



Donald Lanier

August 21, 1951 - July 24, 2009

Chesapeake- Donald Lanier (affectionately known as Don), 57, of the 4000 block of Lakeview Drive was called home to be with the Lord on Friday, July 24, 2009 at the VA Hospital Hospice Care Center.

Don was born in Birmingham, AL. He graduated from Old Dominion University with a BA in Economics. Don served in the US Navy for four years as an Operations Specialist. He worked for the US Postal Service for 31 years where he retired as an Operations Analyst. He was a member of the Rising Sun #2 Masonic Lodge and Grove Baptist Church.

Don leaves to cherish his loving memories with his wife, Joan M. Lanier; two daughters, Ebony M. Lanier and Ashley M. Richardson; a son, Donald Jamal Lanier, Jr. "DJ"; a sister, Barbara Lanier; four brothers, Leroy Lanier, Jerry Lanier (Jennifer), Walter Lanier (Alfretta), and Ronnie Lanier (Sherry); and a host of other family members and friends.

Viewing will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2009 from 3pm until 7pm at J. T. Fisher Funeral Services, 1080 N. George Washington Hwy., Chesapeake. A life celebration service will be held at 11am on Wednesday, July 29, 2009 at Grove Baptist Church, 5910 West Norfolk Rd., Portsmouth, Dr. Melvin O. Marriner, Senior Pastor. Burial will follow at Albert G. Horton Memorial Veterans Cemetery, Suffolk. J. T. Fisher Funeral Services has been entrusted

with the final care arrangements. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com

Previous Events

Service

JUL **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grove Church
5910 West Norfolk Road
Portsmouth, VA

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald Lanier



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - July 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Hi Joan,
I just heard about Don from Sabrina, and I'm so sad to hear that.
I'm on the west coast now so I don't hear about my friends back home.
I'll pray for you and your family to carry on the way Don would have wanted you to.

Frank###imported-begin##Frank G Newsome III##imported-end##

September 11, 2009 at 12:13 PM



“ ****Family****

Don will truly be missed. I remember spending our summer vacations in Prattville, AL at our Granny's house (Marthan Lanier). Don and siblings would sometime come while we were there. What I remember most is how genuinely nice Don always was, and over the years, that never seemed to change. That is a blessing in itself. I thank him for the excitement he had for the Family Reunions! Much Love,

Jacque in Flint, MI###imported-begin##Jacqueline Owens (Jacque)###imported-end##

August 06, 2009 at 06:27 PM



“ *I never had the pleasure of meeting Don, but I am certain he was a great man. My deepest sympathy to you all and GOD BLESS.###imported-begin##Almareka McCallum ###imported-end##*

August 05, 2009 at 06:08 PM



“ *Dear Joan and family, I am sorry to hear of your loss. Didn't realize how long I'd know Don until I read this lovely guest book and biography. I hope it is a consolation to know how much you and Don are loved by friends and family. I pray the Lord will uphold you in this time of grief and loss. In days ahead remember you are not alone: "For thy Maker is thine husband, the LORD of hosts is His name, and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, the God of the whole earth shall he be called." Love from West Virginia, Barbara###imported-begin##Barbara Grigg###imported-end##*

August 05, 2009 at 03:27 PM



“ UNCLE DON AS YOU HAVE BEEN WELCOMED IN THE HEAVENS I FATHER ROBERT LANIER, YOUR MOTHER NANCY WILSON LANIE SISTER MARTHA LANIER MCKINNEY AND YOUR BROTHER ROBE LANIER WE YOUR FAMILY DO/WILL MISS YOU GREATLY. AS THE OF YOUR NIECE'S AND NEPHEW'S CHERYLYN(MYSELF), ANIKA, CHARMAYNE(BRIAN), BRANDON, JERRY JR., LANANCIA EDWIN A SHUNKLIN WE WANT TO SAY WE THANK AND LOVE YOU IN OUR DIFFERENT WAYS FOR EACH ONE OF US SHARED A SPECIAL AN DIFFERENT TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU THROUGHOUT C ENTIRE LIVES. AS YOU ARE/WILL BE DEEPLY MISSED BY YOUR . BARBARA, YOUR BROTHERS LEROY(LINDA),WALTER(ALFRETТА),JERRY(JENNIFER),RONNIE(S ALL WILL MISS YOU. LOVE ALWAYS##imported-begin##CHERYLYN MCKINNEY##imported-end##

