

## Donald J. Pierce

January 29, 1938 - January 14, 2018

Donald J. Pierce, age 79, of Bourbonnais passed away Sunday, January 14, 2018 at Presence St. Mary's Hospital. He was born January 29, 1938 in Chicago, the son of Edward & Beatrice Lewin Pierce. Don married Joan J. Webster at St. Patrick's Church in Kankakee on August 5, 1961.

Don retired from Armour Pharmaceuticals, now CSL Behring. He was a member of the International Chemical Workers Union, serving as Secretary and Chief Steward of the union. Don served as Cub Scout Master for Bourbonnais Pack 324. He was a former election judge and a lifelong Democrat.

Don served in the United States Army Reserves, Army Corps of Engineers, for 21 years.

Don was very proud of his Irish heritage. He enjoyed traveling during his retirement, including visiting all the United States and Canada. He also traveled extensively in Europe.

Don was a parishioner of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley.

Don & Joan celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in 2016 with a family trip to Yellowstone National Park.

He is survived by his wife, Joan Pierce of Bourbonnais, two sons and daughters-in-law, Terry & Becky Pierce of League City, Texas and Tim & Danielle Pierce of Bonfield; one daughter and son-in-law, Sheila & Pat Martin of Manteno; eight grandchildren, Marissa (Ronnie) VanDyck, Dr. Moira Martin, Cory Martin, Catherine Pierce, Maddie Pierce, Katelyn Pierce (Tony Nutall),

Darian Pierce (Kyuss Allison), and Jordan Pierce; and one great-grandchild, Alaina Nutall. He is preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Mortimer Pierce and Robert Pierce.

Visitation will be held from 4- 7 p.m. Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday, January 18, 2018 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley.

Burial will follow at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Presence St. Mary's Cancer Center in Bourbonnais.

# Cemetery Details

## Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 Hoff Road  
Elwood, IL 60421

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 17. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

## Funeral Mass

JAN 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
211 N. Center Street  
Bradley, IL 60915  
(815) 939-3573  
<http://www.stjosephbradley.org>

# Tribute Wall

LD

“*Joan, Sheila and Family: I just received the news of Don's passing when I return to the States and I am so sorry for your loss. Don was a wonderful person , a loyal Union member and a passionate Democrat. All that knew him respected and felt lucky to have known him and call him a friend. He will be greatly missed. I'm sure he is with many friends and family in a wonderful place God has reserved for the good ones and he is looking forward to the the day he sees you all again. I'm sure the two Irishmen, Don & Jack, are enjoying a Guinness. Our love and prayers are with you all.*

*Lisa Dugan & Family*

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**Lisa Dugan** - January 30, 2018 at 03:34 PM

CF

“*your family has my sympathy att his difficult time.*

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**Carol Fritz** - January 24, 2018 at 05:34 PM

PN

“*Joan, we (Jerry & I) will always remember our conversations at Burger King. I am sure Don will be missed by all. You have our sympathy. (I also see you at St. Joe's, Penny) Penny & Jerry Noe*

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**Penny& Jerry Noe** - January 21, 2018 at 10:49 AM

KR

“*Joan and family. I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you at this difficult time.*

*Kathy Roy*

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**Kathy Roy** - January 19, 2018 at 11:44 PM

RS

“ Beneath the sometimes gruff exterior of the man we knew as "Sarge" lay the big heart and mischievous smile of a great guy I was privileged to call my friend.  
May God be with you as he is with Don.

Warmest Regards  
Rick Scott (Armour Maintenance)

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**Rick Scott** - January 18, 2018 at 09:02 PM

JE

“ Joan, Sheila, Terry, Tim and Family

My condolence to you and your family for your loss of Don. He was a wonderful man.

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**Julie Ponikvar Ebersole** - January 18, 2018 at 07:54 AM

DC

“ So sorry to hear this; I really miss having you as neighbors!

Sincerely,  
David Dal Cason

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**David Dal Cason** - January 17, 2018 at 09:02 PM

KS

“ Kenneth R. Mausehund Sr. lit a candle in memory of Donald J. Pierce



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**Kenneth R. Mausehund Sr.** - January 17, 2018 at 06:13 PM

CD

“ Joan please accept Chuck & my sympathy in your loss of Don.  
We all had fun at Armour outings. How time does change. So sorry.

Chruck & Mary Denault - January 17, 2018 at 04:47 PM

MS

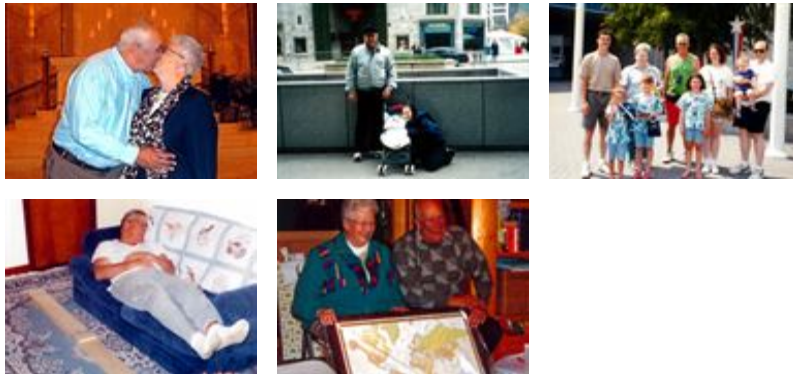
“ I have known Don since 1990. He was a delegate from the  
Chemical Workers to the Kankakee Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO  
until his retirement. He served on our Executive Board and Labor  
Charity. He was a heck of a union man. He loved his wife dearly and  
his family as well. Rest in peace my friend and brother.  
Condolences to Joannie and the family.

