

Mr. Donald Thomas Tiller

January 11, 1947 - July 9, 2015

It is with deep and heavy sadness that we announce the death of Don Tiller. Don passed away unexpectedly, but peacefully at home on July 9, 2015 at the age of 68 years.

Don was born in Clinton, Ontario and moved many times with his parents, as his father was a member of the Canadian Armed Forces (RCAF). Don attended University in Vancouver and joined the Armed Forces in 1970. Although his domicile changed many times as a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, he considered High River, Alberta his home.

Don is survived by his daughters Tara (John), Kelly (Jeff) and Jennifer (Dwayne); grandsons Max, Renn and Kai. Don was predeceased by his wife Bridgette Sulley, and his parents Bill and Laverna Tiller.

As many of his friends and family can attest, Don had a passion for many activities; some of his favourites were golf, bridge and wine making. He will be remembered as a respected, loyal and valued friend who was always willing to help. His welcoming, sarcastic, honest, firm (but fair) presence will be missed deeply by all who were lucky enough to know him.

As per Don's request there will be no funeral. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later time.

To send condolences and view Don's Tribute Page please visit, www.lylereeves.com . Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (403.652.4242).

Tribute Wall

JS

“ Sad to hear of the passing of Don from the Workshop for the last time. You will be missed by all.

*Arte and Marte
John Sloan*

John Sloan - August 16, 2015 at 08:05 PM

MG

“ Megan & Gary lit a candle in memory of Mr. Donald Thomas Tiller



Megan & Gary - July 31, 2015 at 12:28 AM



“ It is with great sadness that I heard of Don's passing. He was a very compassionate leader and I remember fondly his exasperation at the antics and limitations of his 2 Svc Bn Maint Coy "subbies". We were made welcome in his home and knew he was always looking out for us.

Jim Hicks (Maj RCEME)

Jim Hicks - July 27, 2015 at 08:30 AM

IP

“ My sincerest condolences on this early and tragic loss of such a fine officer, soldier and member of the RCEME family. Don Tiller is the reason so many of us are where we are today due to his leadership, mentorship and the fine example he set of "duty first." My Phase 2 introduction to "LORE" was at the hands of Don, amongst others, and I can say along with the rest of the course he led from the front, made sure we could perform the duties required of us and meet the highest standards of the Corps/Branch. He gave us encouragement when required, a kick in the butt when that was needed and made us all who we are today. Later on as Officer Commanding Regimental Company he formed and moulded many future leaders of our Corps. Quite simply, he is a legend in the hearts and minds of those he served with and those he trained.

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them."

*Ian Poulter
MGen (Retd)*

Ian Poulter - July 27, 2015 at 08:26 AM

PA

“ 1 file added to the album Recent photo



Pat - July 26, 2015 at 01:42 PM

LW

“ Dear Tara, Kelly and Jennifer,
It was in 1965 that Don and I crossed paths. I thought I was on a date with my girlfriend, and so did Don! Long story. We became friends afterwards and played many Sunday morning football games, along with a steadfast group of buddies. Don was always good for a laugh. We are fortunate to have had a visit with Don and Bridgette in South California last march. Sorry Don never made it out to the coast this year.



Lorne & Joan Walton - July 23, 2015 at 05:30 PM

RR

“ Our condolences to Don's family. What more can be said? Don was a unique character and a good man. The comments on this site attest to a life well lived. I served with Don in 2 Svc Bn. He replaced me in Cypress in 1974. His CO had located the dune buggy we had built and ordered Don to get rid of it. He told me they sold it and used to proceeds for a nice party. Good on you Don. You are missed.

Ralph and Lynne Reich

Ralph and Lynne Reich - July 21, 2015 at 08:17 PM

PD

“ I was very saddened to hear about the loss of Don. He was a great friend, and I consider myself lucky to have served with him in the Army as well as in the Training System. Having Don as my roommate while attending Staff College was an unforgettable experience. With his assistance and encouragement I survived the year and the only downside was my having to regularly dig his cigar butts out of the potted plants in the apartment. It's unfair that such a fine person was taken so early.

Peter Dixon - July 20, 2015 at 11:58 AM

FK

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



F. Kinniston - July 19, 2015 at 03:34 PM

RW

“ It is with great sadness that we learn of Don's premature demise. I first met Don when we were students during "The Best Year of our Life" at Staff College in Toronto. Funny that a RCEME and an RC Sigs guy didn't meet long before! We developed an good friendship as we toured the US, Germany, and Northern Canada. We were posted together for a time in Calgary, which led to a few "wets" and fine discussions about the cruelty of our golf games. We have lost one of the best much too soon, and he will be sorely missed.

