

Donald Golike

Bethalto | Saturday, March 5 2016

Donald David Golike of Bethalto, finished his race and went to be with our Lord Saturday, March 5, 2016, just shy of his 93 birthday.

Born March 12, 1923 in Alton to Homer and Nellie (Huette) Golike, Donald grew up on the family farm on Culp Lane with his six siblings. He graduated from Alton High School and Northwestern Bible College in Minnesota with a degree in music, the college then under the auspices of Rev. Billy Graham. There he met and married his wife, Betty Lorraine Slager of Downer's Grove, Illinois on March 31, 1951, who preceded him in death in 1997.



In his youth, he started a mechanic shop with his younger brother, William, aided in farming the homestead, and ran a Minneapolis Moline dealership with his elder brother Harold. Later, although he continued farming on the side, he worked for A.O. Smith Corp in Granite City until the plant closed. Retiring, Donald and Betty moved to New York for a time where he worked as a carpenter at St. Agatha's Children's Home before retiring again.

Donald, a lifelong member of Fosterburg Baptist Church, served at various times as choir director and deacon. He loved fishing and hunting, taking time in the fall for annual hunting trips to Shawnee National Forest and fishing trips to Minnesota every summer. He spent all of his life close to his family, working together, hunting and enjoying their company, especially holidays and Sundays with the "Brethren" (brothers, sisters, and their families). He will be remembered for his love of music, honesty, hard work, and the ability to talk to anyone and everyone for hours, as well as, the love and help he gave to all who knew him.

He is survived by a daughter, Susanne (Roy) Morris of Brighton; two sons, Jeffery Golike of Bethalto and James (Tabitha) Golike of Lake Ozark, Mo; two grandchildren, Jolene (Nathan) Sherman of Alton, and Caitlin Golike of Springfield, Mo; and two Great-grandchildren, Hayden and Logan Sherman, both of Alton. Additionally, he is survived by a brother, Harold (Norma) Golike of Bethalto; a sister, Marie (Clay) Ringhausen of Hardin; a sister-in-law, Trudy (Charles) Hays of North Carolina; and numerous nieces, nephews and extended cousins.

Along with his wife, Donald was preceded in death by his parents, an infant son, David, three brothers and two sister-in-laws, Charles (Lois) Golike, Albert (Nina) Golike, William Golike, and a sister, Laverne Golike.

A combined celebration of his life will be held at Fosterburg Baptist Church, Fosterburg, Illinois, with visitation from 9:30 am followed by funeral services at 11 am Thursday March 10, 2016 Internment will follow at Fosterburg Cemetary. Memorials may be made to Fosterburg Baptist Church.

Elias Kallal & Schaaf Funeral Home in Bethalto is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be found online at www.eliaskallalandschaaf.com or [www.Facebook.com/eliaskallalandschaaf](https://www.facebook.com/eliaskallalandschaaf)