August 01, 2009 at 10:01 AM



“ Uncle Don who am i going to call when I need someone to talk to about anything and everything. You listened and also straightened us out when we needed it. My mama Barbara Lanier, and my uncles, Walter(FRET), Jerry(Jennifer), Ronnie(Sherry), and Leroy(Linda), my cousins Cherylyn, Charmayne(Brian), Brandon, and JJ. We are also the family that has been affected with great sadness, but to know that we will have your memories with us, until we meet again will be something wonderful to look forward to.##imported-begin##Anika Lanier##imported-end##

July 31, 2009 at 08:27 PM



“ I've been trying to send this for several days, I went in to send a flower to the family while at work Monday and click on Don's name, his picture pop up..and I started to cry...He's one of my first cousins, his and my dad brother and sister.. Seeing your relative you hadn't seen in a while brings back your childhood memories of FAMILY... The times we would go to Alabama all 7 of us and 8 of them his sister's and brother's. There will be a reunion in heaven, our mother, his father, my 2 sisters & his brother and sister. This entire Wilson & Lanier Family will miss him greatly. I pray for the peace of God for Joan, Ebony, Ashley and Don Jr. Also for his Sister & brothers.. Love Ya Family. ##imported-begin## Shirley Wilson ##imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 10:43 PM



“ Dear Joan and Family,

I prayed for you during Don's illness and I will pray for you to be ungirded by His power. He lives! Don lives! ##imported-begin## Sebrina Brown ##imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 09:10 AM



“ Joan, you and your family are in my prayers. I pray God gives you strength during your time of sorry. God Bless You.

Robyn Davis ##imported-begin## Robyn M. Davis ##imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 01:34 AM



“ Joan, my heart is very heavy for you and your family with the lost of your love one, Don. May you find peace that he brought joy to many he came in contact with his own sense of humor. We (Postal employees) loved him, but God loved him best.##imported-begin##Vernice Pettaway##imported-end##

July 29, 2009 at 05:45 PM



“ Joan, My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family during this most difficult time in your lives. Though no one can take away the sadness and pain you feel at this time,remember to keep your faith in God. Peace and blessings. Sheila Turner##imported-begin##Sheila Turner##imported-end##

July 29, 2009 at 01:13 PM



“ To the Lanier Family (Momma Joan, Ebony, Ashley and DJ), I am deeply saddened and hurt to hear about your loss! I have know you all for as long as I can remember and have always considered you to be extended family! Mr.Lanier was a very gracious and caring man! I will always have the memories we shared at the cookouts. An the advice he would always share. I love you all dearly.##imported-begin##Sheena Gibson##imported-end##

July 29, 2009 at 08:30 AM



“ Joan,

I just hear about your husband passing today. Please know that you and your family are in our prayers at Northrop Grumman Newport News Mail Services.##imported-begin##Walter Gay< jr.##imported-end##

July 29, 2009 at 08:29 AM



“ Joan,

Sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers go out to you and All of your family. May God Bless you.

JoAnn##imported-begin##JoAnn Blackshire-Little##imported-end##

July 29, 2009 at 08:15 AM



“ *With deepest sympathy and empathy do we extend our heart felt sorry to you and your family in the loss of your loved one. May God grant you peace and comfort as you traverse this path in this part of your lives.*

*God Bless You & Your Family,
Ronald & Leah Christmas##imported-begin##Mr & Mrs Ronald
E.Christmas, Sr.##imported-end##*

July 29, 2009 at 04:44 AM



“ Dearest Joan,

Our deepest sympathies to you and your family at the passing of your dear Don. Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and in our hearts.

