



## Donald Morrison Wallis

June 24, 1931 - July 15, 2020

Donald Morrison Wallis, age 89, of Rudyard, Michigan, died on July 15, 2020 in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, following an ATV accident. He was born on June 24, 1931 in Sault Ste. Marie, to Percy and Sarah "Sadie" (Morrison) Wallis.

Don grew up on the farm in Rudyard and graduated from Rudyard High School. He attended Michigan State University where he obtained a Master's Education Specialist Degree as well as a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture. He served in the U.S Army where he was stationed in Japan as a supply officer at the end of the Korean Conflict. After being discharged from the service, he became a principal and teacher for the Kincheloe Elementary School, where he stayed until it closed down. He was introduced to the love of his life, Janice, by her brother and his cousin. Don won her heart and she moved up to the U.P in a teaching position to be near him. After an ultimatum by Janice, he married her June 15, 1957 in Cumming, Georgia at the Southern Baptist Church. They returned to Rudyard together, started their family and began raising their four boys. He worked between the school and the farm while he furthered his education. Both Don and Janice loved their winters in Florida where he enjoyed his fruit trees, cultivating his garden, and building friendships in the Avon Park community.

Don was an active member of the Pickford United Methodist Church, treasurer

of the local Gideon's International membership, Michigan Farm Bureau, and the Retired Teacher's Association. He worked with the first zoning board of Rudyard Township and was a very active board member on Northwoods Christian Camp.

Don was all about his family. He loved his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren with all he had. He worked hard and taught his kids how to put in a good day's work. When he wasn't working on the farm, he loved to garden and woodwork. He even obtained the title of master gardener. Long after he retired, he still worked alongside his son on the farm, helping whenever and however he could. He loved to be in the woods cutting down trees to provide for the outdoor furnace. What he loved most in his retired life was spending time with his great-grandchildren. It didn't matter what the kids wanted to do; he was more than happy to sit down with them and read a book, push them on a swing, or get down on the floor and play with little tractors. He lived a hardworking, Godly life and he will be sorely missed by his loved ones.

Don is survived by his four sons, Eric (Penny) Wallis of Rudyard, Michigan, Roger (Tracy) Wallis of Montello, Wisconsin, David (Lisa) Wallis of Mackinaw City, Michigan, and Jeffrey (Julie) Wallis of Waterford, Michigan; grandchildren, Kristy (Brendan) Currie, Emily (Tyler) Lofdahl, Kelly (Tyler) VanLoon, Jennifer Wallis, Ryan (Maggie) Wallis, Michelle (Tom) Snow, Mark Wallis, Matthew (Megan) Wallis, Amber Wallis, Courtney (Caleb) Jaggi, Susan (Seth) Hefner, Stephanie (Paul) Cox, Rebekah (Ben) Miller; great-grandchildren, Keera, Braylon, Kenzlie, Keira, Reece, Sawyer, Macklin, Rory, Magdalene, Selah, Titus, Petra, Estelle, Ayden, Ryleigh, Burkleigh, Carter, Connor, Brady, Donovan, Bailey, Mckenna, Harper, Emerson, Brynn, Ethan, Andrew, and Lilian; sister, Helen Kresge of Perrinton, Michigan; brother-in-law, Webster "Ragan" (Dorthea) Callaway of Missoula, Montana, and sister-in-law, Barbara Callaway.

Don is preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth Janice Wallis; sister and brother-in-law, Delmas (Lewis) Moldenhauer; brother-in-law, William Callaway; sister-in-law, Suzanne (Kenneth) Shaw; and brother-in-law, Stan Kresge.

Visitation will be held Sunday, July 19, 2020 from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. and Monday July 20, 2020 from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, Michigan. The Funeral Service will be held Monday following visitation at 1:00 P.M.

Burial will be at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens in Bruce Township, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Gideon's International, 12025 S. Lower Haylake Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or Northwoods Christian Camp, 1574 E Northwoods Rd., Pickford, MI 49774.

# Cemetery Details

## Oaklawn Chapel Gardens

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

# Previous Events

## Donald Wallis Visitation

JUL **19**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation  
24549 S. M-129  
Pickford, MI 49774

## Donald Wallis Visitation

JUL **20**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation  
24549 S. M-129  
Pickford, MI 49774

## Donald Wallis Funeral Service

JUL **20**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation  
24549 S. M-129  
Pickford, MI 49774

# Tribute Wall



“ *Donald Morrison Wallis*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Donald Morrison Wallis*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Donald Morrison Wallis*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *What a wonderful man that Jim and I loved. He and Janice were dear friends. He was a great principal that I worked for many years. He will be missed by all who knew, loved and appreciated him.*  
*Muriel Denton*

**Muriel Denton** - July 31, 2020 at 10:48 AM

CH

“ Don was my principal when the Michigan Educational Assessment Program was first administered during the 1969-1970 school year. I was teaching fourth grade at Turner-Howson Elementary School that year and objected to the test for many reasons. So I went to Don and asked, "What would you do if I refused to administer the test?" He looked at me, paused, and said, "I wish you wouldn't do that." I administered the test and eventually became district administrator of the test for all grades. He was wise, I was young, and I had great respect for him. I don't think I've ever known a man with greater integrity.

Carol Huard

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Carol Huard - July 21, 2020 at 06:47 PM

CN

“ Don was my boss when employed at Turner Howson Elementary school for many years. Couldn't have asked for a better supervisor ! He was so caring and wonderful with the students as well as the staff. I will always have great memories of Don!

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Catherine Nayback - July 21, 2020 at 03:00 PM

BW

“ Don Wallis....a true friend and confidant, a wise man. a leader. a mentor to me and many other educators, a neighbor farmer, AND a FarmHouse Fraternity Brother at MSU. A Christian, father, husband, grandfather and GREAT role model. So many outstanding years as School Teacher, then Principal,,,,,all in the school he graduated from in Rudyard, Michigan. Our Boss, Ed. W. Jarvie caked Don, "The best elementary Principal he ever knew!"

We are all deeply saddened by his untimely passing and know he is now with his bride and partner,,,,and the charming mother of their children, JANICE. May they both rest in peace.

Sally and BOB Wiles

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**BOB WILES** - July 18, 2020 at 08:49 AM

AP

“ Anne Papineau lit a candle in memory of Donald Morrison Wallis



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**Anne Papineau** - July 17, 2020 at 08:25 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Donald Morrison Wallis.



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July 17, 2020 at 06:00 PM