



## Donald Morris Darnell

March 7, 1940 - December 22, 2019

Donald Morris Darnell, of Turlock, passed away peacefully at his home on Sunday, December 22, 2019 at the age of 79.

Don was born on March 7, 1940 in Vinita, Oklahoma, he was the youngest of four children. Don's two sisters and brother loved reminding everyone that "Donnie was the baby of the family." Don attended schools in his hometown of Gustine, where he excelled in sports, especially football, baseball and basketball.

Don began his working career tending bar in what is now known as Silicon Valley. Taken under the wing of his then brother-in-law, Richard Avila, who was a contractor. Don soon began to master the art of Carpentry, building beautiful custom homes in Monterey and Carmel Valley. His talent landed him construction contracts with PG&E, along with several other endeavors. Don spent the last 24 years in Turlock with his best friend and life companion, Joyce M. Adams.

Don loved three things most of all: fishing, the 49ers and the San Francisco Giants.

He was preceded in death by his father, William Wallace Darnell; his mother, Lois May Daniels; and his son, Darren Wynn Darnell. Don is survived by his eldest son, Brett w. Darnell of Modesto; his middle son, Derek M. Darnell of Pacifica; his youngest son, Brian L. Darnell of Pacifica; brother, Robert Darnell of Atascadero; sister, Ruby Guzman of Riverbank; sister, Dorothy Bizzini of Atwater; 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

There will be a celebration of life on January 18,2020, at 1:00 pm. The location will be The Morning Side Clubhouse, 1512 Claribel Road, Modesto CA. Once you pull in, take the first left and the clubhouse will be on the right. Parking will be at the very end. Thank all of you again for your warm wishes. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Shriner's Hospital for Children at [lovetotherescue.org](http://lovetotherescue.org); St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at [stjude.org](http://stjude.org); or to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation at [tunnel2towers.org](http://tunnel2towers.org).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JAN 18. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

The Morning Side Clubhouse  
1512 Claribel Rd.  
Modesto, CA 95357

# Tribute Wall



“ *Donald Morris Darnell*

January 28, 2023 at 09:01 AM



“ *Don was a like second dad to me. I just remembering his boundless energy and passion for the things he cared about. I remember sitting next to him, talking his ear off as he drove a Winnebago to our softball tournament. He was the boss and the coach. Those were some of the best days of my life with all my brothers. Hatters and Darnells. Don made so much of that possible.*

**Michael Hatter** - December 24, 2019 at 05:07 PM

SH

*Yes don like my 2 dad love him pray for him in better peace with my dad Allen c hatter!!!*

**Samuel hatter** - December 24, 2019 at 05:18 PM

SH

*Love u my brother made me cry*

**Samuel hatter** - December 24, 2019 at 05:21 PM



*You broke me Mike, thank you so much my Brother!!!*

**Derek Darnell** - December 24, 2019 at 05:21 PM

RI

*Derek, I'm sorry for your loss. My prayers are for you and your family. Your Dad was a heck of a guy. Don was always good to me and my family. He will be missed on this side of glory. God bless you my friend and I pray He takes away your pain. Love you.*

**Rich** - December 24, 2019 at 06:53 PM



*Dear Derek, Brian and Brett,*

*I am so, so, sorry for your loss!*

*Derek, words don't do justice to the pain your in, just know he is at peace and in a better place. I loved your Dad, and Pops and I would laugh for hours, when he and Joyce came into town on their many visits. He had such a smile on his face watching his Grandkids , Britt and Little D playing ball and chasing dogs! I picture him now, watching down, smiling .*

*Thanks Pops, you are missed!*

*Love,  
Joe Penko*

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**Joseph Penko** - December 31, 2019 at 05:05 PM

JA

Ccc

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**joyce Adams** - January 09, 2020 at 05:51 PM

JA

*Don going to Memories that we made , an lots of them.. our trips with my sister♥Ruby is forever ,the trips to Oaklahoma an the family back there think seen you the happiest when we were there😊, the trips to Tahoe an Monterey too many an theTIMES we needed strong support from each other are forever in my heart I go there an see you♥We were partners then an forever... you stayed home til Heaven gate opened!!! Now your Three Boy's an grandchildren will carry ON. ...MEMORIES stay in my heart Forever .... 🙏🙏🙏🙏♥♥♥Love you Your Partner for 23 Years 🙏🙏Joyce*

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**joyce Adams** - January 09, 2020 at 06:15 PM