

James "Don" Howard

James "Don" Howard, 78, of Norman, died on Wednesday, March 3, 2010, following an extended illness with Alzheimer's. Don was born on August 8, 1931, in Shamrock, Oklahoma to Carl and Dora Howard. He graduated from Shamrock High School in 1949, and then joined the Air Force. He married the love of his life, JoAnn Endicott, from Shamrock, Oklahoma on June 17, 1951. Don and JoAnn were married for 58 years and during their marriage had three daughters, Karen, Sandy, and Lisa. During his military career of 21 years, he traveled extensively as a flight engineer and had the opportunity to see much of the world. Don loved serving his country and he never tired of flying.

Don attended Oklahoma City University and graduated in Management following his retirement from the Air Force. He obtained employment with the U. S. Department of Labor and retired in 1990 as the Director of Veteran's Employment and Training.

It is hard to express what an extraordinary man he was. We loved him so very much and will never forget the watermark he left on all of our lives. In addition to his wife and three daughters, he is survived by his brother, Tom Howard and wife Norma, son-in laws, Gary Vannoy, Marc Vegh, and John Stuart, grandsons Khale Vegh, Cameron Bentley and wife Tiffany, great grandson Caden Bentley, and granddaughter, Mikhal Vegh.

Our family wishes to express their sincere gratitude to the entire Norman Veteran's Center staff and Dr. Pamela Hiti for the excellent care and compassion given to our father. Funeral Services will be held on Monday, March 8, 2010, at Havenbrook Funeral Home, 3401 Havenbrook Street, Norman, OK, 73072, at 10:00 a.m. Graveside services will be held at Drumright South Cemetery, Drumright, OK at 3:00 p.m. Services are under the direction of Havenbrook Funeral Home of Norman, Oklahoma.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF), 825 N.E. 13th Street, OKC, OK, 73104, (405) 271-7400.

Send condolences online at <http://www.havenbrookfuneralhome.com/Obituaries.htm>