



## Donald G. Verhines, Sr.

August 7, 1927 - September 22, 2020

Donald Gene Verhines Sr, age 93 of Woodlawn went home to be with Jesus at 12:15am on Sept 22, 2020 at his home.

He was born on August 7th, 1927 in Chicago. He was the son of the late Robert Carter Verhines and Marie (Bartlett) Verhines. He married Shirley (Moseley) Verhines on March 3rd, 1959 in Miami/Hialeah Florida at First Baptist Church.

In addition to his loving wife of nearly 62 years, Mr. Verhines is survived by his 6 children. Three sons: Don Verhines Jr and wife Nancy of Woodlawn, Bob Verhines of Mt Vernon, Bill Verhines of Pennsylvania. Three daughters; Donna Chadbourne and husband Scott of Iuka. Nancy Flick and husband Dale of Nashville , Linda Scoville and husband Steve of Tierra Verde, Florida. He is also survived by 12 grandchildren; Jaclyn, Steven; Bronson, Dawson, Kinzie; Sydney, Sadie, Sophie; Miriam; Jeremy, Rebecca, Jacob. He is survived by 13 great grand children. He is also survived by his sister Mary Wheeler of Springfield and numerous beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, and life long friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Robert Dean Verhines of DeKalb.

Don was a loving family man. His family and extended family were a large part of his life. He was involved in every aspect of his kids and grandkids lives. He had many kids and grandkids, but had the gift of making each one feel as if they were the only one. He loved following their extracurricular activities and

attending all of their games and events.

He attended Springfield High School and Antelope Community College. He enlisted in the Navy at age 17 and was a World War II veteran. He was aboard the USS LSMR 408 during World War 2. He was a life long motorcycle and racing enthusiast and raced professionally. His racing numbers were 93P and 119P. Motorcycles were a passion in his life. He owned and rode numerous bikes throughout the years. It was said by many that he had more motorcycle knowledge than anyone they knew. He particularly followed the Moto GP circuit. He traveled extensively for pleasure and also to attend live MotoGP races at the Inaugural Indianapolis MotoGP, Laguna Seca MotoGP, and LeMans France.

He worked as a firefighter while living in Miami. Later he was employed as Fire and Safety Chief for guided missile ranges in the Marshall Islands, St Lucia, and Grand Bahama Islands. After moving to Mt Vernon in 1963, he owned Teachers Supply Company in Mt Vernon and also worked for Centralia Cartage, ATL, and ANR in Centralia.

Per Don's wishes, cremation rites will be accorded and a public service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Don's memory may be made to the Sydney Scoville Pancreas/Medical fund and will be accepted by the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home at 235 North Sycamore Street in Centralia, IL 62801 (618) 532-3523, who is honored to be of service to the Verhines family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com) or the Funeral Home's Facebook Page.

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ Uncle Don was such a mentor and role model. He taught me how to drive a standard transmission three on the tree in his 1952 green studebaker pickup. He also taught me how to ride my first real motorcycle, a 1968 Puch 250 which we lovingly called it the puke. All 3 of my cousins learned how to ride on that bike. In 1969 when I was 14, I flew up to St. Louis to spend a month with uncle Don and aunt Shirley and my cousins prior to my parents coming up on the way to Wisconsin. Uncle Don took us to the arch, the Chevy assembly plant where we saw corvettes being built in St. Louis, the transportation museum in St. Louis and my first 3D movie, cracatoa, east of Java, the volcano island that blew up. It felt like we were actually on the island with the 3D glasses. Every summer we went to illinois on vacation, we stayed at the Verhines. Money was tight but somehow Don and my dad found a way to buy all us kids a dilly bar at Dairy Queen.

I was afraid of heights but Uncle Don talked me into riding the double decker Ferris wheel at the Springfield state fair one year. I was terrified and amazed all at the same time.

I had such amazing memories with my uncle Don and miss him so much. He was like a dad to me. I feel so blessed that he was part of my life.

Johnny

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john alger - April 15, 2021 at 07:34 PM

DV

“ As one of his sons, Bill, I have numerous fond memories but this one stands out.

*We may have been struggling as a family financially at times but my parents never let on about it. One particular Christmas Dad dressed up like Santa Claus. God seemed to be telling me that he instructed him to do that under the circumstances. The gift is yourself. God has use that image on me several times for several different things.*

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**David "Bill" Verhines** - October 10, 2020 at 11:59 PM

SS

“ You have always been-

*My buddy*

*My Pal*

*My Friend*

*And will always be.*

*I love you so much granpa*

*Love, Sydney*

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**Sydney Scoville** - September 25, 2020 at 04:20 PM

VD

“ My deepest condolences to the Verhines family on the loss of their patriarch. Donald was always so good to me and so jovial when I visited their home. I am gratified to know that he knew the Lord. I have premonitions sometimes, and when Bob called me, I said "Your Dad?" and it was. He lived a great life with a great family that he adored and who adored him. God bless you all and give you peace at this sad time.

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**Valeri DeCastris** - September 24, 2020 at 07:48 PM

SS

“ To the most amazing man, you will be missed by so many grandpa. Thank you for all the beautiful memories you and grandma created with us all. I love you so much. Love Sadie Grace ♡

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**sadie scoville** - September 24, 2020 at 03:31 PM

SS

“ I am so thankful for the memories we shared together. I will love and miss you forever. Love, Sophrini <3

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**Sophie Scoville** - September 24, 2020 at 03:29 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald G. Verhines, Sr..



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September 24, 2020 at 09:24 AM