



# **CMSgt. Don K. Holderness, USAF Ret.**

AUG 23, 1946 - APR 9, 2016



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## **CMSgt. Don K. Holderness, USAF Ret.**

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**H**olderness, Don K., CMSgt USAF Ret. The Chief made his final HALO jump into eternity on 9 Apr 2016. Don was born on 23 August 1946 in Maysville, Kentucky. He graduated from high school in Norwood Ohio in June 1964. On 10 September 1964 he entered the Air Force where he remained on active duty until 1 Oct 1990. His stateside assignments included Osceola AFS Wisconsin, Lockbourne AFB Ohio, Billy Mitchell Field (Milwaukee) Wisconsin, Glenn L. Martin State Airport (Baltimore) Maryland, and Mac Dill AFB Florida. His overseas postings included Cam Ranh AB, Phan Rang AB, and Quang Tri Vietnam; Rhein Main AB and Wasserkuppe AS Germany, RAF Lakenheath England, Naples Italy, and Brussels Belgium. He was decorated five times for valor, seven times for meritorious service, earned ten battle stars, and was awarded numerous other medals and ribbons. He was a Master Parachutist. After retiring from the Air Force he worked for several defense contractors, finally retiring in July 2007. He spent his retirement years residing in Valrico Florida. During his retirement he enjoyed annual cruises and trips to Europe. He was a member of AMVETS Post 44, AMVETS Post 26, Moose Lodge 1880, and Eagles Lodge 3566. He is survived by his Fiancé Tina Zitnyar, Son Thomas Holderness (Nicole Dunbar), Son David Holderness, Sister Lois Canterbury (Roger) and grandchildren Elexys and Ethan Holderness. A Celebration of Life will be held at AMVETS Post 44 on Wednesday, 13 April 2016, from 4pm till 7pm. Internment with Military Honors will take place at Florida National Cemetery.




## Events

**CMSgt. Don K. Holderness, USAF Ret.**

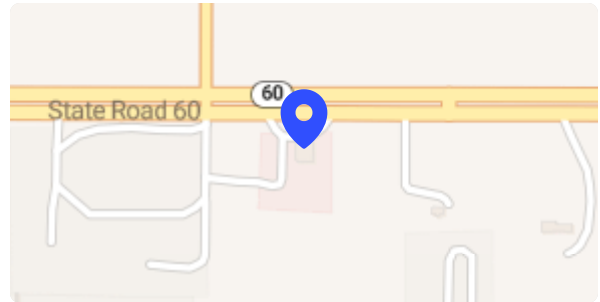
AUG 23, 1946 - APR 9, 2016

### Celebration of Life


 **Wednesday**, April 13, 2016

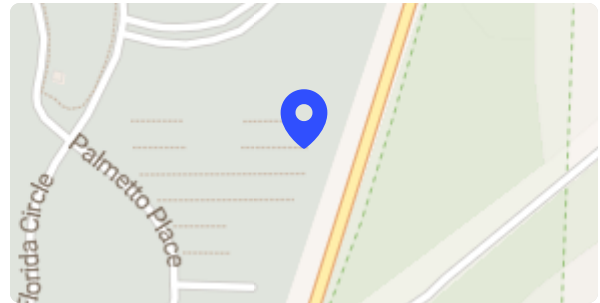
 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

 **AMVETS Post #44**  
5521 SR 60 E., Plant City FL 33567



### Cemetery Details

 **Florida National Cemetery**  
6502 SW 102nd Avenue, Bushnell FL 33513





# Tribute Wall

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**Rd Bull** posted:

I was stationed with Don at the 440th Reserve Airlift Wing in Milwaukee, Wi.He had just come back from Germany, and hated the car he had bought.He loved his Volvo's. He bought a green 142. Because of him, I bought onejust before I was shipped overseas again, but this time to Italy. He was a goodman, I served with him & have no complaintsSSgt Robert D Bulle

May 27 at 6:15 PM



**Jim Linesberry** posted:

Don and I were on active duty together, he was Air Force and I was Army. We met at US Special Operations Command. I was J3 and he was J6. We both retired about the same time, Oct 1990. We both ended up working for the same Defense Contractor, Booz-Allen & Hamilton, although at different times. We reconnected several months ago on Facebook. I saw that he recently got engaged to his best friend Tina and they went to Ireland together for St Paddy's Day. I was really shocked when I got a text message last Sat announcing his death. Rest in Honored Glory my friend. I'm headed over to AMVETS Post 44 as soon as this is typed to hoist a few in your memory my friend. Until we meet again. Wherever that may be.

April 13 at 11:47 AM



**John Brier** posted:

enjoyed many good chats with Don, last seeing him about a year ago. Knowing his achievements in the military, I held Don in great respect. My being in Naval Aviation and Don's great career in the Air Force made for some good chats. He was always a pleasure to see.John J. BrierLieutenant, USN

April 13 at 3:15 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Holderness family.



April 12 at 2:25 PM



**135Th Comm Flt, Mdang** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Holderness family.



April 12 at 1:55 PM



## Tribute Wall

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AS

**Al Severn** posted:

Don was one of those full of life you never will forget kind of guys. He always had a smile on his face, a story to tell and was constantly in motion like the energizer bunny. Many fine memories and stories to tell of our time together.

April 12 at 12:38 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Holderness family.



April 12 at 12:34 PM

LC

**Lois Canterbury** posted:

Don was my big brother who protected me, tormented me when we were young, argued with me and loved me. I will miss seeing "Don-Home" on my caller ID once a week except when he was on one of his vacations. Don lived a full life even though it was a short one. He lived his life like one of his favorite song "I DID IT MY WAY." Until we are together again, I love and miss you Bro. Little Sis (Lois).

April 12 at 10:57 AM

JW

**Jim Williams** posted:

Remembering good times with Don at the 135th comm flight, Amsterdam, Brussels and Liege. RIP brother!

April 12 at 10:25 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Don by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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