Rick Wright.

Rick Wright - July 16, 2015 at 10:08 AM

ML

“ *Marcel & Gisela Levesque lit a candle in memory of Mr. Donald Thomas Tiller*



Marcel & Gisela Levesque - July 16, 2015 at 01:41 AM

Dave
Ross

“ *Don was that cranky major that we all feared when he was OC Regt Coy. Later we worked together when he was the DCO of 1 Svc Bn and I was the Ops O. During RV 92, I will never forget Don showing up in the Command Post around 2 AM with a pound of butter, cheese and a loaf of bread. He then proceeded to demonstrate how to make grilled cheese on a Yukon Stove! He also showed the Ops staff how to move the Bn on the back of his cigarette pack. Great life-lessons and great memories. Don will be missed. Dave Ross*

Dave Ross - July 15, 2015 at 06:32 PM

JM

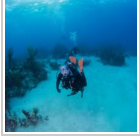
“ *Tara, Kelly and Jennifer,*

On behalf of the Corps of RCEME, we would like to offer our sincere condolences for your loss. Your father was a valued member of the Corps who trained, mentored and influenced many officers and NCMs. He left a lasting impression on the Corps and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

*Col Hamilton, Director RCEME
CWO Dubuc, Corps Sergeant Major*

J. Motl - July 15, 2015 at 01:14 PM



“ *My deep condolences to Don's family.*

I spent a large part of my career interacting with Don, first as a student in Borden and later on several postings in Calgary with 1 Service Battalion. We need more people like Don in the world. No political correctness there, just plain honest truth. As a student I discovered that unique Tiller sarcastic humour where his bark was much worse than his bite.

Later in my career, Don made a real difference in my personal life, providing me a sounding board and giving me honest and unbiased feedback and friendship. I regret to have drifted apart from Don once we both left the military but I can still picture that special way that Don looked at you right before he pointed out your errors.

Tim Marshall, Major Retired

Tim Marshall - July 15, 2015 at 12:43 PM



“ *Don was my Company Commander, Maintenance Company, 2 Svc Bn back in 85-86 era. As a young Reservist augmenting the Bn prior to deployment to Norway he looked out for me, his encouragement and guidance kept my interest in the corps strong for many years to come. Well over 30 years later and I'm still going on strong in the Corps thanks to Don. All the best in what lies beyond. Arte et Marte.*
Charles Jansen

Charles Jansen - July 15, 2015 at 10:05 AM

LL

“ I know our paths have past somewhere over the years. It is with great sadness that we say farewell to another soldier, a father, brother and son, a soldier who put his all into mentoring the brave soldiers of today. Until we meet again, Godspeed my friend.

lance Leroux - July 15, 2015 at 05:14 AM

DC

“ Tara, Kelly and Jennifer
As so many others I'm deeply saddened by your loss. I had the privelege of meeting your dad when he was a student at the school and served with him in 2 Service Battalion in Petawawa. As has already been said he was a loyal friend and coleague with a wicked sense of humour. When I would attempt to tell him his company wasn't doing something right, Don would say it was my fault because I'd passed him at the school. It always broke me up. A dear friend who will be missed

Dan Clarke - July 14, 2015 at 09:48 PM

KJ

“ As with many others, I had the privilege of having had Don as an Instructor in Borden and later served with him in 1 Svc Bn, Calgary. He was the kind of RCEME officer we all should have strived to be like - honest, loyal, focused on solving problems not talking about them, always looking out for the troops, and saying what needed to be said, regardless of the audience. His word was his bond for sure. He worked hard and played hard, and was always great company to be in. Sadly missed as RCEME has lost one of its best. Condolences to his family, he will be missed.

Ken Jones - July 14, 2015 at 02:33 PM

RJ

“ Don was one of those iconic guys that you could never forget. When I was a young LORE officer, Don was an instructor who we all knew we could not fool. I remember getting to wear the broken wrench as a result of mistakenly wearing Don's beret out of our field mess hall. The irony is I am not sure I could have picked a dirtier beret! As I continued to work with Don over the years, I loved his candour, his love in making us all better, and his sense of humour. To Don's family, thanks for sharing him with us....we treasured him and will treasure his memories. Our thoughts and prayers go with you.
Ryan Jestin

Ryan Jestin - July 14, 2015 at 09:11 AM

GN

“ It is with great sadness that I learn about Don's passing. I remember Don from my time at the RCEME School in Borden between 1985 to 1990. He was an honest person and dedicated soldier. I will remember him fondly. Sincerest condolences to family members.

