



## Donald Lee Ryno

June 27, 1941 - March 16, 2025

Donald Lee Ryno,  
age 83,  
of Gobles, MI.

A hero has fallen. Donald Lee Ryno, born June 27, 1941 met our Lord and Savior Sunday, March 16th while doing something he loved: working in the woods. The world's best husband, dad, and grandpa will be dearly missed by everyone who had the pleasure to meet him.

After graduating high school in 1959, Don entered the work force as a surveyor, which quickly became one of his passions. Shortly after, he entered the Army corps of engineers; here, his passion for surveying only grew. When his time in the Army ended, he entered back into the workforce as a surveyor. Although he loved it, his passion for taxidermy, an art he learned at an early age from his grandfather, was immeasurable, so he opened Ryno Taxidermy. He did not know at the time what an incredibly positive impact this would have on countless lives.

On June 10, 1967, Don married the love of his life Kathleen (Kathy) Berardi. They lived a life filled with love and joy, and they set the perfect example of what a relationship should look like. Together, they also showed everyone what great parenting looks like.

Because he was a dedicated husband and father, he put his family ahead of all else. God was working in his life before he truly realized it, and he retired from surveying to operate Ryno Taxidermy full-time from his home. Building a shop onto his house allowed him to maximize his time at home with his family, something that they all cherished and will forever be grateful for.

Don loved sports, hunting, fishing, running his chainsaw, and burning brush. He also loved making new trails and digging new drainage ditches throughout the woods, which is what he was doing when he passed. We all wish for more time with him, more of his great stories, more of his strong hugs and firm handshakes, and more of his smiles and laughter. But, God needed another rugged angel to watch over the outdoorsmen. So, He called this hero home when He knew Don was ready, before he lost his memory or physical ability to engage in the hard work that defined him.

Don was predeceased by his parents, Adrian and Marion (Tychsen) Ryno and his baby girl Linda Ryno. Left to cherish his memory are his loving wife, Kathy, his children, Ann (Bill) Fry and Steve (Lara Albrecht) Ryno, grandchildren Emma, Gracie, and Finley Ryno and Heidi, Elsie, and Jessie Albrecht, and sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Ted Huizenga.

A visitation is planned for Monday, March 24th from 1:00 to 3:00 with a funeral service immediately following at 3:00 at Journey Family Church, 514 W Van Buren St., Gobles, MI, 49055. The family is asking for everyone who feels impacted by Don to come pay respects, and we hope that many will feel compelled to either say some words or write some down for someone else to read. Don loved stories, so we would love to fill the time with many stories. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to either Journey Family Church or the Bloomingdale Vol. Firefighters Assn. Arrangements entrusted to the Bloomingdale Chapel, D.L. Miller Funeral Home. [www.dlmillerfuneralhome.com](http://www.dlmillerfuneralhome.com)

e.com.

# Cemetery Details

## Robinson Cemetery

34000 20th Avenue  
Gobles, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 24. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Journey Family Church  
514 W. Van Buren St.  
Gobles, MI 49055

## Memorial Service

MAR 24. 3:00 PM (ET)

Journey Family Church  
514 W. Van Buren St.  
Gobles, MI 49055

# Tribute Wall



“ Susan Page Smith lit a candle in memory of Donald Lee Ryno



Susan page Smith - March 24, 2025 at 11:50 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Lee Ryno.

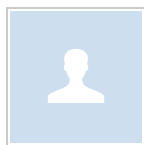
March 23, 2025 at 07:14 PM



“ Love, Darl & Lonna Albrecht purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Donald Lee Ryno.



Love, Darl & Lonna Albrecht - March 23, 2025 at 11:50 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Donald Lee Ryno.



March 21, 2025 at 10:36 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Lee Ryno.

March 21, 2025 at 10:36 PM



“ I always looked forward to seeing you when you and your wife would come into Village Market and I was your cashier, you always came to my register and smiled and said hello 😊 and it just made my day so much better. you will be dearly missed and thank you Jesus for letting our paths cross 🙏 your cashier Darlene Sheen

**Darlene Sheen** - March 21, 2025 at 09:58 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Lee Ryno.

March 21, 2025 at 03:33 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Donald Lee Ryno.



March 21, 2025 at 03:33 PM

TF

“ *The VanDam Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Donald Lee Ryno.*



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**The VanDam Family** - March 21, 2025 at 01:20 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald Lee Ryno.*



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March 20, 2025 at 06:56 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Lee Ryno.*

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March 20, 2025 at 06:56 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Lee Ryno.*

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March 20, 2025 at 06:43 PM



“ *Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Donald Lee Ryno.*



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March 20, 2025 at 06:43 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Lee Ryno.

