as a Submariner aboard the USS Nautilus in the United States Navy for four years. His time in the Navy instilled in him a sense of discipline and camaraderie that he carried throughout his life. He also served his community as an Emergency Medical Technician, a testament to his enduring spirit of helping others.

Following his military service, Don embarked on a career in Quality Control. He worked at Exact Tech in Gainesville, FL. There, he dedicated over two decades ensuring excellence in his chosen field. His work ethic and attention to detail were exemplary, earning him the respect and admiration of his colleagues. In 1990, he moved to the warmth of Ocala, Florida

Don shared 32 blissful years of marriage, loving Patricia Ann Wilber. Their life

together was a beautiful tapestry woven with love, laughter, and shared dreams. Before their marriage, they dated for six years, building a foundation of friendship and mutual respect that would last a lifetime.

Don and Patricia raised a vibrant family that included children Brian Wilber, Kevin Wilber, Amy Caskey, Laura Coons, Dale Engler, Donna Engler, and Debra Acompora (Peter), and Lisa Engler. Don's joy was further multiplied by his numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His role as a father was one of his greatest joys, and he nurtured his children with a balance of tenderness and strength. His granddaughter Samantha held a special place in his heart, becoming his (BFF) best friend forever.

Don's legacy continues through his numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, each of whom he cherished with a love that knew no bounds. His siblings—Randy Wilber (Mary), Nancy Sass (Ricky), and Timmy Wilber — along with a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins, will deeply mourn his loss while celebrating the memories they shared. He loved his fur baby, Loki, was a source of comfort and companionship and will surely miss his presence.

Preceded in death by his parents, George and Mary Wilber, and siblings George and Jesse, Don's memory will also be cherished by Jesse's wife, Kathleen. He was also predeceased by Shirley Wilber, his sister-in-law and a dear friend.

Don's faith was his guiding light, providing comfort and strength throughout his life's journey. His interests were as multifaceted as his personality; he found joy playing golf. He loved softball, watching Christmas movies and westerns, fishing, and simply reveling in the presence of babies and puppies.

Don's love for his family was matched only by his strong will and devotion. He was a man who lived life with a loving heart, and those who knew him would describe him as the embodiment of love itself.

As we say farewell to Donald "Poppy" Wayne Wilber, we celebrate a life rich in love and service. His indomitable spirit and the warmth of his love will continue to inspire all who were blessed to know him. Don's journey on earth may have concluded, but his legacy will endure in the hearts of his family and friends, and in the countless lives he touched with his kindness and compassion

In lieu of flowers please donate to your local Humane Society.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 30. 10:30 AM (ET)

Roberts of Ocala East Chapel  
2739 SE Maricamp Rd.  
Ocala, FL 34471  
(352) 732-9944

## Celebration of Life

AUG 30. 11:30 AM (ET)

Roberts of Ocala East Chapel  
2739 SE Maricamp Rd.  
Ocala, FL 34471  
(352) 732-9944

# Tribute Wall

JS

“ To the family and friends of my friend and former co-worker (Exactech), please know my thoughts are with you all. Don was such a good friend to me during my time with him at Exactech and after we both left. I will always cherish the talks we shared, especially our military connections. I'm sure you all know, he was one of a kind.

Joana Samad - August 31, 2025 at 06:33 PM

DA

Thank you for your kind words 💕

Debra A Acompora - October 20, 2025 at 08:17 PM

MK

“ To the Wilber & Engler family my heartfelt condolences go out to your entire family during this time of sorrow. I pray you find strength in one another, and in the love and memories you shared may the legacy of your loved one continue to live on through each one of you wishing you, peace, comfort, and strength, and the days to come.

Mrs Jenny Wilber Kennedy - August 29, 2025 at 09:22 PM

JM

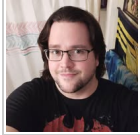
Dear Amy so sorry for the loss of your father  
My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family  
Much 💕

Jean Murray - August 29, 2025 at 11:38 PM

DA

Thank you for your kind words 💕

Debra A Acompora - October 20, 2025 at 08:18 PM



“ *Not ready to be without old man...*



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**Kevin Wilber** - August 29, 2025 at 06:43 PM



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**Debra Acompora** - August 29, 2025 at 07:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Wayne Wilber.

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August 29, 2025 at 04:45 PM

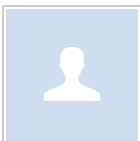


“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Donald Wayne Wilber.



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August 29, 2025 at 04:45 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Donald Wayne Wilber.



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August 29, 2025 at 01:40 PM



“ I love and miss you so very much ❤️



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**Debra Acompora** - August 29, 2025 at 12:06 PM

GG

*Sincere condolences to Don's family and friends. I grew up in Lake Hill with Don and family. He was always kind and a good friend. May he rest in peace and watch over his family and friends.*

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**Gail Hafele Galioto** - November 03, 2025 at 09:19 AM