Peace be with you,

Francis and Penny##imported-begin##Francis Edwards & Penny McAllister##imported-end##

July 29, 2009 at 04:41 AM



“ THE BODY IS ABSENT FORM THE FAMILY BUT PRESENT WITH OUR LORD AND SAVE, SO I SAID TO THE FAMILY THAT HE WILL NEVER DIE.

LOVE BROTHE COKER##imported-begin##ROBERT L. COKER I##imported-end##

July 29, 2009 at 12:29 AM



“ THE BODY IS ABSENT FROM THE FAILY BUT, IS PRESENT WITH OUR GOD AND SAVIOR.

LOVE ALWAYS FROM CO-WORKER FOR MANY YEARS.##imported-begin##ROBERT L COKER 1##imported-end##

July 29, 2009 at 12:21 AM



“ To Jaon, Ebony, Ashley & DJ may God Comfort each of you in the lost of your loved one, may he gives you Peace in your time of sorrow, but remember he's in a better place no moore pain and suffering. He's in Heaven keep the memories alive and always remember the good times you shared together, you all loved him but God loves him best, keep the faith. Love Sis. Pat###imported-begin##Sis Patricia Robinson##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 11:06 PM



“ Joan and Ebony, my heart is filled with sadness because it ended soon, and happiness because Don was a great Godfather to my son, Corey and a wonderful Uncle to my other son, BJ. I am here for and with you always.

Love Vanessa and Auntie to Ebony##imported-begin##Vanessa Moss##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 09:07 PM



“ Sister Lanier, my prayers and thoughts are with you and your family. God Bless!##imported-begin##Javon Robinson ##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 08:54 PM



“ *Joan and Family,
My family and I extend our sincere condolences to you and your family. Don and I worked and fought injustices together. Your loss is our loss.
May God watch over you and the family.
God Bless,
Clifton Vaughan and Family##imported-begin##Clifton Vaughan
(MOWU ClerkNorfolk Retired)##imported-end##*

July 28, 2009 at 08:16 PM



“ *Sis. Lanier you and your family are in our prayers. Mr.Don will truly be missed.
We Love You!##imported-begin##Brianna&Jeremiah
Bellamy##imported-end##*

July 28, 2009 at 08:00 PM



“ *Joan,

Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers and I know that God will walk with you as He is with us. We love you to life.

Alfred & Felicia Coker, III##imported-begin##Alfred and Felicia
Coker, III##imported-end##*

July 28, 2009 at 06:59 PM



“ Dearest Joan,

My deepest sympathy to you and all of your dear family members and friends. I will always be grateful for having you and Don as part of my life. Much love.##imported-begin##Naomi B. Bland##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 04:35 PM



“ My prayers go out to your family. Cherish and think back on all the wonderful memories that you shared. God will be your strength during this diffult time.

Krystal & Tee##imported-begin##Krystal Pannell ##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 01:49 PM



“ Joan and Family,

Our heart felt prayers are with you all as you deal with this time of loss. Know that the Lord is with you during this time and will bring you through the storm. May the Lord Bless an Keep You through this time and forever more.

Tracy Broady and Lauren Bullock##imported-begin##Tracy Broady##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 09:59 AM



“ Joan & family,

You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. God has promised to never leave us nor forsake us...he is our refuge and strength in times of sorrow. May God's word and the prayers of all your friends be the comfort that will see you through the days ahead.

David & Teresa...Ps 121##imported-begin##David & Teresa Hardison##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 08:46 AM



“ My Condolences on the passing of Don. My prayers are with you and the family. May everlasting memories of Don always keep him close to your heart. May God continue to bless you and the family.

