



## Donald Arthur Seidenspinner

April 1, 1938 - November 19, 2024

Donald Arthur Seidenspinner (also known as Pete), age 86, passed away peacefully on Tuesday November 19, 2024 at Sunset Lake Health and Rehabilitation Center in Venice Florida. He was born on April 1st, 1938 in Washington, D.C. to Alfrida Anna and Donald Joseph Seidenspinner.

He was a proud resident of Calvert County Md. and wintered in Venice, Florida. He was a 1956 graduate of Northwestern High School in Hyattsville, MD. He married Erma Kay Townsend on September 21st, 1957 in Avondale, Md. He worked in procurement for the U.S. Government Dept. of Interior, and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center until he retired at the age of 55.

Spending time with family and friends and working on projects of all kinds were his two favorite past times.

He always had a smile and a good story to tell.

He is preceded in death by his parents and sister Patricia A. Roberts.

Survived by his loving wife Kay of 67 years. Sister Christine (Glenn) Harris. Children Donna Kay (Robert Bo) Preston, Julie Ann (Michael) Zarudzki, and Ruth Anne Seidenspinner (John Pisanic). Grandchildren Christopher (Allison), Mark (Logan), and Valerie Preston. Jessica, Jennifer and Johanna Zarudzki.

Natalie Rabner, Cassandra Seidenspinner. Great grandson Jack Preston.  
Nephews Thomas (Beth) Roberts, Drew (Deborah, Cameron) and Russell  
Harris.

A celebration of life will be held in April 2025 in Maryland and his memory will  
be cherished by family and friends forever.

In lieu of flowers, please remember Donald with memorial contributions to the  
Chesapeake Bay Foundation, 6 Herndon Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403 or at  
[www.cbf.org/memorial](http://www.cbf.org/memorial)

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your dear sweet dad. My deepest sympathies to you and your family. I feel so honored to have know your family most of my life. Please give your mom a big hug.

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**Julia Bass** - December 05, 2024 at 06:12 AM

DP

“ If you didn't, I wish you could've known my Dad. He'd tell you he'd done everything he wanted to do, and that'd be true. The old kidsongs video "cars, boats, trains and planes" comes to mind. There wasn't a toy or a project of any kind that he didn't like. He built houses, boats, cars, RC model planes, a log cabin. He could fix ANYthing and would tell you in exquisite detail how some mechanical thing worked. A good story and a joke were always in store. Tons of tools and gadgets. We weren't wealthy by any means, but if there was a will, he'd usually find a way. He wasn't always right, but he could put up a fight or holler if it was needed, and he cared deeply for the people he knew and loved. His parents raised him with close-knit family, and friends who were like family, and he instilled those and so many other important values in his own children. I am one of the lucky ones; I know. Blessed, and Thankful. And in a fog and brokenhearted, along with all the people who knew and loved him. In the end, he wasn't the talkative man we once knew, but he still had his faculties, the twinkle in his eye, and a smile. A chuckle or a few words for a nurse, and a kiss for his lady of nearly 70 years. As a nurse, I've seen a lot, and Dad was pure quiet dignity and grace before he passed in Florida. He still worked as hard as he could every day in rehab. We couldn't be more proud. The doctors thought we had more time, but God had a different plan. And we can celebrate, because we know he's reuniting now with all the loved ones he'd lost. When the old shell wore out, just like all the other things Dad made "go", the soul returned to the maker to be repaired and renewed. Godspeed, Dad. You'll be in our hearts. With us always. We will all forever be so very very grateful for you. And THANK YOU!

