



## Don Kreps

January 27, 1936 - May 6, 2020

Donald Arthur Kreps, passed away on May 6, 2020. He was born on January 27, 1936 to Annette Hueneke Groening and Arno Groening in East Orange, New Jersey. He grew up in Maplewood, New Jersey with his mother, brother, and stepfather, F. Stanley Kreps, whose last name he adopted. His younger brother and best pal, Arthur E. Kreps, predeceased him. He was also predeceased by his brother's son, Chip Kreps.

Don graduated from Duke University, in 1958, and remained a loyal Duke fan his whole life. He was especially fond of Coach K and the men's basketball team. Having grown up just outside of NYC, Don was also a big Yankees fan. Don always loved a winner!

Don worked in Sales for various companies including Home Insurance Company, Xerox, and Sun Chemical, among others. He was a real estate agent and rental property owner for many years. His work took him from New Jersey to Detroit, Michigan; Des Moines, Iowa; Overland Park, Kansas; Windsor, Connecticut; and finally to the suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia.

Don leaves to cherish his memory, his wife of 21 years, Paula Pickeral Kreps. They were very successful partners in competitive bridge tournaments, and they enjoyed voyaging on cruises all over the world. They also shared many memorable trips to Gatlinburg, Tennessee with their children and grandchildren. They stood by each other and supported one another through the good times and the harder times.

In Don's later years, he and Paula shared a home with Paula's daughter, Amy Pickeral Travis, her husband Michael, and their 3 children Kelsea, Becca, and Emma. Paula's son, David Pickeral, also lived nearby with his sons Philip and Blake. There were many happy times with Grandma and "Poppa," as he was affectionately called. "Poppa" was exceptionally gifted at bonding with babies and young children; perhaps with his bald head, they thought of him as "one of their own."

Don is survived by an extended family: son, Robert Kreps and his wife Nancy of

Longmont, Colorado, and their children Jennifer and Robert; daughter, Nancy Ealy and her husband Deke of Charlottesville, Virginia, and their sons Tyler and Sean; daughter, Carolyn Ball and her husband Kevin of Walpole, Massachusetts, and their daughters Emily, Casey, and Sarah; son, David Kreps and his wife Callie of Gainesville, Georgia and their children Haven and Zane; step-daughter, Cara Shelton and her husband Shane of Lawrenceville, Georgia and their children Gavin and Lily; step-daughter, Jill Bannon Young; former wife, Nancy Cane Blasingame; sister-in-law, Diane Kreps, and her children Kim, Gary, and Kathy. He is also survived by his first wife, Elizabeth K. Speare, with whom he maintained a lifelong friendship.

Don loved spending time with his family and having fun. Throughout his life, he enjoyed playing golf, tennis, and bridge. He loved music, especially show tunes. For Don, the glass was always "half full." He was an eternal optimist and never met a stranger. He will be greatly missed.

A private memorial service will be held for immediate family only on Sunday, May 17th, 2020 at 2:00 PM at Tom M. Wages Snellville Chapel. You can watch the celebration of life on Tom M. Wages Funeral Service Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/Tom-M-Wages-Funeral-Service-108741755841468/>.

Condolences may be sent or viewed at [www.wagesfuneralhome.com](http://www.wagesfuneralhome.com). Tom M. Wages Funeral Service, LLC, A Family Company, 3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA 30039 (770-979-3200) has been entrusted with the arrangements.

# Events

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**MAY** **Private Memorial Service** 02:00PM

**17**

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Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - Snellville

3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA, US, 30039

# Comments

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“ 1 file added to the album Donald Kreps photo memories



David Kreps - May 15, 2020 at 04:50 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Donald Kreps photo memories



David Kreps - May 15, 2020 at 04:46 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Zane Arno Kreps' 2nd birthday party!



David Kreps - May 15, 2020 at 04:35 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Zane Arno Kreps' 2nd birthday party!



David Kreps - May 15, 2020 at 04:30 PM





“ Don was my father and he was a great dad! I loved him very much and will miss him but I find comfort knowing that he is in heaven with many others who preceded him. Popsy, as many of us new him by, was a really gentle and friendly person and genuinely kind.

He named me after his younger brother, Arthur Emmett Kreps, who passed away not too long ago. Popsy told me about how his brother had issues with speech as a youngster and other kids would ask Popsy "what did Art say" and Popsy would translate for Art. I try to imagine that scene in my mind. Later, Art would go on to follow his older brother to attend Duke University, and eventually started his own company, Southern Business Communications. SBC is the reason we ended up in Atlanta because Popsy relocated us from south Florida to work with his brother at SBC.

Popsy was a social butterfly! Basically every time I was with Popsy in public, no matter where we were, he would chat with anyone around him and make friends quickly. Many times in restaurants on our way to be seated at our table, he would stop and talk to other patrons along the way! We would be waiting for him at our table watching him ask people about what they ordered because it looked delicious, or complimenting folks on their cute kids.

He took my friends and I on legendary spring break trips to Panama City Beach and he was the coolest dad around, yet he was there to make sure we didn't get too crazy and would help us out if we had any problems. I was never afraid to ask Popsy for advice about anything.

Popsy was always smiling and waving at everyone and his kindness was infectious! It was nearly impossible to get Popsy riled up. Popsy was always ready to talk basketball and he loved talking about how he played for Duke University's basketball team during his college years.

Popsy never lived down the fact that he was the most successful Xerox sales person for many years and was very proud of this accomplishment! He also was an avid stock trader and had been a real estate agent for years also.

Popsy loved coming to all of my theatrical practices and performances and to all the sporting events and practices also. He was very supportive and was always in the crowd cheering me on! He was my #1 fan. I will live on with his spirit watching over and guiding me throughout life. I will try to honor him in my daily interactions with others knowing how his kindness won the world over.

From loving son,  
David Arthur Kreps  
5-15-2020



“ So Sorry to hear about Don's passing. He was a kind and funny man. He was very proud to let you know he played for Duke Basketball and He wore his "Blue" proudly. RIP Don.

**Sandy** - May 07, 2020 at 08:40 AM