



## Mr. Donald P. Hudson

January 17, 1943 - August 27, 2023

Donald P. Hudson, 80, of Lakeland, Florida, born January 17, 1943, entered his eternal rest on August 27, 2023. He is survived by his beloved wife of 37 years, Marie; loving daughter, Terri Collins (Tommy); grandsons, Kenny Edwards (Chelsea), Ethan Ham (Tyler), Alan Baker (Julie), Samuel Edwards, and Seth Collins; four great-grandchildren; special sister, Glenda Brock (Jeff Doyle); special niece, Katie Brock; special nephew, Tyler Brock (Sarah); and numerous other relatives and friends who loved him greatly. His parents, Jesse and Christine Hudson, and son, Clif Edwards, predeceased him. Don was a very proud American who served six years in the United States Navy, and he retired as a captain from the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, after 35 years of service. He loved nothing more than to hang out and converse with his family and friends. We all will miss his endless wit. He was an active member of Oakwood Baptist Church, Plant City, FL. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at Ahava Baptist Church, 6015 W. Farkas Rd., Plant City, FL 33567. Special thanks to Alicia Flack, caregiver, and Good Shepherd Hospice, Magnolia team. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Good Shepherd Hospice at [chaptershealth.org](http://chaptershealth.org) in Don's memory. Expressions of condolences at [www.HopewellFuneral.com](http://www.HopewellFuneral.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

SEP **16.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Ahava Baptist Church  
6015 W Farkas Road  
Plant City, FL 33567  
b4him@tampabay.rr.com  
<http://www.ahavabaptistchurch.com>

# Tribute Wall

WG

“ A good man has gone home to be with his Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father.

*Donnie will be truly missed by his family and many others of us that also loved him. Donnie approached everything in his life with dedication and determination. I'm proud to have been one of his friends.*

*Donnie had the knack of lightening the mood for almost any occasion. On many a detail I've had to ask him to "please stop" because my side was hurting from laughing so much. Yes, Donnie was very special.*

*I trusted this man to always be there and to do what he said he would do. He cared for others and lived his life accordingly. God, family and friends defined his life. We could all learn from his character and zeal for living. His love for Marie, Terri, Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren and extended Family was always apparent and a true focus in his life.*

*Until we are united again, we'll miss you Donnie. I just hope you're paying attention if the Lord says "Please Stop, this laughter is hurting my side."*

*Wayne Gellner*

---

**Wayne Gellner** - September 14, 2023 at 06:26 PM

EG

“ I met Donnie Hudson in 1974 in 1976 we became friends a couple of years later best of friends, was his backup many long cold nights waiting on someone to break the game laws, he didn't like the cold especially on the Airboat which he was a master at running a Airboat none could operate it better, he turned out to be my best friend other than my family, I sure do miss you my friend but I'll see you again one day (this is your little fat buddy) he always called me that . My wife's name is Virgie but Donnie always called her Angie and she called him Homer , he was a great man , he loved people, animals and life was glad to be called his friend 👍

---

**Earl Green** - September 12, 2023 at 01:35 PM

SP

“ Sorry for your loss! You will sure be missed Mr.Hudson RIP

---

**Sheila Payne** - September 12, 2023 at 05:59 AM

SJ

“ So sorry for your loss keeping you on my prayers. RIP Captian

---

**Sheila Jackson** - September 08, 2023 at 07:19 PM

RB

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Marie and family at this difficult time.  
I have many fond memories working with Don, both being wildlife officers with GFC/FWC. He loved his work and was good at what he did. He was a high-energy person and fear didn't enter his thinking. With age, he mellowed and was quick to show appreciation and love for others and his Lord. RIP my brother!  
Roy Brown

---

**Roy Brown** - September 05, 2023 at 08:58 PM

DA

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Marie, Terri and family. I first met Donnie in 1970 at the GFC Academy at Wakulla Springs later we worked together in Hardee and Polk counties. Donnie was one of the first Regional under cover investigators and we had many great adventures working as covert law enforcement officers. Donnie loved his job and his Lord. After He retired we stayed in touch by phone ,text and a few visits. He called me big buddy and I called him little buddy. Donnie and Marie even helped care for our Son after school . I believe the last ride he went on beat all the airboat rides He ever went on. Till we meet again Little Buddy. RIP Brother.

---

**Don Arnold** - September 05, 2023 at 08:05 PM

CW

“ Chris and Sissy Worrell purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Donald P. Hudson.



---

**Chris and Sissy Worrell** - September 05, 2023 at 07:46 PM