



Donald M. Senechal

November 17, 1946 - August 21, 2013

Donald M. Senechal, 66, died at his home in Bismarck, on August 21, 2013. Funeral services will be held on Monday, August 26, 2013, at 11 a.m. at the United Church of Christ, 1200 East Highland Acres Road, Bismarck, with Rev. Donna Dohrmann officiating. Burial will be the same day at 3:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in rural Drake, ND. Visitation will be Sunday, August 25, 2013, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway, Bismarck, and will continue on Monday one hour prior to the service at the church. Don was born to Marvin and Dora Erdman Senechal of Drake, North Dakota, on November 17, 1946. He graduated from Drake High School in 1963. He earned bachelors' and masters' degrees in agricultural economics from North Dakota State University. On August 27, 1966, he married Peggy Nordstrom, of Minot. They moved to Fargo, North Dakota, where their daughter, Anna, was born in 1971. In 1973, they moved to the Boston, Massachusetts, area where they lived until 2003. They then returned to the Drake area, and lived there and in Bismarck. Don was the founding principal and chairman of The Windmill Group, LLC. He provided management consulting services to leading food and agribusiness organizations in the commercial and public sectors globally during a 35 year consulting career. Prior to founding The Windmill Group, he held CEO and senior executive positions with leading international management consulting firms. He was a founding principal of Senechal, Hale & Co. from 1988 to 2004 and President/Executive Vice-President of Agribusiness Associates from 1983

to 1988. He also served as a senior consultant at Arthur D. Little. Don enjoyed fishing and hunting, especially in North Dakota. He was a voracious reader, and enjoyed classic rock and roll. Don is survived by his wife of almost 47 years, Peggy, and his daughter, Anna, and son-in-law, Colin Rodgers, of Austin, Texas. He is also survived by three sisters, Lora Senechal of Toronto, Ontario, Marlene Senechal and her husband Robert Moilanen of Minnetonka, Minnesota, and Alice Senechal of Grand Forks. He is also survived by eight nieces and nephews, and a grand-nephew. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to North Dakota State University Development Foundation - Donald Senechal Scholarship Fund, 1241 North University Drive, Fargo, North Dakota, 58102.

Tribute Wall

VE

“ I had the sincere pleasure and great honour to work with Don on a consultancy project in our business in the UK in the mid 2000's. Don was a true gentleman, great character and had a brilliant brain. I will always hold fond memories of that time. My sincere condolences to Don's wife, daughter and family.

Veronique - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ My sympathy to the family. And to Don's sisters too, as they are also good friends. I am sure I have known Don since we were too young to speak. We were the same age so that meant Sunday School, Confirmation, etc. together. We started and finished first grade and when the second grade teacher came she said we already knew all the 2nd grade material so we were advanced to the third grade. That never would have happened to me if Don had not been right beside me. We were classmates through the 12th grade but I soon learned there was no competing with his brain. As you can imagine, I have many more memories that are better off not mentioned, but lots of fun.

Janice Sitz Templeton - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

Jl

“ My condolences to your family for the loss of your brother. I wish you strength and peace at this difficult time.

Jayne Isaak - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ I met don around eight years ago. He needed someone to cut the grass at the farm and I was available. Three years later the inside of the barn was finished and I ended up with two of the nicest people I will ever know as friends. If it were not for the help that don and peggy showed me I wouldn't be a home owner today. I will always cherish the time that I got to share with don and know that he will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Kasey Boucher - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ I first met Don at the Hilton Airport Inn in Chicago in the early '90s where he organized a meeting with River Valley Foods who were interested in partnering to develop a potato French fry plant in a potato growing area of the US. We were a group of farmers with little knowledge of what it would take to accomplish such a task. We were what was considered a "green field" project where both the production of irrigated potatoes and processing was being considered for development. The twelve of us from Central North Dakota organized Central Dakota Growers and we entered into a consulting agreement with Don's company, Senechal, Hale & Co. Six years later, the AVIKO potato French fry plant was built at Jamestown and today processes French fries as Cavandish Farms. It could not have been done without Don's leadership and desire to keep putting people and programs together. He was a real people person with great skills in the development working agreements. It was a real pleasure to have worked with Don. Maynard Helgaas West Fargo, ND

Maynard Helgaas - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ I am very sorry to hear of Don's death. I have known Don since grade school days when we were both competing as 4H crops judges. A bit later, we were both graduate students in Ag Econ at NDSU. on went off to form an agribusiness consulting group, while I ended up as a professor in Ag Econ at the University of Kentucky. Don was a great crops judge and an excellent agricultural economist David L. Debertin Lexington, KY

dldebertin - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EI

“ I am so sorry to hear that Don has died. I wish I could be there to help celebrate his life, but I shall be there in thought and prayer. When Donnie Marvin Don was born, your folks asked me to come for a few days and help out with the new baby. I was only nine years old. I remember it so well. He was a precious baby. When neighbors Ehli?sp came to meet the new baby, a new fresh bag of fluffy white marshmallow was passed around for a treat.

Eileen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM