



Deacon Francis Olmstead

September 29, 2013

Deacon Donald Francis Olmstead, 76 of Huntington, Texas, former St. Ignace Division Manager of Edison Sault Electric passed away Sunday morning, September 29 at Memorial Health System of East Texas Emergency Room in Lufkin, Texas. He was born on May 18, 1937 in St. Ignace to Ora and Virginia (Routhier) Olmstead. He graduated from LaSalle High School, class of 1956; and worked on construction of the Mackinac Bridge. He retired from Edison Sault Electric after 40 years of service; on July 1, 1998; and worked both in St. Ignace and Manistique. He started as a Groundman "Grunt", and worked his way up to Division Manager. He became a Deacon of St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church, and was ordained on December 13, 1996 at the Cathedral in Marquette. He performed many weddings on Mackinac Island and St. Ignace, ...and was very active for many years, calling on people in the area, and participating at Masses at both St. Ignace and Moran. He also was active in Prison Ministry; and active with the Hope ministry in St. Ignace. He was a 4th Degree K of C. He liked to travel in their motorhome, and spent the past 4 years in Texas near his daughter and family. He would return every summer to St. Ignace except this summer of 2013, when illness took its toll. He has left a mark on many lives in the St. Ignace area; and could talk and counsel anyone. He will be sorely missed.

He married Zoe Clark on October 13, 1956 in St. Ignace and she survives; also 3 sons Gilbert and Allison Olmstead of Concord, N.C.; Timothy and Sue Olmstead of Elgin, Illinois; and David and Mary Olmstead of Kentwood; a

daughter, Jacquelyn and Casey Evans of Lufkin, Texas; His mother, Virginia Olmstead, St. Ignace; sister in law, Joan Olmstead, Lake Forest, Washington; grandchildren; Andrew (Lisa); Michael (Charlotte); Josh; Benjamin; Matthew; Amy Lynn (Jesse); Sarah; Kristen (Aaron); and Oliver. and 1 great grandson Wyatt; and a great granddaughter Rachel; also a nephew Brent and a niece Stephanie. He was preceded in death by a son, Donald Jr. on September 10, 1988 and a brother John Oran in 2002.

Friends may call at St. Ignatius Church in St. Ignace on Friday from 4 to 7 pm when parish prayers will begin. Also visitation from 9 to 11 am on Saturday with Rosary at 10 am. Mass of Christian burial will be at 11 am on Saturday, October 5 with Fr. Pawel Mecwel; Fr. Francis Dobrzanski; and Deacon Tom McClelland officiating. Also many other Priests and Deacons will participate. Burial will be in St. Ignatius Cemetery. Memorials may be directed in Deacon Dons name to the Diocese of Marquette; Seminarian Scholarship fund; with envelopes available from Dodson Funeral Home who assisted the family with arrangements. Pallbearers were Armond Horn; Brent Kanitz; Eddie Massey; Dick Bentley; Mark Jersin; Donald Gustafson; honorary pall bearers were Terry Smith; Jerry St. Andrew; Joe Frazier; Jerome LaJoyce.

Tribute Wall



“ *Deacon Francis Olmstead*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Deacon Francis Olmstead*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Deacon Francis Olmstead*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Jacque and family.....
Just wanted to let you know that y'all are in our thoughts and
prayers during this difficult time. We pray for peace and comfort.
Brenda Justice & Martha Broyles*

Brenda Wilson Justice - October 03, 2013 at 05:03 PM



“ *So sorry to hear about Donald. We wish we could be there with you.
We are thinking of you.*

Sandra & Roger Accornero - October 03, 2013 at 04:50 PM

GW

“ Dear Zoe and family. It was with great sadness that I heard of Don, s passing. I will always cherish his laughter and tricks that he would play on Joe Fischer and the rest of the line crew when I worked with them. He taught me very much about line work, and I was fortunate to have him as a mentor. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. God bless you all.

Gerard J Wolski - October 03, 2013 at 07:08 AM

RW

“ Zoe & Family,
Very sorry to hear of your loss. I enjoyed working for Don in Manistique and also of having him as my mentor in the process of taking his place when he left Manistique for St. Ignace. He was a great communicator and truly cared about people. I hadn't seen him in a number of years and that is my loss, I always enjoyed seeing him. He will be missed.

Rod & Gayle

Rod & Gayle Weber - October 03, 2013 at 06:01 AM

BR

“ So Sorry for your loss! Don was a great person and Co-worker! It was always nice to visit with him after his retirement!
Prayers to your whole family!

Becky Randazzo - October 03, 2013 at 05:37 AM