



Donna Lee Swanhart

JUN 3, 1950 - JUL 20, 2025



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Donna Lee Swanhart, 75, of St Petersburg, Florida, passed away peacefully at her home July 20, 2025.

Born June 3, 1950 in St. Petersburg to parents Mark Francis Swanhart (deceased) and Jacqueline Claire Moran (deceased), she was a graduate of Northeast High School where she played softball, tennis as well as flute in the marching band. She retired in 2008 after over 25 years in the production maintenance department for the St. Petersburg Times where she earned the Silver Key in 2006.

Donna had a love for animals, leading her to run a pet-sitting business, where her two and four legged clients became friends. She would spend countless hours at the barn with her horse Joey and always packed treats for the other horses. An avid bird watcher, she enjoyed documenting in her life-list bird book dates and locations she spotted new birds. Donna was passionate about baseball, watching games most nights at home while keeping up with her favorite team. Her love for music, especially blues, country and singer/songwriters were evident in her vinyl collection, which she would listen to in the evenings on her porch. Donna also loved to travel, visiting over 24 states from coast to coast. She particularly loved being in the mountains, noting Montana was the most beautiful state she had ever seen. She had a deep love for her family and took great joy in being Nana to her grandkids. She often took on a role of caretaker, always putting the needs of others in front of her own. To have known her was to have loved her, she had a gift of always making people feel special. Donna also maintained a strong faith in the lord, which guided her throughout her life, often sharing scripture with friends and family.

Donna is survived by her daughter, Shelley Swanhart, son Joe Swanhart (Heather), Grandsons Chirs and Caleb Swanhart, Granddaughter Hadley Swanhart. She also leaves behind brothers Gary Swanhart (Diane), Keith Glasgow (Mary Anne), Tommy Edwards (Lisa), and sisters Susan Billera (Steve deceased) and Ann Emmons (Eddie), several nieces and nephews, as well as great-nieces and great-nephews, countless dear friends and colleagues.



Obituary

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A Celebration of Life is being planned for November 8th, 2025 at VFW, 4145 34th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33714 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to [Fluff Animal Rescue, Inc](#)- an organization that Donna fully supported.



Events

Donna Lee Swanhart

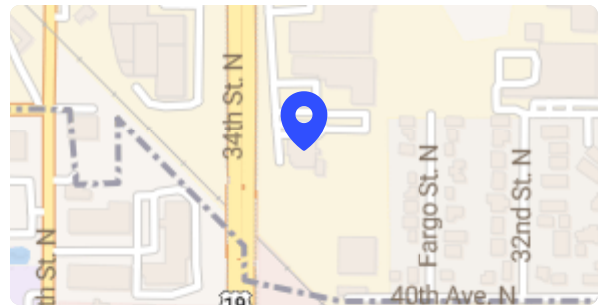
JUN 3, 1950 - JUL 20, 2025

Celebration of Life

 **Saturday**, November 8, 2025

 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM ET

 **Veterans of Foreign Wars**
4145 34th St N, St., Petersburg fl 33714





Tribute Wall

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The Imhof Family (Mom, Dad, And Us Kids) planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Donna.



November 7 at 7:36 PM



Anonymous sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Swanhart family.



November 7 at 7:36 PM



Memorial Park Funeral Home shared an album called **Memories Album.**



November 7 at 1:31 PM



Insa Stabenow posted:

Fly Free, My Friend! When I first received the news, I was at a loss for words. It took me some time to gather my thoughts and to find even a fraction of what I wanted to say. Words feel so small when the heart feels this heavy. You were one of the rarest souls I've ever known – someone who gave unconditional love so freely to family, friends, and anyone lucky enough to be close to you. You never stopped showing up for others. I'll never forget how you helped us – with our child, our move, work, and the chaos of everyday life. You never asked for anything. You just gave. And when I tried to thank you, you smiled and said, "There are givers and takers – just take it." You were more than a friend. You were a rock. A safe place. A bonus grandma for our son. You gave us your time, your wisdom, and your heart. You loved animals, and they loved you back just as fiercely. Birds, butterflies – your home was full of life and light. Now you have wings too. The sky gained an angel. Down here, we lost a piece of our world. Thank you for everything. Dear Donna Swanhart I miss you deeply, and I always will. You'll never be forgotten. Until we meet again...Fly free, my friend.

August 24 at 3:33 PM



Yesnie Carrington posted:

This is Donna on one of her last, sob, kitty visits. I was trying to get my kitty in her lap. Operative word...trying! Can't get this pic to upload. YC

August 4 at 11:19 AM



Tribute Wall

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Yesnie Carrington posted:

The "KA" memory is from YC. Durn these small keys. I miss you Donna. There's more memories on Facebook under chats and her name to who ever is managing the Orbit. She never used the Facebook platform for herself only "her causes" like the gingersnap horse group, food pantries, and yes the constitution, our country 🍷👍UM

August 2 at 10:39 AM



Anonymous posted:

Donna and I met through my kitties as a referral from a Veterinarian Hospital. The kiddies and I became friends and looked forward to her visits. I miss her weekly touch-ins via phone. Mama Swan is a great name. When we went out for lunch, her caregiving skills were automatic and loving. She filled a void I needed. You will always be in my heart. 😊👉🌍🌟🌟🌟🌍

July 31 at 1:44 PM



Buddy Bates posted:

I got to know Donna in the early 90s in St. Petersburg. Her son Joe would come over to Busch Complex near Tyrone Mall and hang around there in the area where we were working. I eventually let him give us a hand around the locker room. I really began to get attached to Joe. I also became acquainted with his Grandma and his Mom, Donna. We got to be friends. We even started calling her "Mama Swan". What a beautiful lady. She even had my staff and I over for dinner. She was a joy to be around and just so kind. I consider myself lucky to have known her. God bless you "Mama Swan" . Rest in peace.....your friend, Buddy Bates, St. Louis Cardinals ret.

July 26 at 6:26 AM



Media

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Memorial Park Funeral Home shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

November 7 at 1:31 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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