



## Donald Keith Leard

May 24, 1951 - September 1, 2020

Don Leard, who was a son, brother, husband, grandfather, great grandfather, and a friend to all, passed away on September 1st at the age of 69. He was born May 24th, 1951 in Newberg, Oregon. Don started working at a young age and had an unparalleled work ethic that was admired by many. He held many titles over the years. If all of his accomplishments, achievements, and occupations were documented, you would believe it was more than any one man could do in a lifetime. His many passions included being a race car driver, 1963 Ford Galaxies, and helping others. Above all else, Don loved to work. He was a man of God that strived to better himself and those he encountered throughout his life. He will be missed by many, loved by all, and his legacy will continue on, carried out by his family.

After losing his son, Keith, in 1983 to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Don was passionate about donating to the SIDS Foundation. Contributions in Don's name can be made at [www.SIDS.org](http://www.SIDS.org)

# Tribute Wall

BK

“ I knew Don when he had Don Leard Motors, I sold him several hundred cars and misc items, always true to his word and a super nice guy, I got to know him very well. After I retired I bumped into Don after not seeing him in quite a few years at the Antique Store, next to where his car lot was in Lafayette, in May or June of this year, we had a nice visit, he told me how great he was doing, and how hard good help was to come by, he had been looking for a painter to do a room down stairs and like me couldn't find anyone so decided to do it. Himself, and was getting ready to build a house as well, I told. Him as successful as he has been that he should slow down and enjoy life, he laughed at me, said he was enjoying life doing what he was doing. To each his own. We were both workaholics. But Don was a special guy, My condolences to his family, Dorothy and all. He will be missed. Bob Kahn, formally General Manager Miles Chevrolet, Woodburn and Owner of Bob's Auto and Truck Sales , Woodburn, Oregon. Retired 2002....

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**Bob Kahn** - December 05, 2020 at 01:22 AM

MS

“ Not only was Don a treasured client, he was a treasure to talk with, to share car stories with and generally just share life experiences with. He will be missed. His joy of life and drive were an inspiration. Scott and Marye Steckley

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**Marye Steckley** - October 02, 2020 at 12:53 PM



“ Although Donald I never met he was my cousin and will be missed. My dad and his mom were brother and sister.



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**Vickie Weber** - September 24, 2020 at 11:32 PM

ME

“ Humble, modest, unassuming was Don! I don't remember when Alan and I first met Don, it must have been in the 70's, but you would never have known the size of his heart! Don helped us and so many others over the years. You couldn't drive through Lafayette without thinking of Don Leard and maybe catching a glimpse of him climbing a tree, helping someone or working on one of his new projects. Don was one of a kind and we were blessed to call him a friend!

*Marjie Ehry*

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**Marjie Ehry** - September 12, 2020 at 02:35 PM



“ RIP Don! Your legacy continues. Thank you for everything you did for Lafayette. You will be missed by many. Hoping your family finds peace and comfort.

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**Gregory Goularte** - September 07, 2020 at 05:14 PM



“ I met Don in 1986 when he hired me to twist wrenches... I have so many memories of this genuine caring individual... Everything from watching him light up popping trunks open on car auction purchases to selling antiques... I think the best memories will be of him trying to make the city of Lafayette better than when he found it... He has done so much for the community, I don't think most people realize what he has done for our community...

*I will miss you friend. Until we meet again...*

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**Jim Sieber** - September 06, 2020 at 11:35 PM

JD

“ Don was a very productive and hard working man. He and I shared many conversations about the world and issues around it. I will truly miss waving at him as he drives past in that small white pickup. He will be missed by many of us. Rest In Peace my friend.

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**Jerry L Druery** - September 06, 2020 at 11:16 PM

JL

“ Dad I miss you more then you ever imagine. The world has lost one of the greatest men to ever walk the earth. The heavens have gained an angel. I love you dad.

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**Jayne leard** - September 06, 2020 at 06:17 PM

SB

“ My father has always had a sense of humor, a strong desire to provide for his family and a loving heart. I feel like the luckiest daughter in the world that he is my dad and the heartache that I am enduring is just a testament to what a wonderful daddy I have. I love you dad ❤️

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**stephanie Brickell** - September 06, 2020 at 05:44 PM

GA

“ *In memory of Donald Keith Leard. You are not only my brother, but also my best friend. You were the rock in our lives .I love you and miss you to the moon and back*

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**Gayla** - September 06, 2020 at 03:01 PM

LL

*Don was a kind and generous man. Myself and 3 other women who used to run the summer program, the bread program, lunch program, and gleaning for a few years, could always count on him to take an interest, stop by to see how everything was going, and offer to help in any way he could, pitching in especially if the kids needed something. I told him once of a horribly sad story about one of our family's that had just suffered a death, job loss and a near suicide of a child. On top of that they had just lost their phone. He asked me how much and gave me the cash. Asked him if he wanted a receipt for taxes. He patted my arm, said "No, not important. Don't need to know about each other, let me know if there's anything else". Rest in peace Don. Thanks for being the guy we could all look up to. Linda Littleton-Bristol*

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**Linda Littleton-Bristol** - September 09, 2020 at 04:41 AM

MM

“ *My deepest and most heartfelt sympathies for the family. Don was a giant among men. Never an idle moment. His legacy in Lafayette, will never be forgotten. He helped so many, in so many ways. My late husband, Steve, will be waiting for him in heaven and they can pick up their shenanigans, and that makes me smile.*

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**Melodie Malone** - September 05, 2020 at 11:36 AM



“ *Don leard will be greatly missed. Just look around Lafayette and you will see don hand in it for the better he has did so much for this town.this town Wil not be the same with out him zipping by in his truck or old car he loved.I he love .he was kind givingperson. And funny..I my husband and I Wil miss him .but never forget how kind he was to us or this town.God bless this town and many folks with his kindness. So when I look at Lafayette I will see don an almost every corner. God bless his lovely wife Janice and children. You are all in are prayers and thank you for all your hard work and kindness don miss you love Blair and belle*

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**Blair Grier** - September 04, 2020 at 11:11 PM

TF

“ *I suppose I first met Don many years ago in the local cafe. Don was always so generous and kind to me as well as countless others.*

*While he is remembered for many achievements, titles, work ethic, and so on, two of my fondest memories of him are when he walked into the cafe one morning (I still have a pic of him) with a big cloth “magnet” covered with a bunch of toy chickens and proudly exclaiming what a great “chick magnet” he was!*

*My second fond but melancholy memory is of when one of my best friends - and a friend of Don’s - suddenly passed away. Don generously rented a limo for my friends little family, me, and him and we rode to Willamette National Cemetery in Portland and back together.*

*I’ll miss your eccentric, fun, generous, kind smile, my friend. Thank you for all you did for me. Until we meet in that land of an uncloudy day.*

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**Tony Frost** - September 04, 2020 at 08:41 PM

TF

“ Don was such a kind, giving person and fun to be around. We will miss you Don and we will always be glad that we knew you. Sending prayers to you in heaven and we will help comfort your family any way we can. From the Joe Brickell family

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**The Brickell family** - September 04, 2020 at 01:06 PM

BP

“ Don was a great help to me with Lafayette Heritage Days. He loved hanging around and mostly being with the kids. He was such fun and will be greatly missed. He loved Lafayette.

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**Bonnie Pursel** - September 04, 2020 at 12:31 PM