



## Donald M Howard

May 3, 1953 - September 10, 2020

Donald Michael Howard (05/03/1953 - 09/10/2020)

Donald was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, uncle, and brother-in-law. He was born in Shelton, WA where he was raised by his adopted parents. Don's Native American heritage with the Skokomish Tribe in WA was something he held on to throughout his life. In recent years he reconnected with his sister and their family within the tribe. He moved to Oregon shortly after high school where in 1974 he had his first son, Jeremie Howard. Don attended college at Southern Oregon University in Ashland, OR. This is where he earned his first degree and met the love of his life, Deborah Jensen. They later had two children of their own, Michael and Alexandria Howard.

Don loved helping people in need and spending quality time with family. He loved spending time outdoors; hunting, fishing, boating, camping, gardening, and hiking. But what he enjoyed most in life was spending time with his grandchildren every chance he got.

Don's career revolved around helping those in need. He worked at the Chemewa Indian School, Fairview Training Center, and for bulk years as a

developmental disability case manager for Linn County, OR.

During his free time he loved volunteering and overseeing the Linn County Special Olympics and supported the fundraising needs of all athletes.

Donald is survived by his wife Deborah, children Michael and Alexandria, and many grandchildren whom all love and miss him dearly.

A Celebration of Life is being planned for spring of 2021 as long as COVID-19 allows.

The family has requested that any donations be made in Don's honor at <https://www.heifer.org> as he has always enjoyed giving to those in need.

# Tribute Wall



“ 5 files added to the album Julianna Foubert



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**Bateman Newport LLC** - June 29, 2023 at 12:18 PM



“ *I met Don over Thirty years ago working together at Linn County Developmental Disabilities. Don was one of the most generous and warm people I have ever known. He had a wonderful sense of humor, and strong conviction. I will miss Don. Sincere sympathy to Debbie, Michael, and Alexandria.*

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**Tina Henderson** - November 26, 2020 at 12:00 AM



“ *Donald M Howard*

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October 27, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ I met Don 30 years ago when he was assigned to Lemuel residents as a Linn County Case Manager. I found him to be a great advocate for individuals he served. He went out of his way to organize fishing trips, vacations, attend our annual BBQ's and even volunteered to cook. You could tell he genuinely cared. Don had a great sense of humor and he was easy to be around. He would tell you exactly what was on his mind (good or bad) and I always appreciated his honesty. If you had a problem Don would come up with a solution. You could always count on his support. Don was instrumental in getting Special Olympics back in Linn County in 2008. As the Local Program Coordinator, he devoted a lot of his time to make sure that all of the athletes had what they needed to compete. Somehow, he managed to make volunteering fun for everyone, even though it was a lot of hard work. I considered Don a good friend. He mentored me in many ways and he encouraged me to take on positions that I would not have been able to do without his support. I will be forever grateful for his kindness. He will be missed!!!!!!

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**Julianna Foubert** - October 27, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ I am honored to have known Don his king heart his passion to help those with disabilities and all those in need. The world will miss such a wonderful person our hearts go out to all who loved Don. RIP Don until we meet again.

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**Tracy Flores Rosas** - October 24, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ Don was such a special person in my world and I know he changed the lives of many. In work, he was my mentor. He passed on to me his passion for enriching the lives of those who experience I/DD. I remember that he tasked me with making Cinnabon Cinnamon rolls for his retirement. They were a disaster but he didn't care rather we had a laugh at my mess and he taught me yet another lesson about effort. What a kind man who will be forever missed.

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**Kerith Williams** - October 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM