



Donald Wilson Matney

April 28, 1932 - May 9, 2026

Donald Wilson Matney, born April 28th, 1932, finished the good race and went home to be with the Lord on May 9th, 2026.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Ollie Coleman, father, Clyde Matney, daughter, Karen Matney, and brother, Ralph Matney.

He is survived by his loving wife of 73 years, Alice Matney, sons, Michael (Teresa) and David (Melody) Matney, his grandchildren, Justin Matney, Caitlin Matney, Emily Cloer, Caren Matney, Jordan (Samantha) Matney, and Nathan (Charity) Matney, as well as a whole host of nieces, nephews, and great grandchildren.

To know Don was to love him; his jovial nature preceded him even before he spoke (and he would talk to anyone, never once meeting a stranger).

It was his mission in life to help others and give them a piece of the joy he knew in his soul; he could start a conversation readily with an ease and smile that radiated from within.

Regardless of what he had to do, important meeting or otherwise, he would stop to help someone if he saw they were in need. People were drawn to him because of his kindness and love for them - it was apparent through his actions that he had a heart for human beings. Because of this abundant

friendliness and care, it would be impossible to count all of the folks who knew and loved him during his time on this earth.

One of the greatest pleasures of his life was serving in the United States Air Force; his term was from May 11th, 1951 to May 10th, 1955. He also worked for the Norfolk Southern Railway and was known to be able to run after the trains and catch them. Because of his affinity for anything mechanical, he began making model airplanes and collecting CB and ham radios.

As one may surmise, he used the ham radios to find distress calls and help those who needed him.

Thanks to his love for God and people, he pastored two churches and was a visiting pastor for countless churches. He adored bluegrass and southern gospel music, and would often joke that people paid him to stop singing. His favorite hymn was "Just As I Am", and it truly reflected how he felt - he met people where they were and cherished them, refracting the love of Christ.

He was extremely proud of all of his family, and he loved his wife, Peach, more than he could express. Don's love for his family was evident in the way he spoke about them as often as he could. He was a master story teller and loved to recount precious memories he had created. One of his favorites was when he rode scooters with Nathan, his little buddy. Any chance he got to brag on one of his many beloved family members was taken gladly.

A celebration of life will take place on May 23, 2026 at Crum Missionary Baptist Church. Visitation will be from 12:00-1:00, and funeral services are from 1:00-2:00.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests charitable donations to be made to Building Homes for Injured Veterans – Homes For Our Troops

<https://share.google/dHObIJVtM8vtO2gaB>

Previous Events

Celebration Of Life

MAY **23**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Crum Missionary Baptist Church
334 Crum Street
Crum, WV 25669

Tribute Wall

GJ

“ Don was a part of my family’s life for many years. He was our Pastorr and our friend. He He will certainly be missed. My sincere thoughts and prayers are with Peach and all of the family as well as everyone who knew him. May God give you complete peace, and comfort as only He can.

Gerry Jude - May 16 at 09:36 PM

AE

“ I remember him so well. He was so kind to us growing up in Matewan. We would always go to Vacation Bible School at his church and we enjoyed it so much. I’m about to be 63 and I still remember him. I’ve never forgot his kindness that he showed me and my sister. I send all of my prayers and love to his family. I’m so sorry for your loss, he was a great man of God.



Anna Jackson Etheridge - May 16 at 08:42 AM