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Donna Kay Seidenspinner Preston - December 05, 2024 at 01:43 AM

JB

*I am so sorry to hear about your father. I have a lot of wonderful memories of your family. My very deepest sympathy to all of you. Rest in Peace Mr. Seidenspinner.*

**Jennifer Alder Burgess** - December 06, 2024 at 07:59 AM

FL

“*Dear Siddenspinner Family, We are sorry for your loss. Although we haven't seen Don in many years, his warmth and kindness still lives through his children and grandchildren*

**Fred and Mandy Lantz** - December 03, 2024 at 11:31 PM



“*Always loved hearing my grandfather's stories of life and getting advice on vehicles. I learned so much from him. Some of my favorite memories though are of us grandkids meeting up in Bluemont at the cabin and house they had and being pulled around in Pappy Pete's (that's what we called our grandpa) home built wagon with his mower. He was quite the builder and handyman. I also believe he is who I got my love of farming, horses and other animals from. See photo below of young Pete and his pony. The last photo I took with him, we both laughed so hard as he kept saying, "I know how to take a selfie". He will be missed but the memories will last forever.*



**Jessie Zarudzki** - December 03, 2024 at 06:00 PM

BA

“ *I am so sorry to hear of this loss. What a wonderful man. I loved spending time with the family while Ruth and I were growing up. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of you.*

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**Barbara** - December 03, 2024 at 04:07 PM

RS

“ My Dad was, without a doubt, one of the most unique people I've ever known and loved. He could design, build, disassemble, rebuild, redesign and repair everything from toys to tractors, grandfather clocks to cars, model airplanes, engines, houses, boats & even a historic log cabin... without ever having had any training or professional experience in doing it before... and without the benefit of YouTube to explain how.

When he set his mind on something, he had a level of determination that was quite literally unbelievable and unstoppable. His passion for projects and people close to his heart was superhuman. In his final weeks, when he could no longer walk or speak, Mom and I watched him jump up and march himself all the way out of the house and across the farmyard passionately and very fluently expressing his strong feelings about a certain project the family had undertaken! 😊

His deep concern for the safety of those he loved was often expressed in his frequent reminders to be careful so we wouldn't get hurt while climbing the stairs, lifting pots & pans, driving to the store, walking on the sidewalk near the street, riding bikes, hiking in the woods, and all the other common life activities that we participated in.

In the meantime, Dad and Mom -- his inseparable & equally unstoppable "partner in time" of 67 years! -- were lifting car & boat motors, herding pet cows, climbing up onto roofs, driving industrial backhoes, carrying 50-lb sacks of shingles up ladders, mixing & screeding concrete slab foundations, and raising themselves up 2 stories in the bucket of Dad's excavator to paint the fascia or install sliding doors! All of this continuing WELL into their senior years. You might think that someone this strong, brave and determined would also be a bit hardened on the inside, but you'd be dead wrong. Dad's smile and laugh came from deep inside and lit up the room and I've seen him break down in tears just telling stories about good friends and family members who had passed many years ago. And oh, the stories Dad could tell! I sometimes thought they'd never

*end, but now there's nothing more I'd love than to sit with him and listen again.*

*Dad's life story was a long, detailed, unique and happy one full of love and crazy adventures.*

*Mom, Donna, Julie and I are all so glad that you all could be a part of it, too!*

*XOXO*

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**Ruth Seidenspinner** - December 03, 2024 at 09:53 AM

KD

*What a beautiful obituary and your words are so heartfelt and inspiring about your Dad. I was very lucky to meet him. My love and deepest condolences to you and everyone in your family.*

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**Katherine Doyle** - December 03, 2024 at 12:10 PM

GB

*Pete really liked the small portable steps I used when driving around the big white van we rented up in PA touring cemeteries of the ancestors. That was part of his admiration of having a Safety Culture. He also loved the little hand broom I had brought along to sweep off the headstones out of respect and to read them better. I sure will miss Pete and I already do. --Gary S. Bartley.*

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**Gary S. Bartley** - December 03, 2024 at 08:16 PM

AG

*Ruth what a lovely tribute to your father. As former neighbors since 1972 and friends of 50 years we can witness to your words. I keep a magnet of your Father and Mother's wedding picture on my little bulletin board in my kitchen so I can look at it frequently. I have great admiration for both of your parents. God bless Donnie.—Alice Gray*

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**Alice Gray** - December 06, 2024 at 02:33 PM