Love & Peace

Darnell Clark##imported-begin##Darnell Clark##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 08:13 AM



“ Joan,

My prayers are with you and your family.##imported-begin##Hattie Burwell##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 07:45 AM



“ To the Lanier Family:
my prayers & condolences go out to each family member. I don't know the entire family personally however my heart specifically goes out to Ebony Lanier. She & I work at NNSY and when she told me her father had passed, my heart went out to her. It's never easy to lose someone close to you especially a father. Again my prayers are with you! Be encouraged in knowing that the Holy Spirit is a comforter & strength in the time of sorrow. God Bless you all!##imported-begin##Michelle Hinton##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 07:13 AM



“ Our Prayers are with you. God bless the "Henderson Family".##imported-begin## Trina L. Henderson##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 03:48 AM



“ Don...WOW...I know u will b greatly missed...but u left behind a image of u n Ebony..she loved the ground u walked on..& no matta what u will always live through her.Because of u Don..Ebony is 1 of the best people u can have n ur circle U was a wonderful man & father..itz sad 2 c u go..but GOD had a betta place 4 u 2 b..u ve struggled on earth long enough..& now itz time 4 u 2 relax & truly enjoy life the way God wants u 2....##imported-begin##javarro cherry##imported-end##

July 28, 2009 at 01:00 AM



“ Mr.D... Awh man I still can't believe u gone. To walk in the house and not see u or speak to u is hard... Not to hea u call me yo dog kills me... I tell Ashley if I cud have one more wish with u it'll be just to hea u say "wutz up dog"... Mr.D I love u like u were my own family... U were more to me than just my girlfriends father... U were my friend, my homie and mentor... I'm so happy that I had the chance to know u... I love all the times we shared all the jokes we had and most of all goin at it durin football season... I'm really goin to miss that... I love your family dearly... I love your wife I love ebony I love ash n I love dj like a lil brother... Before your last trip to PA u told me somethin... So just to hold u down I will do that... I love u I miss u I'm goin to hold u down 4eva... This want b the last time so til then "alight my dude"###imported-begin##Melvin##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 06:02 PM



“ Ebony,

You and your family wil be in my prayers during your time of grief.

God bless.

Glenn###imported-begin##Glenn E. Moss##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 04:31 PM



“ To the Lanier Family (Momma Joan, Ebony, Ashley and DJ), I am deeply saddened and hurt to hear about your loss! I have know you all for as long as I can remember and have always considered you to be extended family! Your father/husband was a very gracious and caring man! He had a profound effect on everyone who ever encountered him including myself! I will always have the memories we shared and all those Sundays cooking out in the backyard! He sure loved that grill! I love you all dearly and there is nothing you can't ask of me! May GOD continue to strenghten and keep each of you during this time! Much Love!##imported-begin##Shavonne Mosley##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 01:40 PM



“ PLEASE ACCEPT MY CONDOLENCE IN YOUR LOST. MAY GOD CONTNUE TO BLESS YOU##imported-begin##WILLIE F. OWENS##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 01:07 PM



“ To the Family of Mr. Lanier:
I just want to express sincere sympathy during your time of loss of your love one. Keep your eyes on the prize and you will see Don again in God's time.
"Life brings tears,
smiles and memories.
The tears dry,
the smile fades,
but the memories live on forever."
Carolyn McKennelly and Family.##imported-begin##Carolyn Mckennelly##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 01:01 PM



“ To the Lanier family. Words are not enough to express. Growing up as a teenager, Don Lanier was always seen as a King in his family. He was highly admired and respected by my family. I am honored to have ever known a man of his great caliber and know that he has made a strong lasting impression on those near and far that were ever blessed with his presence. Thank you Lanier family for sharing your blessing, Donald Lanier, with the world.##imported-begin##Nyree Pulley##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 12:04 PM



“ I have been praying for sometime for miraculous healing. Unfortunately, there was not a direct answer to my prayers. However, Mr. Lanier is experiencing the Kingdom of God. Congratulations on your new promotion and I can't wait to get promoted to that same place.##imported-begin##Tamara##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 11:09 AM



“ Joan, you and Don have always been part of my postal family. You're very dear to me. This is a little message for you and your family.....

Often times, we wonder what is the purpose of our life. Purpose means knowing who we are in Christ and what He has done for us, then acting out our relationship and redemption by being obedient to God's will. It is the pursuit of God so He becomes the driving force, inspiration, motivation, and reason for all we do in life. The meaning of life is not about career, money, or power; it is about relationships and developing character.

