



Donald "Don" W André

July 29, 1953 - July 8, 2023

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Don W. André

Don W. André, age 69, passed away 7/08/23 after fighting cancer for the last two years. Don is survived by his wife of 33 years, Jeannie L. André, brothers Jerry and Larry André, sisters-in-law Dori André and Tricia André, brother-in-law Richard Henrickson, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Before college Don spent a year in Brazil on a medical launch sponsored by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Don then graduated from Walla Walla Collage and received his Masters in Marriage and Family Therapy from Loma Linda University. Shortly after, he co-founded Chino Valley Psychological Center, and in addition to his private practice, also spent many years running in-patient psychiatric groups in hospital settings.

After returning to Newport in 1991, Don entered private practice out of Twylah Olson's Holistic Counseling office. He also worked at Angell Job Corps in Yachats for 18 years. He and Twylah Olson served as the Center's Mental Health & Wellness Professionals which encompassed not only the student body but the Staff as well. Don's purview was crises management, whole health integration, solution-focused, cognitive behavioral and experiential trauma therapies. He enjoyed private practice until illness forced retirement. Don especially loved working with couples.

Don grew up in Agate Beach where the old growth forest stood. The forest was cleared while he was in college, and this greatly influenced his life, especially his music. Don wrote the white paper on the creation of the Oregon Coast Community Forest Association, and with the help of a group of co-enthusiasts led by Vicki Freedom, a 501(c)3 was achieved in 2013. Forest Hill, obtained by OCCFA is a small forest that represents how land can be encouraged toward old-growth-like conditions. Bringing awareness that healthy forests improve the well being of both the local community and the natural world was Don's major passion, as well as music.

Don was a musician (guitars and keyboard), composer, singer and collaborated with his wife, Jeannie, on the GreenFire, At the Brink, CD. In subsequent years they continued to play music together, most recently with bass musician, Jan Kaplan. Don and Jeannie were having the time of their lives musically, even up to his passing.

Celebration of Life to be announced.

Memorial donations: OCCFA, P. O. Box 149, Newport, OR 97365