



## Donald Gene Sloo

August 4, 1929 - December 9, 2023

Donald Gene Sloo, 94, lifelong resident of Indianapolis, Indiana, passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 9, 2023. While aspects of his life might seem commonplace, the impact of his generosity and intentional care for his family is truly immeasurable.

Don was born August 4, 1929, the only son of Clarence and Frances Opal (Neal) Sloo. He graduated early from Arsenal Tech High School and began attending Butler's Pharmacology program before entering the United States Army and serving as a sergeant at Fort Hood.

On October 13, 1948, he married his high school sweetheart Miriam (Frazier). They eloped in Indianapolis while he was on leave, and with a net worth of \$17, they built an incredible life together.

Following his military service, Don returned to Indianapolis and finished his pharmacy degree from Butler University in 1951. He worked in a private pharmacy for nearly 20 years before transitioning to Blue Cross Blue Shield where he retired in 1988 as the Vice President of Governmental Affairs.

During this time, he also served on the Healthcare Organization Board, Medical Drug Utilization Board, and Indiana Board of Pharmacy.

Despite all of his accomplishments, the most important parts of Don's life were his faith and family. He was an active member of Old Bethel United Methodist Church for more than 50 years where he held several leadership positions and faithfully picked up food for the food pantry each week.

He was also a devoted husband of 75 years, and a proud father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. His greatest joy was spending time with his family. He once said, "Every day with your family is a good day," and he truly believed it. Throughout his life, he passed on his love of sports, auto racing, the symphony, and travel. Don was an avid Butler basketball and Cincinnati Reds baseball fan. His favorite memories with his family included seeing Purdue play in the 2001 Rose Bowl, snowmobiling in Yellowstone, watching the Hut Hundred at the Terre Haute Action Track, attending the ISO Yuletide Celebration, and spending a week each year in Indian Rocks Beach, Florida. Visitation will be Thursday, December 14, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at 12 noon at Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel, 9606 East Washington Street.

Don was preceded in death by his parents and son-in-law Michael. He will be desperately missed by his wife Miriam; daughters Joyce (Larry) Ostendorf and Janet Clancy; grandchildren Jennifer (Justin) Noelle, Greg (Alina) Ostendorf, and David (Beth) Ostendorf; and great-grandchildren Max and Maddy Noelle, Eloise Ostendorf, and Josie Ostendorf.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Old Bethel and Partners Food Pantry.

# Cemetery Details

## Washington Park East

10612 E. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46229

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 14. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel  
9606 E. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46229  
(317) 897-9606  
<https://shirleybrothers.com/>

## Funeral Service

DEC 14. 12:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel  
9606 E. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46229  
(317) 897-9606  
<https://shirleybrothers.com/>

# Tribute Wall

LN

“ I just learned of Mr. Sloo’s passing. I worked under his direction at BCBS/Government Affairs. He was such a nice, gentle person.

*My condolences to the family. He’s in God’s loving arms.*

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**Linda Nibbs** - January 11, 2024 at 08:57 PM

RW

“ I was secretary to Don Sloo at Blue Cross & Blue Shield for many years. Not only my boss but a true friend. Rest In Peace Don. My heartfelt sympathy to you Miriam. Ruth Wade

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**Ruth Wade** - December 14, 2023 at 08:59 PM

PG

“ Don was always so kind and generous with his time for me. I was just starting out in a big job. He gave me needed advice in a patient way. He was a true gentleman. Rest well Mr. Sloo.

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**Pattiann Gavaghan** - December 14, 2023 at 07:25 AM

JD

“ Don was one of the wisest and most gracious men I knew. I had the privilege of working with him often at Old Bethel. I learned so much from him. I wish peace and comfort to dear Miriam and the rest of Don's family.

*Jan Dean*

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**Jan Dean** - December 13, 2023 at 04:46 PM



BC

“ Good friend to me and my family great times at Monday bowling highway league.

barry cole - December 13, 2023 at 10:14 AM

JE

“ Miriam and family, I am so sorry about Don's passing. He was a great friend to my dad (Bob Armstrong). Don was always so very kind to me every time we spoke. He and his acts of kindness will be greatly missed.  
Jenni (Armstrong) East

Jenni East - December 12, 2023 at 08:42 PM

DW

“ Years and years ago he worked for my father Jim Walters, I have fond memories of Don. I was very small and he would tell me better not do that your Daddy won't like it. All the while giving me the best smile ever. I have never forgotten his wonderful smiles. I send my best to the entire family.



Diane Walters - December 12, 2023 at 01:02 PM

SE

“ Dear Miriam, I extend my sincere condolences tp you and your family on Don's passing.  
Love, Sue Epps

Sue Epps - December 12, 2023 at 11:16 AM



“ Garden Accent Stone - *"Wherever a Beautiful Soul..."* was purchased for the family of Donald Gene Sloo.



December 12, 2023 at 11:00 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Gene Sloo.



December 12, 2023 at 09:58 AM



“ Don, you were the first to let me attempt to water ski. It became clear that water skiing was not going to be my thing, but I'll forever be grateful and remember how patient and kind you and Miriam were to let me try. So many good memories from my childhood are linked to Don, Miriam, Hinkle Fieldhouse, and Old Bethel. Gone from this world, but never from our memories or hearts. Love,  
Gretchen (Hume) Martin

**Gretchen Martin** - December 11, 2023 at 06:38 PM



We knew Don from talking to him while he was in our Barber Shop getting his hair cut. He was a wonderful man. We will miss him.  
Craig & Ethel Cramer

**Craig Cramer** - December 13, 2023 at 09:06 PM