

Obituary
Dwight D. Doran

Dwight D. Doran, died November 21, 2007, in Omaha, Neb.

Dwight Donald Doran was born the second son of Fred and Evelyn Doran in Lincoln, Neb. on June 24, 1930. He was raised in Nebraska and Iowa, the son of a truck driver during the depression. Some of his fondest memories from childhood involved collecting rubber with his brother Ivan for the war effort and selling milk and cream from a little wagon he and Ivan pulled around town to earn the dime necessary to see the Saturday matinee at the local theatre.

As he grew older he worked on farms and at a vegetable distributions center in Lincoln. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1948. He entered the Navy briefly then transferred into the Air Force where he served during the Korean War. While home on leave he went on a blind date and when he went back to base... he just couldn't get "that nurse" out of his mind. He wrote his friend to ask what her name and address was and began a courtship, primarily by letter.

After things got serious with Mary Anne, he took instruction and joined the Catholic Church. He married Mary Anne Ekeler on November 20, 1954 and into this union six children were welcomed: Joseph, Geri Anne, Paul, Frank, Fred and Dorene.

Dwight studied briefly at the University of Nebraska and then took a job with Remington Shavers in retail and repair. A promotion moved the family from Lincoln to Omaha in 1965. He remained with Remington as a store manager until his retirement in 1992 helping them evolve to a retail store that sold shavers and knives at the Westroads mall.

Throughout his life, Dwight was an active member of his church. A Grand Night in the Knights of Columbus, Lincoln, he represented Holy Name as a member of the Archdiocese of Omaha's first Eucharistic Minister Class. Always willing to participate in church activities, he even suffered a broken collar bone when his parish priest slid home during a softball game.

His 15 years of retirement was a great time of joy for him. Retirement allowed him to travel with Mary Anne, spend time with family, play pitch, and study family history. He always had a new project to work on and could frequently be found at the "hardware store". He was an avid Husker fan and gardener. Few could grow a better tomato.

Dad often said "All I do is drive the car and pay the bills" but he did so much more.

A brave man, he was strong, gentle and kind. A man who was not afraid to admit he was wrong. He was a man who always had an open mind, a father always ready to support his children and wife. He was known and loved by the children of the neighborhoods he lived in because he always spoke to them. Whether a toddler or teen, Dwight greeted the neighborhood children with a smile and a quip. Always glad to teach or tell a story.

The wives and husbands of his children, nieces and nephews, each was valued a special way. His beautiful grandchildren, and great-grandson: he welcomed each with great joy and always had time for their smallest request... be it a bite of waffle or advice about a car.

Dad spent a great deal of his life battling illness and from this he learned a kind of sensitivity to others, he was a philosopher of sorts: We do what we can. We make the most of what life gives us. His final battle was like that. He did his best, fighting the good gift,

looking for a way to make us smile, taking care of mom and his kids. Reminding us of the lessons he taught us again and again: Don't let the sun go down on your anger, love God, love each other, follow your dreams, be true to yourself, and if you can't say something nice about someone, don't say anything at all.

Wake service was held Monday, November 26, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at St. James Catholic Church. Mass of Christian Burial was Tuesday, November 27, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at St. James Catholic Church with Rev. Roger Kalscheuer and Rev. Michael W. Grewe officiating. Military honors by Millard AL 374 and VFW 8334. Pallbearers were Rebecca Hasemann, Jacob Doran, Zachary Doran, Kevin Doran, Gregory Ekeler and David Doran. Honorary Pallbearers were Kristine Doran, Catherine Doran, Emma Doran, Alexander Doran, Natalie Doran, Robert Watson, David Ekeler and Isaac Hasemann. Interment was at Resurrection Catholic Cemetery in Omaha, Neb.