



Donald F. Gipple, 60, of Windsor, CO, died Thursday, May 24, 2007, at Medical Center of the Rockies in Loveland. At the time of his death, Don's vital organs were donated to help so others could live.

Don Gipple was born on May 2, 1947, to Max and Lucille (Jones) Gipple in Muscatine, Iowa. He graduated in 1965 from Winfield-Mount Union High School in Winfield, Iowa.

During his college years, he attended Muscatine Community College and participated and lettered in track and wrestling. He was a recipient of Mellinger Foundation Scholarship and held office as the EUB Spring Run Sunday School Teenage Class President.

Don was honored in the Who's Who of American Junior College students. He then attended Wartburg College and received a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry. He earned his Master's Degree in chemistry at Central Michigan University.

Don served his country for four years in the U.S. Army. During that time, he spent 18 months in Vietnam and received a Bronze Star Commendation for his service.

Don began his career with the Environmental Protection Agency, and spent 30 years as an entrepreneur. He owned Gulf Coast Laboratories and worked for Weston Laboratories, both in Illinois. He owned Paragon Laboratory in Colorado. Don was an inventor of the world famous "Hit-n-Stik." He owned, manufactured and distributed the "Hit-n-Stik" under the company Donik Sports in Illinois and Colorado.

Don was a beloved softball coach in his younger days. His happiest times lately have been dancing, woodworking, watching Disney movies and eating cherry pie.

Don is survived by his wife, Barbara Gipple, of Windsor; three daughters, Andrea Gipple of Greeley, Sarah Gipple of Windsor, and Emily Gipple of Denver; one son, Tom Gipple of Loveland; three stepchildren, Linda Holcomb of Loveland, Sarah Evans of Windsor, and PFC Shawn Evans, currently stationed in Kansas; his parents, Max and Lucille Gipple of Columbus Junction, Iowa; two younger sisters, Elaine Gipple of Murfreesboro, TN, Patricia Peay of Readyville, TN; two nieces, Rachel and Katie of Tennessee; two cats, Happy and Smoky Moe. Don was also loved by Ellen Gipple; numerous relatives; and lots of friends all over the world.

A memorial service was held at Timerline Church, 2908 S. Timberline Road, Fort Collins.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that any donations be made to the Donald Gipple Memorial Fund in care of Goes Funeral Care, 3665 Canal Drive, Suite E, Fort Collins.