



## Donald Hammer

September 17, 1942 - January 3, 2019

Donald A. Hammer ,76, of Willcox, Arizona died January 3, 2019. He was born on September 17, 1942 in Minot, North Dakota to Arthur C. and Ila Alg Hammer. Don married Joan Nelson on June 5, 1965. Survived by his wife Joan and his sister Judy Bernard. Preceded in death by his parents, half brother Robert Hammer and half sisters Claire Ann, Eileen, Francis Hammer and Hazel Andreson. After completing his education in 1971, he taught for a year at the University of Maine. In 1972 he went to work for the Tennessee Valley Authority. Dr. Hammer spent much of his career with TVA supervising the management of over 100,000 acres of wetlands and restoring populations of Canada geese, osprey, bald and golden eagles, peregrine falcons, great and snowy egrets. He also led 5 teams developing the constructed wetlands technology for treating municipal, industrial, agricultural, mining and domestic wastewater and has done technology transfer of constructed wetlands all over the world. After buying a winter home in the Sulphur Springs Valley in 1996, Don and his wife became interested in the vibrant history of the area. They have done considerable research and compilations on the history of ranching and rural life in the valley. Don had degrees in wildlife biology and ecology from the University of North Dakota, South Dakota State University and Utah State University. At his request no services will be held. Memorial may be sent to the Willcox Cowbells, P.O. Box 354, Willcox, Arizona 85644 or the charity of your choice. You may express condolences at [www.westlawnchapelmortuary.com](http://www.westlawnchapelmortuary.com) Arrangements entrusted to Westlawn Chapel, Mortuary and Crematory

of Willcox, Arizona.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Donald Hammer*

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM



“ *As I was looking up an address, I found Don's obituary. It was with great shock and sadness to learn of his passing. Chuck has many memories of his years at UND knowing Don and slightly you Joan. We always enjoyed hearing about your travels and careers. We are very sorry. Chuck and Jo*

**Chuck and Jo Orvik** - December 24, 2019 at 11:47 AM



“ *Joan and family, Nikki and I were so saddened to learn of Don's passing. Time and distance prevented frequent visits but I enjoyed and appreciated them when you folks were in the state. Don was among the very first of our wildlife majors, and I recall him as a top student in my Mammalogy and Ornithology classes. And then on to a long and distinguished career! He was a great guy who will be long remembered.*

*Bob and Nikki*

**Robert Seabloom** - October 22, 2019 at 10:52 AM

LW

“ Where do you begin to share memories of Don. One of the smartest men I've ever known. Don & Judy, the brother and sisterly love for one another was a life long thing. I think one would have done most anything for the other from the time they were little kids. Joan came into the picture. Don was smitten for life. Joan was indeed his perfect match. They both loved animals and birds. Don taught Joan everything he knew about wildlife, and keeping up with family history. I can still picture Don flying his plane into Tioga, ND. God Bless you Don for all the Reunion pictures you took of us. Thank you for sharing the research you did into our family. Thank you for all the wonderful Christmas letters you wrote us over the years, oh my they were soooooo interesting. Yes, I missed getting that this last year. My dad was one person who could make Don laugh and he thoroughly loved putting a smile on Don's face. Sending my love, thoughts, and prayers to you Joan. You were the best wife Don could have ever had. Judy & Jeff, what a caring sister and brother in law. Know that you are loved, and you are also in my prayers. Don may be gone from our presence, but we will forever share our memories of him at future Alg/Reinertson Reunions. Rest in Peace dear cousin. You will certainly be missed.



Linda Wooters  
Denton, TX

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Linda Wooters - January 26, 2019 at 02:51 AM

EB

“ *Worked for Don at TVA 8 years. Had a lot of memorial experiences and was able to pursue my love of flying airplanes as a result of his leadership in using aircraft in wildlife work. He will be missed in the world of wildlife biology.*

*Ed Beddow  
Crossville, TN*

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**Ed Beddow** - January 24, 2019 at 11:33 PM



“ *Joan, I am so sorry to hear about Don. You are in my prayers.*

*Marti Bailey*

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**Marti Bailey** - January 21, 2019 at 01:29 PM



“ *Dear Joan, Naaman and I are so sad to hear about Don. We send you blessings and love.*



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**Anna Nickell** - January 04, 2019 at 09:46 PM