



Don R. Ellis

February 15, 1945 - June 24, 2018

Don R. Ellis passed away peacefully on June 24, 2018 at the age of 73 in San Antonio, Texas.

He is preceded in death by his parents Euen and Francis Ellis of Erick, OK. He is survived by his son Todd Ellis and wife Leigh of San Antonio, and grandchildren Kate and Ryan, and son Slade Ellis and wife Amy of San Antonio, and grandchildren Caroline, Daley, and Brennan. He is also survived by his sisters Kathleen Wood of Denver, CO and Rosemary Ellis and her husband Dr. Peter Long, of Denver, CO.

Don was born February 15, 1945 in Erick, OK. He was a schoolboy star athlete and held many state track and field records. He took his athletic talents to the University of Oklahoma where he was a four year letterman and team captain and eventually went all the way to the 1968 Olympic Trials as a decathlete.

Upon graduating and earning his master's degree from the University of Oklahoma, he served in the U.S. Army and was stationed overseas in South Korea. Upon returning from service, he and his then wife Linda found their way to Del Rio in 1971.

Don was an active member of the Del Rio Community for over 45 years. He was a member of the Del Rio Lions Club, the Del Rio Board of Realtors, and the Del Rio Chamber of Commerce. In addition, he served on the Del Rio City Council for eight years and one term as the Mayor Pro Tem. He sponsored numerous Laughlin AFB pilot classes and was part of several iteration of local wine, cigar and scotch clubs. Don always loved to support his children's activities. If he wasn't on the field coaching, you could usually find him nearby watching and supporting in some capacity.

Over the years his primary occupation was as a realtor, home builder, appraiser and auctioneer. But in his spare time, he enjoyed many outdoor activities including golfing, hunting, fishing, snow skiing and later in life, a gentleman rancher. The one indoor activity that he enjoyed the most was playing blackjack in Las Vegas. A pursuit much like golf that

he never quite mastered, but not from a lack of trying.

Over the many years, Don enjoyed the seemingly endless conversations and countless cups of coffee with the guys at the Ramada Inn. Over those years, the men of that loosely defined group never solved the world's problems, but they sure as heck were able to identify them. Those breakfast gatherings will indeed be missed.

Don will always be remembered as a loving father, grandfather, and brother. He was loyal to all those he called friend and a man who fought to the end.

A visitation will be held Sunday evening in the funeral home chapel from 5 to 8 p.m.

A Celebration of Don's Life is scheduled for Monday, July 2, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church, located on Spring Street. Officiating will be Rev. Carl Rohlf. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Funeral arrangements are with G. W. Cox Memorial Funeral Home of Del Rio LTD, 114 Fletcher Drive, Del Rio, Texas 78840 Phone (830) 775-2000.

Events

JUL **Visitation** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

1

G.W. Cox Memorial Funeral Home
114 Fletcher Drive, Del Rio, TX, US, 78840

JUL **Funeral Service** 10:30AM - 11:30AM

2

First United Methodist Church
100 Spring St., Del Rio, TX, US, 78840

Comments



“ I just learned of Don's passing. He was part of the council that hired me as acting and then city manager of Del Rio in the mid-80s. He was a straightforward decent sincere caring person. Well I haven't seen them for about 30 years, I have always remembered Don as a great councilmember and person. All the best to his family.
Jeff Pomeranz

jeff pomeranz - July 03 at 03:06 PM



“ Don was a great boyhood friend. We played baseball together. In grade school and early Jr high a bunch of us kids would be at his house playing "tin can up" until after dark lots and lots of nights. Don and I use to hunt and fish North of Erick ever 6 or 7 of us "hitch hiked" via Mobil rural gas delivery and Phillip 66. Don and I learned to drink Mogan David wine from his Dad, Euen Ellis storm cellar. I moved to McLean Texas in 1958 or 1959. I lost track of Don during that time. I was always going to re- connect with him. I knee he moved to area around Del Rio Texas. I never saw him again. I wish that I hadn't procrastinated. Now it is too late. I will hold our childhood friendship dear to my heart. I have missed him and like so many of my old friends, I have waited too long. He was a great guy and good friend. I pray for his family and friends during this time of healing. My sincere condolences.
Don Rice

Charles Rice - August 31, 2018 at 10:41 PM



“ Don Rice sent a virtual gift in memory of Don R. Ellis



Don Rice - August 31, 2018 at 10:24 PM



“ Don Rice lit a candle in memory of Don R. Ellis



Don Rice - August 31, 2018 at 10:23 PM



“ I remember Don best as an athlete he was our quarterback three years and most outstanding as a track star sorry to hear of his passing

Royice Everett - August 04, 2018 at 07:23 PM



“ I met Don through my neighbor and friend, Hilary Doran. Through the years, Don and I shared much laughter and insight while attending ranch parties and in-town socials. I was most fond of the times when he conducted his estate auctions in the Del Rio area. Don always had an ability to articulate his auctioneering with a flare of humor.

