



## Donald Francis Matthews

March 6, 1924 - February 18, 2017

Peacefully, on Saturday, February 18, 2017, Donald Francis Matthews, age 92, of Jefferson Hills, entered into God's eternal kingdom at home surrounded by his loving family. Don was born at home on March 6, 1924 in Fort Hill, PA to the late Thaddeus and Elsie (Liston) Matthews. Don was one of nine children. He married his beloved wife, Mary Turney, on February 24, 1952. Together they had five children. They would have celebrated their 65th anniversary this month. Don was a crane operator and a 66 year member of the I.U.O.E. Local 66. Don is survived by his beloved wife, Mary Matthews; his children, Laura Crain of Delmont, Sally (John) Mattiello of Dormont, Lisa (Wayne) McCloskey of Arizona, Scott (Cindy) Matthews of Venetia, and the late Jenny Matthews, as well as 13 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren; preceded in death by 3 brothers and 5 sisters; also survived by many nieces and nephews. Don was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII. He landed on Utah Beach in Normandy, traveled across France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and all the way to Berlin. After the German surrender, he was a chauffeur for Eisenhower's staff. He was honorably discharged on December 23, 1945 and made it home to Fort Hill for Christmas Eve. Don loved to hunt, enjoyed nature walks, and was an avid collector of antiques. He was a humble and compassionate Christian man with a quick wit and sense of humor until the end. He was loved very much and will be greatly missed by all. Friends received Monday 1-8 pm at the GRIFFITH FUNERAL HOME, INC., 5636 Brownsville Road, (at 6th St.), South Park Twp. (412) 655-4600 where a

service will be held on Tuesday at 1 pm. If desired, the family requests donations in Don's name to American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312 or to Wright's United Methodist Church, 788 Venetia Road, Venetia, PA 15367. Condolences may be offered for the family at [www.GriffithFH.com](http://www.GriffithFH.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **20**. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Griffith Funeral Home, Inc.  
5636 Brownsville Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236  
(412) 655-4600  
<https://www.griffithfh.com>

## Service

FEB **21**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Griffith Funeral Home, Inc.  
5636 Brownsville Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236  
(412) 655-4600  
<https://www.griffithfh.com>

# Tribute Wall

MP

“ *Some people leave such a happy mark on the world; that's how we think of Mr. Matthews. I felt that way the first time I met Don - at my cousin Cindy's wedding, almost 30 yrs ago! We have enjoyed his stories, his sense of humor, and his laughter all these years - it's been an honor and a privilege to have known him, and we are all richer for it. Don will be so missed, but what a joy and a comfort to still hear his laughter in his children and grandchildren's voices; they all have that same twinkle in their eyes! We pray that all of you will find comfort and peace. God's blessings on all of you! Love, Mary and Neil Porter*

Mary Porter - February 23, 2017 at 09:02 AM



*Thanks Mary. What kind words you wrote.  
Lisa~ (Scott's sister)*

Lisa McCloskey - February 23, 2017 at 11:31 AM

LL

“ *I have such wonderful memories of you and your gentle ways Uncle Don and thank you for those. During my last visit with you and Aunt Mary we discussed your service during WWII. You taught me a great deal about that time in history. You are in my prayers.*

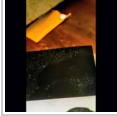
*I am grateful to have had you as an Uncle and to have had your family to share and visit with as a young child. Condolences to all of the Matthew's.*

Linda Lakatosh - February 22, 2017 at 09:40 AM



*Thank you Linda.*

Lisa McCloskey - February 22, 2017 at 07:42 PM



*Miss you uncle Don and family. Peace, Larry Lakatosh.*

LJ How Lakatosh - May 20, 2024 at 03:34 PM



*Love you uncle Don and fam. Larry Lakatosh*

LJ How Lakatosh - May 20, 2024 at 03:41 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Francis Matthews.*



February 21, 2017 at 01:35 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Francis Matthews.*



February 21, 2017 at 12:05 AM

RM

“ To the family-

*My condolences. Mr. Matthews was always a bright spot for me on my Saturday morning runs along Peters Creek. He always went out of his way to shake my hand, and share a quick (usually amusing, sometimes serious) story. He spoke glowingly of his family. Even after his walks slowed up, he'd still pull up alongside in the car to give me a hard time! He will be missed.*

*Rob Mason*

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**rob mason** - February 20, 2017 at 04:47 PM



*My father enjoyed his walks at Peters Creek. Thank you for sharing your story and kind words of sympathy.*

*Lisa~*

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**Lisa McCloskey** - February 22, 2017 at 08:45 PM

JH

“ *My deep sympathy to Mrs. Matthews, Sally and your family. His obituary reflects the dear man he was. I was fortunate to know him. Wishing you all God's grace at this time.*

*Jane H.  
Pittsburgh*

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**jane heatherington** - February 20, 2017 at 12:31 PM



*Thank you Jane.*

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**Lisa McCloskey** - February 22, 2017 at 08:45 PM

AE

“ AP1000 ASME, Pump & Squib Valve Engineering purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of Donald Francis Matthews.



