



## Donald L. Thompson

August 22, 1939 - February 1, 2026

Donald L. Thompson, age 86, of Schaller, Iowa died February 1, 2026 at Wel-Life in Alta, Iowa.

Funeral service will take place Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Schaller, Iowa. Burial will be in the Schaller Cemetery. Visitation will be held Wednesday, February 4, 2026 from 5-7:00 p.m. at Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in SCHALLER. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Schaller is in charge of the arrangements.

Donald L. Thompson was born August 22, 1939 in Des Moines, Iowa the son of Gilbert and Ordella (Fossil) Thompson.

In 1942, the family moved to Schaller, Iowa, where Don attended school and built lifelong roots. He had a deep love for baseball and football, lettering four years in baseball and three years in football during high school.

Don proudly enlisted in the United States Navy Sea Bees, serving his country while stationed in Okinawa until receiving an honorable discharge.

After returning home, Don co-founded Don & Don Trucking with his friend Don Pyle. He owned and operated the business for many years before selling his share, after which it became the original Pyle Trucking.

On July 22, 1972, Don married Deb Quirk. Together, they were blessed with two children, Kevin and Catherine.

In 1978, Don purchased his father's interest in Thompson Hardware in Schaller and owned and operated the store for decades. His dedication to the hardware store and its customers was unmatched. Even after moving to Holstein Senior Living, Don continued working at the store, often having friends pick him up so he could help customers. His

strong work ethic sometimes even led to missed Christmas gatherings, as he always made sure the job was done. He remained devoted to the business until his children finally insisted it was time for him to slow down.

After moving to Holstein, Don could often be found cheering on the Iowa Hawkeyes, listening to country and gospel music, and fixing odds and ends for fellow residents. He loved fishing and camping with his grandson, Colton.

Don and his wife, Deb, served as LYC counselors for ten years. He was deeply involved in the Schaller community, serving as a member and former President of the Chamber of Commerce. Don was also a dedicated member of the Schaller Fire Department for nearly 50 years, including 15 years as Chief. In addition, he coached little league baseball and proudly led his team to win the 4th-grade tournament—an accomplishment he never forgot.

Family meant everything to Don. The bond he shared with his grandson, Colton, was truly special and beyond words. When Colton went to college, Don made weekly trips to Sioux City to take him out to eat, cherishing every moment together.

Don will be deeply missed by all who knew him and loved him.

Those left to cherish his memory include his children: Kevin (Tanya) Thompson of Galva, Iowa; grandson, Colton Thompson of Schaller, Iowa; sister, Norma Jean (David) Thompson of Naperville, Illinois; sisters-in-law, Pam Jensen of Battle Creek, Iowa; Nancy Kasuboski of Spencer, Iowa; cousins; nieces; nephews; extended family and friends.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Gilbert and Ordella Thompson; wife, Deb Thompson; daughter, Catherine Thompson; granddaughter, Hannah Thompson; brother, Chuck Thompson; sister-in-law, Leona Thompson; brother-in-law, Dallas Jensen; and his parents-in-law, Edgar and Marjorie Quirk.

# Cemetery Details

## Schaller Cemetery

1382 County Rd D15  
Schaller, IA 51053

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**FEB 4.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - Schaller  
306 S Main St  
Schaller, IA 51053  
(712) 275-4205  
jensenfuneralhomes@gmail.com  
<https://www.fratzkejensen.com>

## Funeral Service

**FEB 5.** 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Paul Lutheran Church -- Schaller  
402 E Third  
Schaller, IA 51053

## Burial

**FEB 5** (CT)

Schaller Cemetery  
1382 County Rd D15  
Schaller, IA 51053

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald L. Thompson*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 04 at 11:39 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Service Recording*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 05 at 06:31 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Donald L. Thompson.*



February 04 at 11:55 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - February 04 at 11:34 AM

JR

“ Joyce Roling lit a candle in memory of Donald Thompson



Joyce Roling - February 03 at 06:23 PM

TF

“ Donnie was the kindest, religious and loving man.i have lots of memories good and bad. I will miss he grandfather effect on Taya. He loved Colton so much I will cherish all my memories. Good bye my friend, neighbor, and most of all loving, caring man

Tina Frank - February 02 at 10:10 PM

JW

“ Im so sorry don was one in a million guy take care Kevin and toyna jeff Watson

Jeff J Watson - February 02 at 08:32 PM

RS

“ You were a good friend and you'll be missed. Ron and Pat Sandhoff



Ronald Sandhoff - February 02 at 06:24 PM

KH

I'm so glad I got to meet Donnie,he was a very caring and would help anybody out with anything

Kathy Hinojosa - February 03 at 10:10 AM