



# Donald Joseph Wexler

JUN 15, 1947 - JUN 9, 2022



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# Donald Joseph Wexler

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**D**onald “Don” Joseph Wexler of Zephyr Cove, Nevada passed away Thursday, June 9th surrounded by his loving family after a four-month battle with cancer. Don was born June 15, 1947 in San Diego, California, the youngest of four boys born to Max and Janet Wexler. Upon completing his degree in electrical engineering at San Diego State University, Don enlisted in the United States Air Force, serving in a special electronics group in South Carolina and Japan from 1968-1972. After his service to our great country, Don began a career in the technology industry with Hewlett Packard in San Diego, eventually relocating to Sunnyvale. In 1981, Don started his own company, Automated Test Engineering, Inc. (ATE), which he ran as CEO until 1998 when he sold it, got married to June, and moved to Lake Tahoe. Following a brief retirement, Don was recruited to work for Apple managing software for their test development platform, but he remained in Lake Tahoe, commuting back and forth to Cupertino every week in his Cessna 210 airplane. He worked at Apple for nearly 15 years before retiring a second time in 2013. But Apple came calling again in 2016 when they asked Don to help with the launch of a new line of computers.

At the end of 2016, Don retired, this time for good, and he turned his focus to traveling the world with June from their beloved home in Lake Tahoe. Together, they sailed the seven seas, taking cruises to amazing places including: Antarctica, Alaska, South America, Hawaii, China, The Baltic, fjords of Norway, The Mediterranean, Iceland, New Zealand, Australia, Dubai, Arabia, and The Holy Land. After a lifetime of flying, Don sold his Cessna 210 and took up sailing. His favorite trip was sailing through the San Juan islands. Don also cherished his two Dodge Vipers: a red 1994 roadster and a blue 1996 coupe with white racing stripes (#64 off the assembly line). He and June were early members of The Viper Club of America and drove around the country attending car events with all their Viper friends. Clearly one of his favorite memories was driving his 1996 blue Dodge Viper around the Indianapolis Motor Speedway before the Indy 500.



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Don was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. During COVID, he added “teacher” to his resume, when he and June took in two of their grandchildren. For 18 months, he helped them navigate the new world of online school during the pandemic. He also stepped in as the technical advisor for St. Johns in the Wilderness Episcopal Church in Glenbrook, Nevada, installing cameras and a big screen so that everyone could enjoy Sunday service via Zoom. Don was a fixture in St. Johns on Sundays, arriving early and staying late. One could say that he finally found his calling at church! His spirit lives on in the congregation and with the many friends, co-workers, Viper club members, neighbors, and family who loved him.

Don is survived by his wife, June, of 24 years; his stepson, Michael Trent (Grace) of Marietta, GA and their two sons – Matthew and Ryan; his stepson Derek Trent (Lisa) of Alpine Meadows, CA and their four children – Camryn, Dylan, Jaylyn and Steven; and his brother, David Wexler (Sharon) of Pulaski, TN. He is preceded in death by his parents, Max and Virginia Elizabeth “Janet” Wexler, and two older brothers: Harry and Robert Wexler.

A memorial service will be held in Lake Tahoe at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Don’s favorite charity, St. Jude’s Children Research Hospital.

<https://www.stjude.org/>



## Tribute Wall

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BP

**Bill And Sherri Park** posted:

June, I just heard of Don's death and want to offer our condolences.

November 10 at 2:00 PM

AL

**Anita Lam** posted:

Don was my mentor, my friend and my coworker. I'll remember the time you helped me lifting heavy fixtures, We stayed late in the lab debugging fixtures and programs, those business trips to Asia, and many many laughs when I was in Apple. You will be remembered in my heart. RIP. Anita Lam and family

June 20 at 11:54 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Wexler family.

June 20 at 8:08 AM



CP

**Cousin Kathie Baker-Pianka** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Wexler family.

June 20 at 1:33 AM



RW

**Robert Joesph Wexler** posted:

Happy Father's Day !! love and miss you so much.You were the best dad anyone could ever asked for.The lives you touched were innumerable.The love and dedication you gave us all will be remembered forever. So proud,Your son Robert Joesph Wexler and family

June 19 at 4:13 AM

PB

**Patti Bumpus** October 29 at 11:46 AM

Oh, Don, you are so missed by your beautiful wife, family and friends. As a friend I enjoyed talk time with you and found you positively delightful even when discussing politics which is a hard thing to do. You always kept your "cool" and we usually ended up our "chatter" laughing. You were interested and interesting. Miss you and talk to my dear friend June twice a week and she misses you dearly but knows you are at peace in God's hands!! Love, Patti B



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**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Wexler family.

June 19 at 3:35 AM



**David And Sharon. Much Love.** sent a Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet to the Wexler family.

June 18 at 1:43 PM



**Rebecca Elias** lit a candle in honor of Donald.

Memory Eternal! Peter and Rebecca (Becky), (daughter of Don's Brother Robert Wexler) Elias Family

June 18 at 7:36 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Serenity Wreath to the Wexler family.

June 17 at 12:55 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Donald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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