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**AP1000 ASME, Pump & Squib Valve Engineering** - February 20, 2017 at 11:03 AM

BW

“ Aunt Mary, Laura, Sally, Lisa, Scott,

*I am sorry to hear about Uncle Don. I am so glad we had the opportunity to get together this past summer. I have wonderful memories of all of the Turney families meeting over the years. Every visit my family made from Kentucky was filled with love, laughs and a lot of great cooking! The Turneys sure know how to feed their flock!*

*I love all of you.*

*Barbara Tolin Wilson*

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**Barbara Tolin Wilson** - February 20, 2017 at 10:44 AM



*Thank you for the kind words Barbara.  
Lisa~*

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**Lisa McCloskey** - February 22, 2017 at 08:46 PM



“ *Love you uncle Don, aunt Mary and all my first friends and cousins. May you all have Peace. My childhood memories are filled with the love you gave me. Thankyou, Larry J. Lakatosh.*

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**Larry LJ Lakatosh** - February 20, 2017 at 09:35 AM



*Thank you Larry. I have very fond memories of your mom & dad also.  
Love, Lisa~*

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**Lisa McCloskey** - February 22, 2017 at 08:48 PM

MH

“ *A couple of links about Donald and our Greatest Generation in action at Utah Beach.*

*Mike Hankinson*

*[http://www.dday-overlord.com/eng/utah\\_beach.htm](http://www.dday-overlord.com/eng/utah_beach.htm)*

*[https://www.google.com/search?q=utah+beach&biw=1006&bih=622&tbm=isch&imgil=umotbChI1yNpbM%253A%253BK94UZ9iAtXOyM%253Bhttps%25253A%25252F%25252Fen.wikipedia.org%25252Fwiki%25252FUtah\\_Beach&source=iu&pf=m&fir=umotbChI1yNpbM%253A%252CKi94UZ9iAtXOyM%252C\\_&usg=\\_\\_zASctn6gZi86nauq9B3IKcmrA5I%3D&dpr=1.25&ved=0ahUKEwiqyKr\\_9Z7SAhXH7oMKHXkfB68QyjclSQ&ei=CgKrWKqbNsfjwT5vpz4Cg#imgrc=umotbChI1yNpbM:](https://www.google.com/search?q=utah+beach&biw=1006&bih=622&tbm=isch&imgil=umotbChI1yNpbM%253A%253BK94UZ9iAtXOyM%253Bhttps%25253A%25252F%25252Fen.wikipedia.org%25252Fwiki%25252FUtah_Beach&source=iu&pf=m&fir=umotbChI1yNpbM%253A%252CKi94UZ9iAtXOyM%252C_&usg=__zASctn6gZi86nauq9B3IKcmrA5I%3D&dpr=1.25&ved=0ahUKEwiqyKr_9Z7SAhXH7oMKHXkfB68QyjclSQ&ei=CgKrWKqbNsfjwT5vpz4Cg#imgrc=umotbChI1yNpbM:)*

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**Michael Hankinson** - February 20, 2017 at 09:00 AM



*Thank you Michael for the links. Did you know Don?*

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**Lisa McCloskey** - February 25, 2017 at 06:45 AM

JT

“ Will always remember his firm handshake on every meeting, his big smile, and yes his quick wit.. A life that deserves to be celebrated and remembered.. Will Always remember how kind and thoughtful he was to our father, Mr John Turney.. To my Loving Sister Mary may the Grace of our LORD grant you his strength, his love , and enduring peace...Love, your sister Mrs, Julia Thomas and her Family..

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**Julia Thomas** - February 20, 2017 at 08:44 AM



Thank you Aunt Julia.

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**Lisa McCloskey** - February 22, 2017 at 08:49 PM

SH

“ Thinking of you all during this difficult time. Bill and Sara Alcott Hart

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**Sara Hart** - February 20, 2017 at 07:55 AM



Thank you Sara.  
Lisa~

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**Lisa McCloskey** - February 22, 2017 at 08:49 PM

NS

“ So sad to hear of Don's passing. Don and Mary raised such incredible beautiful children who are now raising incredible grandchildren. And remember,. a father may pass on but his thoughts, hopes and dreams live on in us. Many blessings, Nancy Simoncic Skeddle



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**nancy skeddle** - February 19, 2017 at 01:28 PM



*Such kind words. Thank you Nancy.  
Lisa~*

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**Lisa McCloskey** - February 22, 2017 at 08:50 PM

AF

“ *All Our Love David and Marcy Wass & Family  
purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the  
family of Donald Francis Matthews.*



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**All Our Love David and Marcy Wass & Family** - February 19,  
2017 at 12:06 PM