



Donald E. Shope

July 1, 1935 - May 4, 2025

Donald E. Shope, 89 of Summerville, SC, passed away on Sunday, May 4th, 2025.

Family and friends are invited to a memorial service on Thursday, May 8th, 2025, beginning at 1pm at James A. Dyal Funeral Home, 303 South Main Street, Summerville, SC 29483.

Don was born on July 1st, 1935, in Bellefonte, PA, a son of the late Frederick Shope and Alma Householder Shope. Don attended high school in Wheaton, Maryland and later joined the US Air Force. Following his military service, he went back to school to earn a master's degree in education from Rowan University in New Jersey. Don married the love of his life, Kathryn Smith Shope, and they spent 64 years together. He had many enjoyments in life including traveling, reading, drumming and most of all, spending time with his beloved family. Don taught at multiple elementary and secondary schools with the majority of his career being spent in Monte Vista, CA. He and his wife retired in Charleston to be closer to family and enjoy their life together. Don was a Bible Scholar and taught Sunday School at Bethany UMC in Summerville. He was a much beloved husband, father, grandfather and friend.

He is survived by his loving wife, Kathryn Shope; his children: Steve Shope (Amanda) and Jeff Shope (Nicole); his grandchildren: Chelsea Oberholtzer

(Nathaniel), Holly Kennedy (Chris), Ryan Shope (Paige), Alexandra Coyle (Chris), and William Shope (Sophie Normand).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews in Donald's name, www.ifcj.org.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

James A. Dyal Funeral Home Chapel
303 S. Main Street
Summerville, SC 29483