



Donald R. Spradlin

December 19, 1935 - March 14, 2025

Donald R. Spradlin, 89, of DeMotte, Indiana, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 14, 2025, in Crown Point, Indiana.

Born on December 19, 1935, in Greenup, Kentucky, Donald was the son of Orville and Myrtle (Welch) Spradlin. He was one of eight children and shared an especially close bond with his identical twin, Ronald, who was his lifelong best friend. Donald graduated from Worthington High School in 1954 before proudly serving his country—first as a Marine for twelve years and then in the Army for another two.

On November 12, 1975, he married the love of his life, Betty Jane Merneck, and they shared many wonderful years together until her passing in 2018. Donald worked as a steelworker at Inland Steel before retiring. A man of quiet strength, he found joy in the simple things—caring for the birds and squirrels, spending time outdoors, and solving crossword puzzles. He was also a devoted member of St. Cecilia Church.

Donald is survived by his brothers, Eugene Spradlin, Kenneth Spradlin; nieces and nephews, Peggy (Mark) Buffington, Kim (Butch) Carpenter, Kathy (Lee) VanderMeulen, Donald Spradlin, Christopher Spradlin, Lori Sexton, and Amy Spradlin; great-niece and nephews: Paige Rollins, Jordan, Joshua, and Jacob VanderMeulen. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, and siblings:

Vernon, Larry, Gary, Ronald, and Janice.

In accordance with his wishes, all services will be private. Donald will be laid to rest beside his beloved Betty at the Cemetery of the Resurrection.

Cemetery Details

Cemetery of the Resurrection

Cemetery of the Resurrection
De Motte, IN 46310

Tribute Wall



“ I never knew his name but I sat next to him in church every Saturday evening. I would tease him about saving a seat for me. He would chuckle when I called him my "pew" buddy. He left mass midway through a few weeks ago and he never came back. When father announced that Donald had passed and pointed to the area that Donald always sat, I just knew it was him. I'll miss his smiling face. Lorrie K.

Lorrie Martin-Kukelka - March 21, 2025 at 06:19 PM

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“ Grindco Inc. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald R. Spradlin.

Grindco Inc. - March 17, 2025 at 11:30 AM

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“ Grindco Inc. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Donald R. Spradlin.



Grindco Inc. - March 17, 2025 at 11:30 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald R. Spradlin.



March 17, 2025 at 10:51 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald R. Spradlin.*



March 14, 2025 at 05:50 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald R. Spradlin.

March 14, 2025 at 05:50 PM