



## Don Allen Henry

September 16, 1941 - August 25, 2025

Don Allen Henry

Don Allen Henry, 83, passed away peacefully on August 25, 2025, in Manassas, Virginia. He was born on September 16, 1941, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to the late Granville B. Henry and Ann Pollander Henry. A devoted educator, craftsman, and mentor, Don dedicated his life to service.

Don is survived by his beloved wife of 59 years, Nancy; two sons, Peter and Michael Henry (Stephanie); his brothers James and Lawrence, and sister JoAnn; grandchildren Morgan Somuano (Carlos), Sophie, Audrey, and Elisha Henry; and great-grandchildren Charles, Daniel, and Indigo Somuano.

Upon graduation from Conestoga High School in 1959, Don joined the U.S. Navy. He began active duty serving aboard the USS Little Rock, taking part in cruises across the Mediterranean and Caribbean Seas. After completing his military service, Don returned to Malvern to pursue higher education at West Chester State College, where he earned a Bachelor's degree. While at West Chester, he met and married his wife, Nancy. In 1973, he continued his academic journey by earning a Master of Education from George Mason University.

A deep commitment to teaching defined Don's professional life. For thirty

years, he taught German and Russian in Fairfax County Public Schools. Though he briefly served as Assistant Principal for Discipline, it was the classroom that truly captured his heart. His passion for language education left an indelible mark on generations of students.

Don was a lifelong Boy Scout leader—a role he held beginning in high school. His dedication to mentoring young people extended far beyond academics; he sought to instill values of integrity, perseverance, and curiosity through every interaction.

Don's love of woodworking began early when a custodian at his elementary school introduced him to the wood shop. That first treasure box sparked a lifelong passion that would lead him to create pieces such as a grandfather clock, a captain's bed, a wooden canoe, and even the family home itself. Each project reflected not only skill but also love and intention.

In retirement, Don remained active both physically and socially.

With a lifelong interest in antique clocks, Don collected and repaired clocks for many years. Once he retired, he joined the Fairfax Senior Center clock repair class and the Horological Association of Virginia, which led to many clock treasure hunts.

He played and coached Senior Softball twice weekly during the season and helped organize a winter physical fitness program for players living in the western suburbs.

Throughout his life, Don exemplified dedication and quiet strength. His legacy lives on through those he taught, mentored, loved, and through the home he built. May his memory bring comfort to those who knew him.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on September 12, 2025, from 01:00 PM to 02:00 PM at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center Street, Manassas, Virginia

20110.

in lieu of flowers the family suggest memorial donations be made in his memory to Habitat for Humanity.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

SEP **12.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home  
9609 Center St.  
Manassas, VA 20110  
(703) 257-6028  
pfh@piercefh.com  
<https://www.piercefh.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Don Allen Henry.*



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September 10, 2025 at 08:55 AM



“ *My grandfather was always a champion of mine. He would attend my soccer games, gymnastic meets, girl scout and field trips, plays and dance recitals. My grandparents would take me to every weekend and summer trip they could. The memories I hold with him are deeply cherished. I will miss listening to Prarie Home Companions in the evening and Car Talk in the morning. I will miss his smile as he would light heartedly bellow over my movie selection of Mary Poppins for the billionth time. I will miss his face as we battled it out over board games. I can only hope that I can provide a similar experience of life and humanity to my own children. Knowing he will always live in my heart.*

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**Morgan Somuano** - September 08, 2025 at 09:31 PM



“ *JoAnn Clark, Sister lit a candle in memory of Don Allen Henry*



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**JoAnn Clark, Sister** - September 04, 2025 at 10:13 PM

JS

“ *Almost twins...sharing the same birth month one year apart. (That will be so missed.)*

*Gave Don his first tattoo at his age of 6 years with the end of a pencil(stabbing) as he always reminded me.*

*Remember his holding my hand crossing the highway going to first day of Kindergarten/First Grade. For one year we shared the same elementary school room (4th and 5th) double grade classroom.*

*Remembered when Don went out west to the desert to earned Eagle Scout, came home telling us how he ate rattle snake.*

*Many beautiful family memories.*

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**JoAnn Clark, Sister** - September 04, 2025 at 10:09 PM

SI

“ *SIS purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Don Allen Henry.*



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**SIS** - September 04, 2025 at 09:36 PM