Gilles Nappert
Colonel (retired)

Gilles Nappert - July 14, 2015 at 05:50 AM

GR

“ Although I never worked directly with Don, I had the pleasure of having him as an instructor during my LORE phase training at Borden. He left an indelible impression on me and many of my friends. A colourful, down-to-earth individual, he often took the edge off the difficulties of our intense training with his wit, keen sense of humour, and good common sense. He will be missed by all who he touched in life. Sincerest condolences to all family members.

Gary Ross
Major (retired)

Gary Ross - July 14, 2015 at 04:14 AM



“ Indeed Don Tiller was a man painted with broad strokes on the greater tapestry of life. I had significant interaction with him at Borden, where he was OC Regimental Company. He was well known for his love over early morning golfing and scaring all the wildlife with his Lada.

In Ottawa many years later, he decided to take a crusty 17 years in rank Capt instead of any available Major to fill a Major's spot on his staff (doing Maintenance Policy and General Safety). He had a plan, and that paid good dividends when I was promoted two years later. Even as a staff officer, he cast a shadow larger than life, and I fondly remember him regularly showing up late for work at DLM in Louis St Laurent building, proclaiming that his alarm had not gone off! Who would dare that now?

It was Don Tiller that hired yet another character to be the Army General Safety Officer (releaving me of that duty). Knobby Walsh was a challenging act to follow, but he in due time retired, to be replaced by my current boss. All in all, the making of individuals in the same sort of cast as Don seems to be a forgotten art. I am humbled to have lived and worked with Don and very much saddened by his passing,

Arte et Marte,

*Maj David Blake-Knox
39 Service Battalion
Richmond, BC*

David Blake-Knox - July 13, 2015 at 10:47 PM

KB

“ Tara, Kelly, Jennifer:

We would like to pass on our condolences on the loss of your Dad. I knew Don for almost 45 years and had the opportunity to serve with him on a couple of occasions. Above all, he was an honest and loyal individual. In the end, you cannot ask for better qualities. He will be fondly remembered but also missed by many.

Deb and Ken Beselt

Ken Beselt - July 13, 2015 at 09:43 PM

DC

Tara, Kelly, and Jennifer

As many have said your Dad was a loyal and excellent friend to many. I had the privilege of knowing your dad from the time he arrived at the school in Borden and we served together several times including in Petawawa.

He always had a sense of humor and no matter how I was feeling he could make me laugh. Once on exercise in the field one of Don's officers was performing poorly and I wanted to discipline him. Don told me I couldn't because it wasn't the officer's fault it was mine. I said how did he figure that? Don said I'd passed him in training at the school and that he had passed the person in question when Don was at the school. He therefore deduced that if I hadn't passed him, he wouldn't have been at the school to pass the young man that was doing poorly so therefore it was my fault. I just broke up and told Don and his young officer to get out of my sight, and commenced to fall down laughing. A true character that is sorely missed.

Dan Clarke

Dan Clarke - July 13, 2015 at 10:07 PM

GA

“ We are saddened to hear of Don's passing as we always enjoyed our companionship with him on the Curling Rink and Golf Course.

Gary & Marion Kelley

garykelley - July 13, 2015 at 08:59 PM

DS

“ Don was one of a kind and will be greatly missed. Rest in peace, old friend.

*Doug Stinson
Colonel (Retired)*

Doug Stinson - July 13, 2015 at 08:11 PM

BB

“ This is a very sad occasion. One of the most popular and respected Officers that I ever had the pleasure to serve with. His word was his bond. He was kind to his family, his friends and his soldiers. I served with him in Calgary and he was our neighbour on W Loop in Camp Borden/. My girls were also very fond of Mr. Tiller. To his girls and their families we offer our condolences and know that you have lost an outstanding role model in your lives. Time is a great healer but you will always have fond memories of your Dad. We all do.

*Bob, Pat, Tanya and Susan Baxter
Truro, NS*

Bob Baxter - July 13, 2015 at 07:32 PM

MG

“ I had the privilege of replacing Don in 8CH and as instructor in LORE Coy. He later replaced me as OC Regt Coy. I still have very fond memories about Don. Things were always in great order and he was able to get naturally the best out of his personnel. Afterword, we never crossed path. He went West et je suis parti vers l'est, but when you met Don once, you never forget. Don thank you for the friendship. You will be missed.

*My condolences to his family and friends
Michel Gladu, (LCol retired), RCEME*

Michel Gladu - July 13, 2015 at 07:01 PM

DR

“ To Kelly, Tara and Jennifer, their families and Bridgette's family members! People say it all the time, but Don was one in a million. He taught me my Phase IV in 1976, and then was the training Officer of Lore Officer Training company when I came back as a junior instructor. He kicked butt and took names. He was excellent! Later we served as Captains, Majors and LCol's together. He was a coach, mentor, teacher, role model but most of all a great friend. A year together in staff college was a highlight, as were our countless Bonspeils, Golf Tournaments, wing eating sessions/competitions, and quiet beers together. To his daughters, know that we will all miss your dad in so many ways, but he will be part of us all for as long as we live.

Dave Redman - July 13, 2015 at 06:52 PM

JM

“ This announcement is a real shocker to me. I first met Don at RCAF Station Trenton in 1970 and yes Don and I were in the Airforce! Don was posted there on contact training and I was assigned by Jerry Salois to take him under my wing. However we all quickly learned that Don didn't need any wing keeping! He was very well liked by everyone in that shop and we remained very good friends and colleagues throughout the years. Great memories Don Old Friend, rest in peace.

*John Morrison
LCol (Ret'd)*

John E Morrison - July 13, 2015 at 06:47 PM

AD

“ To the Close Daughters, I remember meeting you while your Dad was running the Workshop in Petawawa, you were his team and he was forever proud. You will look long and hard to find anyone who had a bad word about your Dad. We have all lost a Great Guy, Al Mc Donald

Al Mc Donald - July 13, 2015 at 05:57 PM

CT

“ I too had the privilege of knowing and serving with Don. A man with a true sense of humour. Don was the man with his special way of saying the truth. He was surely honest, firm, respected, fair with a flair and the man with humour that eased everyone. You will be missed.

Condolences to family and friends - remember him well.

Chris Thorp

Chris Thorp - July 13, 2015 at 05:15 PM

AP

“ I had the privilege of serving with Don a number of times. He was a soldiers soldier a professional who always had concern for his men and their welfare. We also had the opportunity to enjoy RCEME bonspiels together, he always did his best to keep the team on track and that was a task believe me. His humor was infectious and he was always fun to be around. He will be sadly missed by family and friends.

Rest In Peace my friend.

Arte et Marte

Al Price (L/Col retired) RCEME

Al Price - July 13, 2015 at 04:55 PM

DH

“ *My heart goes out to Don's family.
This has been a trying year.
I learnt a lot from Don and he was a great advocate for my husband
who is also military.
My heart will always have a void for Don and Bridgette.
Rest in peace*

Deborah Harrop - July 13, 2015 at 12:53 PM

CT

“ *Coral Timchak lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Donald Thomas Tiller*



Coral Timchak - July 13, 2015 at 09:48 AM

CK

“ *I have known Don for almost 50 years. We shared a lot of good
times together. My heart is heavy and it hurts. My love to his family.
Cathy Kinniston*

Cathy Kinniston - July 12, 2015 at 09:08 PM

JH

“ This is very sad news. I knew Don well, and respected him as a good soldier, a fine RCEME officer, and a good friend. He was always cheerful, even (or more probably) even when times were tough. To know him was to like him and respect him. He will be greatly missed by his fellow RCEME Rats. My sympathy to his family in their great loss.

Arte et Marte,

Jim Hanson (BGen retired), RCEME

Jim Hanson - July 12, 2015 at 07:07 PM

DS

“ Don and I served together in 1 Service Bn. When Don & Bridgette moved to High River in 2001 Deb & I became fast friends with them. We holidayed together, socialized and saw each other daily. Don was very loyal and was a very compassionate individual who gave freely of himself. Deb and I will miss him very much. We pray that his girls cherish the memories he help create and that they not suffer too long with the grief that is sure to follow.
To an old soldier; Don be at peace.

Bob and Deb Shilson

Deb & Bob Shilson - July 12, 2015 at 06:02 PM

MW

“ Kelly, Jeff and boys,

I'm so sorry for the loss of your dad and grandfather. I know how close you were and how much you loved him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you...

