



## Donald T. Atkinson

September 30, 2010

ATKINSON Donald T. Atkinson, 88, of Columbus, OH passed away on Friday, September 30, 2010, at the Forest Hills Alzheimer's Center. A retired foreman from North American Rockwell Aviation. Preceded in death by parents, Hershey D. Atkinson and Lena Pearl Ayers, twin brother David, and sisters Margie, Virginia, Lucille, and Patty. Survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Helen; daughter Kay Ball (Dan Flynn) of Lewis Center; son Tom of Columbus; stepdaughter Lois Marinaro of Rockford, IL; sister Betty (Johnny) Arnold of St. Albans, WV; grandchildren, nephews and nieces; and many lifelong and dear friends. Donald was a member of the New England Masonic Lodge #4, Snakehunters Conservation Club, League of Ohio Sportsman, American Legion, and VFW. Donald was a member of the 100th bomb group and upper turret gunner on a B-17 airplane during World War II. He survived a crash in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Iceland in 1943. In 1997, Icelandic deep sea fisherman retrieved parts of the airplane from the bottom of the ocean, including the two upper turret guns. The guns were traced to the crew and now, one is displayed in daughter Kay's home. Donald also was an avid hunter and sportsman - forever a Buckeye and Reds fan. Funeral Service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 2, 2010 with Rev. David Roberson officiating, at RUTHERFORD-CORBIN FUNERAL HOME, 515 High Street, Worthington where friends may call from 7-9 p.m. on Friday, October 1st. Burial at Africa Cemetery, Lewis Center, OH on Monday, October 4, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to: Forest Hills Center,

2841 E Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, OH, 43231.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Donald T. Atkinson*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Cousin: I feel your pain, I feel your emptiness. Just know that you had a wonderful father; some never have that. He and Daddy can now laugh together, along with Gran and all the others who are smiling down at us everyday. I love you, Karen*

**Karen C. Parton Newhouse** - October 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thinking back to all of the holiday meals we shared throughout the years with Don and listening to his stories, the memories will always bring a smile to our faces. Don, and family, you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

**Gail and Jeff Lensmire** - October 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *I have the fondest memories of Uncle Donald. He was full of joy everytime I saw him. Great memories of visiting him in Ohio as a kid and going to Reds games. I will treasure these memories as long as I am on this earth and look forward to seeing him in heaven. In prayer for Helen, Kay, and Tom and the rest of the family. He is alright because he is in heaven but I know that you will miss him.*

**Melissa (Lemon) Liebau** - October 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Uncle Don was such a loving and special person in our lives. He was the one that brought us together by searching for my mother's family. He gave to us a very important family research collection that he did on the Hoke/Ayers family. This is a treasure for me to know names, dates and family connections. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. With our deepest sympathy, love and prayers, Susan and Roger Scott Ruckersville, Virginia

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**Susan and Roger Scott** - October 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Don you were "one of the good old guys"always looking on the bright side of life. How could I forget your words "first time Ive been in a plane that crashed before we even took off " This describes a sightseeing flight we went on during one of his trips down under, what happended was when I boarded the plane at the rear the aircraft tipped to a nose up attitude with the front wheel off the ground and the tail end resting on a skid.The pilot was not happy and we had to re arrange our seating positions. It was funny though, and we had a laugh about it. Don is now at peace. Our thoughts go out to the family at this emotional sad time. from the Mclvor clan in New Zealand

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**Murray and Carolyn Mclvor** - September 30, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Don will always be remembered by me as the cheerful soldier that I was honored to have known. We had many talks about the military during the numerous gatherings at Kay's house. I know that he is reuniting with the many World War II veterans who have traveled the road to their final resting place. God Bless you Don and many prayers to your family.

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**Jeanne LaFountain** - September 30, 2010 at 12:00 AM