

# Celebrating

THE LIFE OF



**DONALD GUSTAVUS**

October 16, 1971 ~ March 1, 2025



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DONALD LOUIS GUSTAVUS, 53, OF MAUMELLE WENT TO BE WITH HIS LORD AND SAVIOR SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 1, 2025. DONALD WAS BORN OCTOBER 16, 1971, IN HONOLULU, HAWAII. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS LOVING WIFE, KELLY GUSTAVUS, PARENTS DR. JOHN AND PAMMA GUSTAVUS, SISTER LUCY GUSTAVUS (PHILLIP SENTENEY), ONE NIECE, 4 NEPHEWS, AND 2 GREAT NEPHEWS. AS WELL AS HIS GODCHILDREN, ROSE ALEXANDER AND ELLIS ALEXANDER.

DONALD WAS A LOVING HUSBAND, DEVOTED SON, PROTECTIVE BIG BROTHER, AND UNCLE DONDON. HIS LIFE WAS MARKED BY ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT, AND HE WAS A PROUD MEMBER OF THE 1991 UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS BEAR FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM. HIS PASSION FOR SPORTS EXTENDED BEYOND COMPETITION, AS HE CHERISHED TIME SPENT WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS OUTDOORS. AN AVID HUNTER AND FISHERMAN, DONALD SPENT HIS LAST YEAR HUNTING AND FISHING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF WONDERFUL FRIENDS. A HIGHLIGHT WAS TAKING HIS YOUNGEST NEPHEW, TANNER, ON THE HUNTING TRIP OF A LIFETIME, WHERE TANNER SHOT HIS FIRST DEER, A 10-POINT BUCK.

DONALD WAS ALSO A GIFTED SINGER, AND HIS VOICE WILL BE REMEMBERED BY THOSE WHO HEARD IT. HE SERENADED HIS WIFE KELLY WITH THE SONG THE CHAIR ON THEIR FIRST DATE, AND LATER AT THEIR WEDDING RECEPTION, A MOMENT THAT ENCAPSULATED HIS WARMTH AND CHARM.

DONALD HAD FRIENDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE, AND ONCE YOU WERE HIS FRIEND, YOU HAD A FRIEND FOR LIFE. HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR LIFE SPARKED COUNTLESS ANTICS, AND JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT YOU'D HEARD THEM ALL, MORE STORIES EMERGE. THERE ARE ENOUGH GUS STORIES TO FILL SEVERAL BOOKS.

THE LAST YEAR OF DONALD'S LIFE WAS DIFFICULT, YET HE NEVER ONCE ASKED, "WHY ME?" AS A DEAR FRIEND PUT IT, "GUS FACED THIS YEAR WITH THE COURAGE OF DAVID FACING GOLIATH." DESPITE HIS OWN STRUGGLES, HE REMAINED FOCUSED ON OTHERS AND THEIR CHALLENGES. A TRULY SELFLESS MAN, HE DEEPLY LOVED HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND WILL BE MISSED DEARLY. HIS LEGACY OF KINDNESS, GENEROSITY AND LAUGHTER WILL CONTINUE TO INSPIRE ALL WHO KNEW HIM.

VISITATION WILL BE THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025 AT SMITH NORTH LITTLE ROCK FUNERAL HOME FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. WITH A ROSARY TO FOLLOW. A FUNERAL MASS WILL BE HELD FRIDAY MARCH 7, 2025 AT ST. ANDREWS CATHEDRAL IN LITTLE ROCK, FOLLOWED BY A GRAVESIDE SERVICE AT PINECREST MEMORIAL PARK IN ALEXANDER, AR. MEMORIALS MAY BE MADE TO CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS, LITTLE ROCK, AR.

"YET WHAT WE SUFFER NOW IS NOTHING COMPARED TO THE GLORY HE WILL REVEAL TO US LATER" ROMANS 8:18