Michelle Whyte - July 12, 2015 at 02:11 PM

IJ

“ I was very sad to hear of Dons passing !! I had the privilege of being a companion to his mom " Laverna " she was the sweetest lady !!! Don was wonderful with his mom & was very dedicated to her & would come in every supper to feed her !!! You don't see that kind of dedication often !!! My prayers are with the family at this time of great loss . Hugs from Iris Janz

iris janz - July 12, 2015 at 11:15 AM

JP

“ We are saddened to hear of Don's passing ...we knew him well through curling and will miss hearing that shout from the other end "line only..nice weight !" He was so kind and personable.....condolences to his precious girls of whom he spoke so lovingly.

Jack & Jackie Penny

Jack & Jackie Penny - July 12, 2015 at 10:52 AM

 Jennifer Babiuk

“ Jennifer Babiuk lit a candle in memory of Mr. Donald Thomas Tiller



Jennifer Babiuk - July 12, 2015 at 09:19 AM

PW

“ Don was always caring and compassionate individual who cared for others. I had the pleasure of serving with Don in his first military command and we remained friends throughout our careers. An officer and a gentleman with a keen sense of humour. He will be missed.

May he rest in Peace.

Arte et Marte

Phil Whitehead, Captain (Ret'd) RCEME

Phil Whitehead - July 12, 2015 at 06:46 AM

YP

“ Don was a real gentleman respected by all! A fine RCEME Officer!
Arte and Marte !

Yves Pedneault, Major (retired) RCEME

Yves Pedneault - July 12, 2015 at 06:18 AM

WG

“ We met not that long ago at the Highwood . We served in RCEME and never crossed paths. But we sure had lots of fun curling and golfing together now and again. Rest in peace my friend. Arte et Marte.

Wayne Gilchrist

Wayne Gilchrist - July 11, 2015 at 09:56 AM

DP

“ Oh how I remember the fun we had playing golf with Don, Bill Parker, Joe Hooper and myself. Don was a real gentleman and sportsman. He will be missed by all that he touched. A sad day - another good one leaves us.

*Don & Carol Petlak
Claresholm*

Don Petlak - July 11, 2015 at 12:59 AM

CB

“ We are so sad to hear of Don's passing. Don and Bridgette were dear friends and we will miss them both.

Charles Pedersen & Cheryl Bailr



Charles Pedersen & Cheryl Baile - July 10, 2015 at 09:15 PM

LH

“ We are devastated to hear of Don's passing. A few months ago we lost Bridget and now Don. We have lost our wonderful friends and neighbours. No one will ever be able to replace them. They were the very best!!!

Lorne and Ann Harris - July 10, 2015 at 03:37 PM



“ Don was a true friend to us and we will miss him greatly. Jim & Barb Andersen



. - July 10, 2015 at 02:47 PM

RR

So sad to hear about Don, I served with him in Petawawa when he was OC MAINT. He was a great Officer and friend. Arte et Marte.

Ron Roy, CWO (Retired) RCEME

Ron Roy - July 12, 2015 at 10:45 AM

AL

We were devastated that Don has passed,he was a Gentleman, and a very gentle man . He was a good son, a wonderful father and a true friend. What greater legacy could he leave to his girls and grandchildren and he and Bridgette ran a 11 star hotel for all the Brits, our hearts are so heavy losing two wonderful friends too soon. Our prayers are with you Kelly, Jeff Max and Renn. Tara,John & son and Jennifer & Sean, Don will be greatly missed. RIP Ann & Ken Livingstone

ANN LIVINGSTONE - July 12, 2015 at 10:12 PM

GB

I had the pleasure of serving with Don as a junior officer. He knew when we needed a hand and when we needed a boot. We are better for having known him.

Graham Bryson, Major (Retired) RCEME

Graham Bryson - July 13, 2015 at 04:04 PM

MR

So sorry to hear about Don. I worked with him on several occasions and he was always willing to help. He was a great asset to RCEME and I am sure will be missed by all who knew him.

Mike More (Maj retd) - July 13, 2015 at 04:14 PM

PH

Very sad to hear about Don's passing. We went through training together, and served in Borden at the School as instructors. I always enjoyed working (and curling, and golfing) with Don, he was an excellent friend and a fine RCEME officer. Rest in peace, Don.

