



Donald Keith Cook

June 15, 2025

Donald (“Don”) Keith Cook , age 88 of Bradenton, formerly of Holmdel, NJ died on June 15th,, 2025 after a short illness. Don was an officer in the United States Air Force where he served as a T-37 flight instructor. After his military career, he was a commercial airline pilot for Trans World Airlines for 28 years. A lover of football, he was a high school football referee in Monmouth County NJ for over 10 years. He was also an avid boater and was an active member of the Raritan Bay Power Squadron (United States Power Squadrons) where he served as Chairman and Commander. After moving to Bradenton in 2006, he became a member of the Manatee Sail and Power Squadron, also serving as Commander and Chair of the Education Committee. Later in life Don learned to play the organ and enjoyed many activities and concerts with the Fletcher musical group.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Donald James and Evelyn Cook of Newark, New York, and his wife Paula of 50 years. He is survived by his children, Suzanne Paldino (Anthony) and Sandra Griscom (Dan), six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be Thursday, June 26th from 10:00 to 11:00 am with service to follow at Toale Brothers Funeral Home 912 53rd Ave West, Bradenton. A military burial will be held at Sarasota Memorial Cemetery, 9810 State Road 72, Sarasota.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the St Vincent De Paul Society, Bradenton. <https://ssvpusa.org>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - Bradenton Chapel
912 53rd Ave W
Bradenton, FL 34207
(941) 746-6191
info@toalebrothers.com
<https://www.toalebrothers.com/>

Funeral Service

JUN **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - Bradenton Chapel
912 53rd Ave W
Bradenton, FL 34207
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Tribute Wall

HW

“ My sincere condolences to Don's family. I was "Cookie's" classmate at Pal-Mac. He was a super person. He was quiet and very intelligent. He was the first baseman on our varsity baseball team. I played shortstop and when I threw to him, I imagined him to be "Babe Ruth". "Babe" was a bit large at the waist and had thin legs and so did "Cookie". I last saw Don at our 50th class reunion some 21 years ago. May he rest in peace.

Harold J Wallace - July 06, 2025 at 09:56 AM

AS

“ With our birthdays being a day apart, Don and I shared many special birthday celebrations! I always loved his smile and infectious laugh. Such a kind and generous man, he will be greatly missed.

Amy Southall - June 26, 2025 at 08:20 AM

RL

“ Don was a special person and second cousin. He as always a joy to be around and enjoyed life. Don set a wonderful example for us all on so many levels. We loved him and will miss him dearly. I know he is in God's presence and love.

Rob Lewis - June 21, 2025 at 05:45 PM