While I am saddened to hear of his passing, I am most grateful for the opportunity to spend quality time with a quality human being. I will forever reflect on our friendship, and I am most thankful that such an uplifting individual took time from his schedule to positively impact my life.

With a heavy heart, Maximilian Martin



Maximilian Martin - July 09, 2018 at 02:44 PM



“ I will not forget to keep you and your loved ones in my prayers. Farewell my friend , a true pleasure to be around .
Tim P



Timothy Patton - July 09, 2018 at 08:04 AM



“ So sorry to hear about Don's death. I met him around Christmas in 1972 shortly after starting to practice law with his father, Euen Ellis. My sympathy to his family and a prayer for their comfort and healing. Mike Blevins, Sayre, OK

Michael W Blevins - July 02, 2018 at 12:52 PM



“ Gosh, I remember going to the Board of Realtors parties back in the early 80's when Don and Linda would attend. This was the first time I hung around with Don. Don was Norman Elder's friend, I was Norman's friend, then I was Don's friend. We kind of got stuck with each other. I'm so glad we did! I'm younger then Don and it pissed me off when he would beat me at Racquetball, most of the time. That said, we still played as long as I my knees were healthy enough. Don was a pleasure to be with, to work with, to borrow things from, to share a bottle of wine with, and, a good friend. Miss you Don.....

Skip and Margo Baker

Skip Baker - July 02, 2018 at 09:36 AM



“ Today is a day full of happy memories of Don.
He was my friend and I will miss him.
Priscilla Tennery-Burden

Priscilla Tennery-Burden - July 02, 2018 at 08:12 AM



“ I first met Don in 1989 during my first campaign for the Legislature. Though our views on issues were not always aligned, Don was unfailingly friendly, polite and willing to share of his wisdom. His sense of fun and his sense of humor were legendary even then.

The world would be a much better place with more people like Don. He made his presence felt and had a positive impact on his community and on all those around him. He will truly be missed.

I regret very much my inability to attend his services. My respects and condolences to his family and friends.

pete p gallego - July 02, 2018 at 06:12 AM



“ Sad to hear about old friends passing. My association with Don was always so cordial and friendly. Very few fellows you will ever know as his equal. God bless his family.



leon humphreys - July 01, 2018 at 08:18 PM



“ I have known don since 1973 ! What a pleasure to know him ! He was such a good friend to Ted and me and we loved him dearly ! We will miss him so much ! May god bless you at this time of great sadness ! Our love , Mary Louise and Ted

mary louise fickrhut - July 01, 2018 at 11:48 AM



“ The Ellis and Turner families were neighbors for many years. We could never have asked for a better family to have across the alley way. Don was a great guy to have for a friend. We send our condolences to his loving family along with prayer for their comfort.

Dan and Toni Turner

Dan Turner - July 01, 2018 at 12:37 AM



“ Don was a well known high school & college athlete. He was respected by his teammates and opponents. He was a good friend. Our condolences and prayers to his family. RIP Don Ellis.

Larry & Cathy Sanders

larry sanders - July 01, 2018 at 06:29 PM



“ Don was one of the good ones. Rest In Peace, my friend, and prayers for his family.

Jerry and Anna Horn

JerryHorn - June 30, 2018 at 09:42 PM



“ Don was a great classmate & a great teammate and friend. He will be missed by all. Sorry for your loss.

Ransom & Retta Snowden

Retta Snowden - June 30, 2018 at 08:05 PM



“ Don Ellis will always be remembered as a great guy, who always spoke and treated me --and many others -- with dignity, honor, and respect. Of course, I gave the same back to him because he was always dignified, honorable, and worthy of respect -- for sure. Condolences to the family and friends of this fine man. Don, thanks for always being a great man and a cheerful friend. You and your many kindnesses will be missed. The world could learn from people like Don Ellis: a great man and a good friend, for sure! Always, and fond memories, Heriberto Urby, Jr. and Family

Heriberto Urby, Jr. - June 30, 2018 at 02:19 PM



“ Don was always a well liked guy in school at Erick. He was a good student and a natural athlete. He lead the Bearcats for years on every field of competition that he was involved in. He will be missed by all the Class of '63. Our prayers go out to the family and ask for The Lord's peace to comfort you in this time of loss. --- Leon and Angie Goldsmith

Leon Goldsmith - June 30, 2018 at 11:15 AM



“ The Ellis families. please accept my condolences on your loss. I was one of those that shared a table with Don at the Ramada and although we never settled national or world problems we helped each other thru many tribulations. Don will be missed by all those at that table as well as our Del Rio Host Lions Club. I harken the day that we'll meet again in glory!!! Hasta la Proxima hermano.

Jim Runyan
Goldthwaite, TX

Jim Runyan - June 29, 2018 at 11:12 PM



“ Thanks for all the good laughs , advice and the great conversations we had Don . We will all surely miss you sitting at our shop having great laughs . God bless you from all of us at Del Río Towing ... Juan Carlos

Juan Carlos Vazquez - June 29, 2018 at 09:40 PM