Arte et Marte

*Peter Holt
BGen (retired)*

Peter Holt - July 13, 2015 at 05:02 PM

EH

Ruth and I was so saddened to hear about Don's passing. I had the pleasure to serve with Don in 1 Service Battalion. Don and I shared some wonderful times together, playing poker, playing golf, but my greatest joy was working with him on exercises. A more loyal, hard working and sincere gentleman, you would never find.

Einar Housken (LCol retd)

Einar Housken - July 13, 2015 at 06:19 PM

LE

Very sad to hear of Don's passing. Served with Don at LORE company in Borden in 1976-78. Don was a true gentleman and was very popular with the students. My most vivid memory of Don was the day he saved Clint Nolan from a dropped grenade at the grenade ranges. Clint's live grenade hit the top of the throwing bay and fell back between him and Don. Without hesitation, Don picked Clint up and carried him behind the wall in the next bay and sat on him. The grenade went off harmlessly in the empty throwing bay. We all praised Don for his quick reaction, but he just laughed it saying, "Hey, we trained for that!" That's the kind of guy Don was. He was a true hero.

*Lars Eif
Major (Retired) RCEME*

Lars Eif - July 13, 2015 at 06:45 PM

BB

Very sad to hear of Don's passing. I got to first know him really well on RCEME basic training--his hard-working team like approach, sincerity and humour were the hallmarks of a very professional RCEME officer. When times were tough you could always rely on him to create that positive spin that kept everyone on the right path. He will be missed by the Corps community.

*Bill Brewer
BGen(Ret'd)*

Bill Brewer - July 13, 2015 at 06:54 PM

RG

Our thoughts are with you Tara, Kelly, and Jennifer. You had a great father. We served with Don in 1 Svc Bn and in Ottawa and enjoyed his openness, honesty and devotion to the Corps. We enjoyed his company at work and on the golf course and are proud to have been his friend.

Ron and Mike Gillespie

Ron Gillespie - July 13, 2015 at 09:50 PM

EL

Don, I shall forever fondly recall our close friendship which started in 1975 while both serving together with 8th CH in Petawawa. Certainly, a QM has no greater friend than a hard working and loyal BLUEBELL who practiced nothing but that "to get the dam thing fixed" was the single mission and this mission aim had to be maintained. Being slightly younger and also being too concerned with time on task, you imparted many of your Dads (CWO / RSM RCEME) skills like golfing, curling, playing poker, making wine & pizza and above all maintenance of morale by being loyal mess supporters. I will forever cherish the day you "threw your old clubs which you had generously loaned me, into the bushes and said "until you know how to hold these, you do not need them". Adding, "pretend you are holding a little canary, and if it chirps you are hurting it, and that means you are holding it too tightly". Thanks for retrieving them and I try to maintain this aim every game....but understand it's not easy and you were not the RSM.

And we did staff school together where it was my distinct pleasure to introduce you to our large loving Family in becoming my brother in law. We were all, especially our Mother, very, very fond of you and we maintain this respect especially for maintaining the aim of keeping the girls together as a Family. It sure was a whirlwind in keeping up with you and Marg and the Family with six postings: Petawawa, Borden, Calgary, St. Hubert, Petawawa again and Calgary again from 76 - 91. It is certain your own fiercely proud & loyal parents have prepared a throne from which you can continue to watch over you legacy, the Family.

Madonna & I, as well as our very large Leonard Family wish that your soul merit all of Heaven's abundance which the good Lord has promised.

*Sincerely,
Ed & Madonna Leonard, Ottawa*

Ed Leonard - July 14, 2015 at 03:13 AM

JM

Don was one of a kind. I had the privilege of serving with him in 1 Service Battalion and at LFWA HQ. Don cared for those with whom he worked and was key in the personal growth of those with whom he crossed paths. He never missed the chance to partake in a game of golf (and believed there was no such thing as a bad game) or a curling match.

All the best.