Sincerely,  
Michael W. Smith  
President  
Kankakee, Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO

Michael Smith - January 17, 2018 at 04:17 PM



“ 100 files added to the album LifeTributes



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - January 17, 2018 at 01:02 PM

RE

“ *My condolences to Joan and the Pierce family, it took me by surprise when I perused the newspaper and saw Don's obituary. Don was a good man with a heartwarming smile and a generous spirit. On behalf of myself and the Kankakee School District Black History Program, where Don and Joan donated a monetary gift so that over 245 students could have props, costumes and scholarships, we say thank you from the bottom of our hearts. On a personal note, I say goodbye to a good friend, knowing that he has earned his wings in glory.*

*Warm Regards,*

*Commissioner Robert S. Ellington-Snipes  
Kankakee County Board District #18*



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**Robert S. Ellington-Snipes** - January 17, 2018 at 10:45 AM

DM

“ *Sincere sympathy and warm thoughts for a great guy and his family.*

*Ron and Deena Meyer*

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**Deena Meyer** - January 17, 2018 at 09:42 AM

KI

“ Good wishes sent.  
Your neighbors around the corner,  
Lori & Eric Kidd



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**Kidd** - January 17, 2018 at 07:44 AM

LS

“ Joanie, You and I and Don go back al long way at the Old Armour.  
always considered you both good friends.We all liked to rib Don  
about different things, and he could rib back very good  
Our sincere sympathy at your familys loss. Times like thes we  
thank the lord for the gift of memory, and I'm sure you will have  
plenty  
to sustain you thru these trying times.  
Larry Skelly

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**larry skelly** - January 16, 2018 at 06:00 PM

RE

“ Always easy to work with. I guess our next breakfast will be in  
Heaven. God bless you Sarge! Ray English

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**Ray English** - January 16, 2018 at 05:11 PM

JK

“ *Joanie and Family,  
Our sincere sympathy to each of you. We will  
always treasure the memories and the many  
trips we shared, especially Ireland and a bit of  
Guinness!! Don fought a long, difficult journey  
and never lost his sense of humor and contagious smile! We have  
truly been blessed to have in in our lives. Hold on tight to each other  
and your wonderful memories.  
Hugs and Prayers,  
Donna & Jay Karr*



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**jay & donna karr** - January 16, 2018 at 03:01 PM

JC

“ *Joan our thoughts and prayers are with you  
and your family.*

*Carl & Jan Coleman*



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**Jan Coleman** - January 16, 2018 at 02:35 PM

MP

“ *Dear Sheila & Pat and Pierce family,*

*My deepest sympathies for your loss. I knew Don well from working  
with him at CSL Behring.*

*Kind regards,*

*Maureen Powell*

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**Maureen Powell** - January 16, 2018 at 02:13 PM



John Willard

*Let Don's kind and caring disposition and his steadfast commitment to a fair deal for regular folks be an example for us all. Although his physical contributions will be greatly missed his spirit of volunteerism, love for the natural world and compassion for the American Dream will always be an inspiration. A wonderful Family man, a serious Union man, a dedicated Democrat and a great American. We salute you Brother. Thank you for your friendship. Thank you for your service.*

John Willard - January 17, 2018 at 07:58 AM

RL

“Joan I am sorry to hear of Dons passing. I am also sorry to be out of town and can not be there to see you at this time. God be with you and your family at this time. You will be my first stop when I get home.



Rick Latham - January 16, 2018 at 11:51 AM

BH

“Bryan & Joelene Hays lit a candle in memory of Donald J. Pierce



Bryan & Joelene Hays - January 16, 2018 at 11:25 AM

CM

“Deepest sympathy to the family.

*Cathie (Sederstrand) Miedema*



cathie miedema - January 16, 2018 at 10:44 AM

NM

*Joanie and family, my sincere condolences on Dons passing. His bright smile and friendly words will be missed by many. I always enjoyed talking and joking with him. RIP Sarge.*

*Respectfully, Nick Monacelli*

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**Nick Monacelli** - January 16, 2018 at 09:04 PM

LC

“ *So very sorry for your loss. Don was truly a wonderful friend husband dad. I will always remember his laugh, smile. He always had time to help anyone at anytime. He always had his princess ❤️ I would be here all night if I shared every memory of him. Heaven has gained another amazing angel. Love you all. ❤️❤️❤️*

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**linda clark** - January 15, 2018 at 08:05 PM