



## Don Ray Preston

June 21, 1945 - October 28, 2024

Don Ray Preston, age 79, of Millersburg, MI, formerly of Holly, MI, passed away peacefully on October 28, 2024, in Petoskey, MI, surrounded by his children and loved ones. Born on June 21, 1945, in Flint, Michigan, Don grew up in Linden and graduated from Linden High School in 1964. After graduation, he attended Baker College and began a successful career as a salesman, working with Perfection Bakeries for 35 years.

A devoted husband, Don shared 56 wonderful years with his beloved wife, Sharon (Welton) Preston. Together, they built a beautiful family that includes their sons, Scott (Cammie) Preston and Todd (Julie) Preston, their daughter, Jodi (Adam) Brewbaker, and his cherished grandchildren: Makkenzie (Andrew), Maddison (Adam), Tanner (Abigail), Jeffrey, Christian, Bradley, Chelsea (Cameron), Kyli, and Brendon. He is also survived by his great-grandchildren, Shiloh, Maeve, Walker, Matthew, and two more expected soon, several nieces and nephews, as well as his sisters-in-law Sheila Mavis, Shirley Schillinger, Shannon Guernsey, and Sheri (Dan) Bunting, and brother-in-law Eri Welton Jr., all of whom he held dear in his heart.

Don was known for his warm smile, quick wit, and unwavering kindness. In his youth, he became active in politics, supporting the Eisenhower/Nixon campaign of 1952, and was even gifted a cocker spaniel from the Eisenhower family, a testament to his enthusiasm and commitment. He also loved to

volunteer his time and was active as a little league coach in Holly, serving as vice president of Holly Little League, an athletic booster for Holly High School, and a softball coach at Onaway High School. His passion for supporting young athletes and his dedication to his community left a lasting impact on many.

At the age of seven, Don was a recipient of corrective eye surgery, an experience that inspired his commitment to helping others. In honor of his legacy, donations can be made on behalf of Don to your local Lions Club, an organization dedicated to helping those with vision needs.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Domenico and Helen (Doud) Preston, his father and mother-in-law, Eri and Geraldine (Lucas) Welton, and several aunts and uncles.

A memorial service to celebrate Don's life will be held on Wednesday, November 6, at 11:00 AM at Dryer Funeral Home in Holly. Family will receive visitors on Tuesday, November 5, from 2:00 PM until 7:00 PM and on Wednesday, one hour before the service.

Don Ray Preston will forever be remembered in our hearts, and his love will continue to inspire us every day. [www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com](http://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery

Linden, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 5. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

DryerFuneral Home, Inc.  
101 First St  
Holly, MI 48442  
(248) 634-8291  
bgdryer@hotmail.com  
<https://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com>

## Visitation

NOV 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

DryerFuneral Home, Inc.  
101 First St  
Holly, MI 48442  
(248) 634-8291  
bgdryer@hotmail.com  
<https://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com>

## Funeral Service

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NOV 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

DryerFuneral Home, Inc.

101 First St

Holly, MI 48442

(248) 634-8291

[bgdryer@hotmail.com](mailto:bgdryer@hotmail.com)

<https://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dryer Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Don Ray Preston*



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**Dryer Funeral Home, Inc.** - November 05, 2024 at 07:58 PM



“ *Doug M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Don Ray Preston.*

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**Doug M.** - November 05, 2024 at 08:35 AM



“ *25 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Dryer Funeral Home, Inc.** - November 04, 2024 at 03:12 PM

MN

“ *Much love, Becky,Chris,Dylan and Nick. purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Don Ray Preston.*



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**Much love, Becky,Chris,Dylan and Nick.** - November 04, 2024  
at 12:17 PM

LR

“ *Lorne and Penny Winglemire Raupp lit a candle in memory of Don Preston*



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**Lorne and Penny Winglemire Raupp** - November 04, 2024 at 11:37 AM

MS

“ *Melissa Ryntz & Vicky Snyder purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Don Ray Preston.*



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**Melissa Ryntz & Vicky Snyder** - November 04, 2024 at 11:16 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Don Ray Preston.*

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November 04, 2024 at 09:02 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Don Ray Preston.



November 04, 2024 at 09:02 AM



“ Dianne J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Don Ray Preston.

Dianne J. - November 03, 2024 at 05:58 PM



“ Chad, Carmen and Adam planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Don Ray Preston.

Chad, Carmen and Adam - November 03, 2024 at 02:08 PM



“ Chad, Carmen and Adam purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Don Ray Preston.



Chad, Carmen and Adam - November 03, 2024 at 02:08 PM



“ Donnie was the same age as my big brothers Gary n Harvey Grant. I remember him from them n I remember my parents were friends with his parents. I remember his smile always. My prayers go out to his family.

Patricia Grant - November 03, 2024 at 09:43 AM

LJ

“ I grew up with Donnie, as I called him, as he was a neighbor to me and my brother Doug Jordan on Linden Road. He was always so kind and patient with the little sister who wanted to follow them around. Rest in peace Don and say Hi to Doug up there for me.  
Laura Jordan

Laura Jordan - November 03, 2024 at 12:12 AM

CM

“ Cheryl McDougal lit a candle in memory of Don Preston



Cheryl McDougal - November 02, 2024 at 06:20 PM

TR

“ The Preston's and I go way back. We meet in Little League. I loved Mr. Preston's laugh. He was a great man. My deepest sympathies to The Preston's family and friends. I will miss him deeply. Forever in my heart. Love Tracie (Young) Romba

TRACIE L ROMBA - November 02, 2024 at 04:02 PM

MR

“ Donnie "as I called him" was a wonderful classmate. I worked with his father at Spring Meadows Country Club in Linden, Michigan, who was also a wonderful person. He was so very proud of his son. I'm so happy that Don was involved in many wonderful activities helping others. My prayers go up for his family.  
Margaret (Haley) Raube of Centreville, Virginia

Margaret Haley Raube - November 01, 2024 at 08:06 PM

MB

“ I attended Linden elementary school classes with Don. In reading, he certainly created a wonderful family and helped many youth. I'm sure his family is very proud of him.

Marsha Bignall - November 01, 2024 at 06:59 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Don Ray Preston.

November 01, 2024 at 02:05 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Don Ray Preston.



November 01, 2024 at 02:05 PM

CF

“ Coach Dons favorite twins (Estep Fam) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Don Ray Preston.

Coach Dons favorite twins (Estep Fam) - November 01, 2024 at 01:59 PM

CF

“ Coach Dons favorite twins (Estep Fam) purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Don Ray Preston.



Coach Dons favorite twins (Estep Fam) - November 01, 2024 at 01:59 PM

LA

“ Love-Sheri, Dan, Dawn, Tyler and Ashley purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Don Ray Preston.



Love-Sheri, Dan, Dawn, Tyler and Ashley - November 01, 2024 at 01:36 PM

LH

“ Linda Hart-Young sent a virtual gift in memory of Don Preston



Linda Hart-Young - November 01, 2024 at 01:11 PM



*I pray for God's peace for you, Sharon, & your beloved family. Don was a memorable man involved in sports and helping kids!*

Shirley Keasey - November 02, 2024 at 07:28 PM

DI

*We as a Family remember Donnie fondly. He and my Husband Doug Jordan were neighbors from the time they were 6 Years old. Some wonderful memories and stories. God give you comfort and Peace. He was so very PROUD of you His Children and All the Family. Sending Love and Prayers, Dianne Jordan*

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**Dianne** - November 03, 2024 at 05:53 PM