JJ and Joy Martin

JJ Martin - July 14, 2015 at 08:22 AM

OM

I first met Don in High River, when Maggie and myself decided to return to curling after a 25 year absence. Without fail he came to the curling rink with his Dad for the seniors league and despite his Dad's failing eyesight Don made sure that he was totally involved and enjoying himself. Don went out of his way to get Maggie and myself up to speed with our curling and his personal coaching will never be forgotten. As the years went by I got to know Don better through golf. We shared the experience of having grown up as Air Force brats. I almost fell over when watching him getting ready to drive the golf ball at the first tee he muttered " Don't Screw this Up Numnuts" I had not heard the word used since I was a kid growing up in Ottawa, and silently still used the word for myself.. As mentioned by many of Don's long time friends, he was loyal and not only wanted you to do well, but went out of his way to let you know he was pulling for you.to make that next shot on the golf course after a flub. We shared many stories; Don of his career in the Millitary and myself in the RCMP. We found that we had mutual friends as we had both made our way in transfers throughout Canada. and we took comfort in believing that both our families had not only done well despite our many transfers, but had grown much more worldly because of them. You will be sorely missed in our SNIPS golf group and perhaps now you will get the extra strokes that you felt you were entitled to with your new golf group.

Rest in Peace Don.

Owen Maguire (Supt- Rtd) RCMP

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Owen Maguire - July 14, 2015 at 05:55 PM

BL

Kelly, Jennifer, and Tara

*Sincere condolences on the passing of your Dad . In the brief time we knew him he was always most hospitable, very generous, and full of pride in you three. The many good memories you have will sustain you during this difficult time and later. All our love,
Uncle Bernard and Aunt Annette*

bernie leonard - July 15, 2015 at 05:18 AM

GJ

As so many others, I am sorry to hear the loss of a fine retired Officer that I had the pleasure of serving with at the EME School while serving as the RSM and he as OC Regt Coy. He will rest in peace as the best of men do ! Arte Et Marte .

Gordon L. Johnson (CWO Retired)

Gordon Johnson - July 16, 2015 at 06:23 PM

CT

Our deepest heartfelt condolences to Don Tiller's family. He will be sorely missed but certainly not forgotten. He certainly could bring a smile to your face.

Carolyn and Dutch Van Tassell

Carolyn & Dutch Van Tassell - July 17, 2015 at 10:34 PM

TT

My condolences to all the family and friends of Don.

I first met him when he was my boss as OC Regimental Company. Definitely a special character but also a great boss with a very "unique" character. The generations of officers that graduated under his watch, may have had the stamp of approval of the individual instructors, but the grass roots guidance and support was clearly his. Scary thought having a bunch of little "donnies" running around out there. We worked hard and played hard, even if golfing hard meant teeing off at 0500am to get 9 holes in before work. Don has a bit of a scruffy exterior, but when you got to know him, he was a great person to know. The world will miss him

Tom Temple Col (Retd)

Tom Temple - July 21, 2015 at 10:47 AM

AJ

I am so saddened to hear of Don's passing. He was such a wonderful man and I'm sure your many great memories will help you through this very difficult time. Thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Annett johnson

Annett Johnson - July 21, 2015 at 06:48 PM

RS

Yes, this is a very late comment. With my daughter since couple of days attending Waterloo University in Toronto, I recalled Don Tiller from the days we both served in SFOR in Croatia. I was very saddened to learn from the internet that Don passed away in last July. I cherish the good moments the both of us had in Zagreb/Croatia. He was a great colleague and a wonderful personality.

LTC (retired) Rob Schruijer (Dutch Army)

Rob Schruijer - January 02, 2016 at 07:17 PM

HM

I served with Major Don Tiller as the Chief Clerk in 2 Svc Bn Petawawa from 85 to 87. I was commissioned from WO to PAdm Officer with his great assistance. He was a boss, friend, mentor and just one heck of a nice and genuine all around person. I have an Air Force flag Don had framed and gave to me on departure from 2 Svc Bn Maint Coy. The flag has always had a prominent place on my walls, either at work or presently in my home. I thought of Don on reaching 30 years of having the flag and wanted to talk to him to says thanks. Thus I just learned of Don's passing. I always strived to be the best, because that is what he taught me in those 2 years we worked together. I also used many of his qualities through out my 35 year career and in reading the previous comments, he was consistent in all his ways. May God bless you Don and if this gets read a call to 902-883-0130 or e mail to haroldmacneil@hotmail.com and I will forward a picture of the flag for any family who may want to have one. Thank you for I am a much better person today because of Don. SERVIRE ARMATIS.

Harold MacNeil - October 23, 2017 at 04:29 AM

AC

I am so saddened to hear Don has passed. He was a good friend while we were at UBC in the late sixties. I remember his enthusiasm for life, kindness, great sense of humour. We had many fun times together.

Ann (Nevill) Cordingley - May 07, 2018 at 11:35 AM