March 19, 2025 at 08:21 PM



“ Christine (Clugston) Moon lit a candle in memory of Donald Lee Ryno



Christine (Clugston) Moon - March 19, 2025 at 07:58 PM



“ I could fill pages up here with stories , with Don and my family. At one time my brother Don and were always together getting in a little mischief none thing bad. Then as they got a little older my dad and Ade would take them hunting . And the boys loved that. Or fishing. When Don started to Texidermy, work Bob decided he would try his hand at that. So he was decided to boil a deer head on my Mom's stove. Well Mom and Dad had the store at that time and the customer's didn't really like the smell coming out of the house. So Bob's caree was short lived and Don would laugh about it. Don was a gentle loving guy and he will be missed by all who knew him. But he will live in our hearts with all the memorys we have. Sending prays and love to the family. Shirley Wesler Brown

Shirley Brown - March 19, 2025 at 07:39 PM

LD

*Dear Kathy and family, I'm so glad you shared this on Facebook. I didn't know Don, but as an 'old' friend of Kathy I would like to offer my prayers and condolences for your loss! I will be thinking of you on Monday. May you be blessed with many stories, and happy memories!*  
*Laurie Doering,*  
*Battle Ground WA*

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**Lauretta Doering** - March 19, 2025 at 10:28 PM

MM

“ *This picture was taken when my family met and fell in love with Don Ryno.*

*He spent hours showing the McNamara's around his taxidermy business- telling story after story of every single mount he had done. They learned that day what I already knew- Don Ryno was a pillar of kindness and service. He poured his heart into his family, his business, his love of the outdoors and his community. I consider myself lucky to have known and loved this gem of a human. His legacy will live on in the beautiful family he and Kathy have raised, and he will be so very, very missed.*



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**Michelle McNamara** - March 19, 2025 at 02:58 PM

JD

“ *Sorry to hear of Don's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Mike had him mount a deer head for him and the deer had a run in with a porcupine. When Mike picked up the mount, Don left the needles in the nose! Quite a conversation piece.*

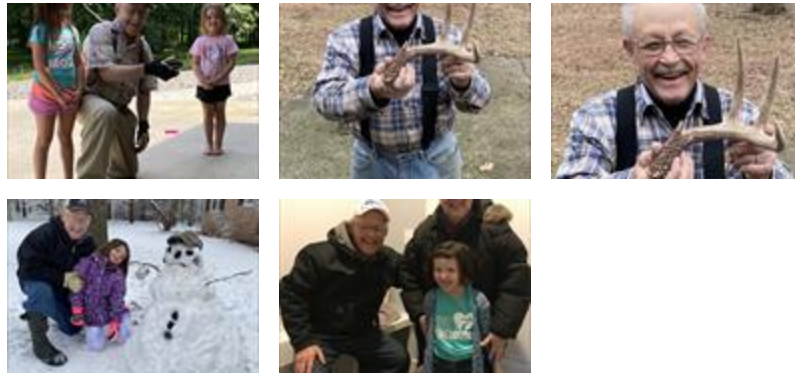


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**Jill (Bailey) & Mike Dwyer** - March 18, 2025 at 07:34 PM



“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



D.L. Miller Funeral Home - March 18, 2025 at 01:27 PM

AK

“ Don will be missed greatly. He was such a joy to talk to. Hearing all the hunting stories you knew he loved what he did. Every mount that he did for me there is always going to be a great memory and story with it. My thoughts and prayers to the entire Ryno family. He will truly be missed.

Adam King - March 18, 2025 at 01:18 PM

LR

“ Lynne N Rouch lit a candle in memory of Donald Lee Ryno



Lynne N Rouch - March 18, 2025 at 11:05 AM

CN

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I loved his firm hand shake and he was a true artist with his taxidermy work

Carol Newman - March 18, 2025 at 10:38 AM

CM

“ Don always had a smile and funny story to tell to brighten up the day. What I will remember most is Don helping me to catch a mouse that had sneaked into the cafe. He got down on all 4 and crawled behind a large machine as he tried to catch that mouse. All we could see was his little behind just a wiggling trying to grab that mouse! Once caught, he gave it to one of his beloved granddaughters to take outside and be set free!! Now, Don has been set free to everlasting life with our Lord, Jesus the Christ. Praise Him Always~

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**Chris McMachen** - March 18, 2025 at 10:26 AM

LG

“ What we remember most is what a great friend Don was to us.

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**Linda and Steve Grybus** - March 17, 2025 at 08:38 PM

VS

“ Vicky Souza lit a candle in memory of Donald Lee Ryno



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**Vicky Souza** - March 17, 2025 at 05:20 PM