Family, always remember: Psalms 137:7-8

(7-Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes, with your right hand you save me.

*8-The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your love, O LORD, endures forever—
do not abandon the works of your hands.)*

*Family, take each day one step at a time and embrace this:
Phillipians 4:13 (I can do everything through him who gives me strength.)*

Bev Callahan###imported-begin##Beverly Callahan###imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 09:49 AM



“ Don, I truly miss you already..Thank you so much for being the best stepfather that anyone could ever have. You loved me like I was your own and I will forever be grateful. I love you and miss you and I will always remember what you said that Life stills goes on.##imported-begin##Ashley##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 09:25 AM



“ God is good and greatly to be praised! I supervised Don and Joan, and later watch both of them rise to supervisory levels for the United States Postal Service. I was indeed saddended to hear that Don would no longer be with Joan and their children; however, god makes no mistakes, he knows whats best for each of us. I know that he will be by Joan's side in the days to come to comfort and guide her and Don is already in his perfect peace. If there is anything that I can do don't hesistate to call upon me. with much love.##imported-begin##MS. LAVERNE WIGGINS##imported-end##

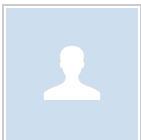
July 27, 2009 at 08:39 AM



“ Joan,

My prayers are with your family. May you find peace in HIM. God bless.##imported-begin##Djuana "Pitty" Scott##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 08:38 AM



“ My prayers go out to your whole family. Cherish the wonderful memories that you all shared. God will be your strenght during this diffult time.##imported-begin##Delores Donely##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 07:52 AM



“ Joan, Ebony, Ashley, and DJ,

My heart is saddened by your lost. My prayer is that you all find comfort, strength, and peace in the Almighty Jehovah.##imported-begin##Toni Rudisill##imported-end##

July 27, 2009 at 12:25 AM



“ Which Way Do I Turn?

You close your eyes and hope this is a dream. Only to find it is as real as it seem.

You cry out "Dear Lord, which way do I turn"? His reply is, "child I have given you the tools, you have already learn."

I told him Lord, don't leave me that day.

But he knew this earth was not where he must stay.

When he said he was going home....he didn't mean Lakeview Drive.

He meant going to be with God in the sky.

Your love was so unconditionally real.

Not many have experience or know how that feels.

Joan you are God's example of a true wife.

You were a blessing to Don, his heart, his life.

You ask, "Dear Lord which way do I turn?"

Just remember him smile, his love and trust. But this, you have already learned.

May God Bless & Keep you safely in his arms.....Love Val Williams##imported-begin##Val Williams##imported-end##

July 26, 2009 at 11:54 PM



“ *"May God Bless You" during your time of bereavement, keeping you in our prayers. Always,*

J.T. & Sharon
Thompson

July 26, 2009 at 09:56 PM



“ *The epitome of a husband, father, uncle and a man altogether... Thank you for all you have done for me and all that my memories of you will continue to do! Miss you more than I am able to express...*

Your niece,
KaNeeka
Kaneeka

July 26, 2009 at 04:39 PM



“ *You will truly be missed. love the times we all shared doing all the holidays gathering and just laughing at one another thanks for being in my life and especially a wonderful husband to sister Joan. Ron Young*
Ron Young

July 26, 2009 at 12:51 PM



“ *Don, I loved you like a son, you are one of a kind, I thanked God when he sent you to my daughter and I thank God for the years that you had with her and the family.*

You left us a son to follow in you foot steps, and with the values that you instilled in him, I have no doubt that this will happen. I Love you.
Joan's Mom, Marie Jackson
Jackson

July 26, 2009 at 12:33 PM



“ Don, words can't express how deeply sad I am. You were such an inspiration and truly loved me unconditionally! I felt your love everyday! I love you babe and will always be grateful for the time we were able to spend together!

Missing you...##imported-begin##Joan##imported-end##

July 25, 2009 at 06:20 PM



“ Daddy, I will miss you, a girl could not ask for a better father than you!!!##imported-begin##Ebony##imported-end##

July 25, 2009 at 05:37 PM