



Donald L. "Donny" Thornton

APR 7, 1953 - NOV 30, 2022



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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Donald L. "Donny" Thornton

APR 7, 1953 - NOV 30, 2022

Decatur – Donald L. “Donny” Thornton, 69, of Decatur, passed away Wednesday, November 30, 2022, at Decatur Memorial Hospital, Decatur, IL.

Donny was born April 7, 1953, in Decatur, IL, the son of Robert and Martha (Duncan) Thornton. A 1973 graduate of Eisenhower High School, Donny worked at various restaurants in Decatur. He attended MRI and recently worked at A Step Forward. Donny loved music, Elvis, as well as following Millikin University and Illini sports. An avid Cub fan and participant in many sporting events, Donnie was a Special Olympian who attended the first International Olympic Games in Brockport, NY. He also participated in the Special Olympic Games of Macon County. Including being the first torch lighter as well as the torch lighter at the 50th anniversary event.

Surviving are his parents, Robert and Martha Thornton of Decatur; sisters: Cathy (Tom) Dilbeck of Lebanon, TN, Tammy (Ed) Smith of Decatur, and Suzanne J. (Richard) Wilkins of Dalton City; many nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, cousins and friends.

Donny was preceded in death by his grandparents.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, December 6, 2022, from 5 to 7 pm at Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home. Funeral services to celebrate his life will be 10 am, Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Graceland Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial may be made to Special Olympics Illinois Region I, 1950 N. Water St., Decatur, IL 62526

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.



Events

Donald L. "Donny" Thornton

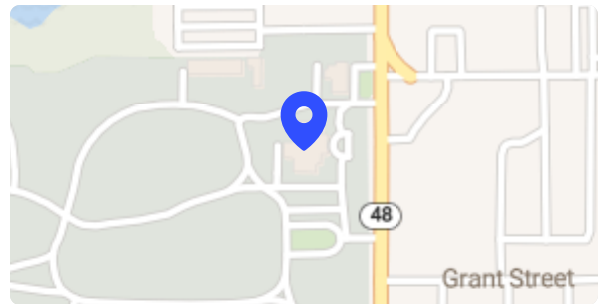
APR 7, 1953 - NOV 30, 2022

Visitation

 **Tuesday**, December 6, 2022


 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM CT


 **Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526

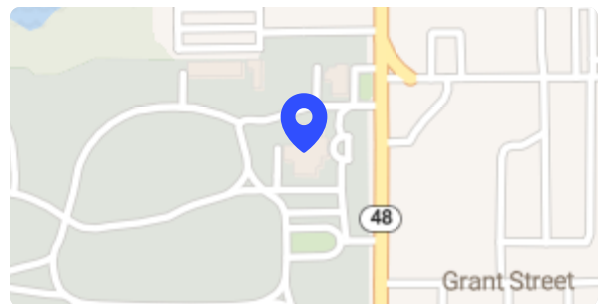


Funeral Service

 **Wednesday**, December 7, 2022


 10:00 AM CT

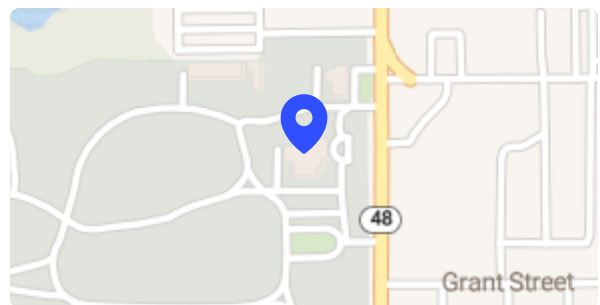
 **Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526




Burial


 **Wednesday**, December 7, 2022

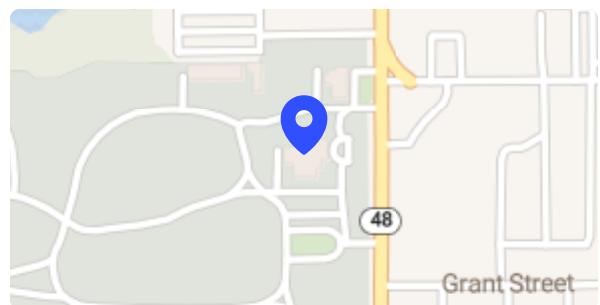
 **Graceland Cemetery**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526



Cemetery Details

 **Graceland Cemetery**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526

 **(217) 615-0724**





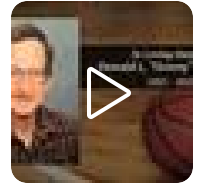
Tribute Wall

Donald L. "Donny" Thornton

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Graceland Fairlawn shared a **Video**.



December 6 at 7:08 AM



Felicia Dick April 23 at 1:20 PM

I work with Donny at a step forward I love see his smile every day when I walk in to work . he always was bringing somebody's day . he was a good man an full of life he will be truely missed by everyone who new him .Felicia



Kristi Nottelmann December 7 at 10:21 AM

I thoroughly enjoyed all the stories he would tell and talking to him about Millikin Big Blue and St. T sports. He sure did love his family. So terribly sorry for your loss. Kristi Nottelmann



Anonymous sent a Medium Dish Garden to the Thornton family.



December 5 at 8:28 AM



Tom Rose posted:

So sorry for your loss, I remember Donny at fastpitch games when we were kids and chasing foul balls. When I played with Greg, Donny would be there and always had a big smile and enjoyed talking to everyone. Tom Rose

December 3 at 4:32 AM



Joe Bateman posted:

I worked with Donnie many years ago at the Community Center and Progress School. I'll always remember his smile, his energy, and his willingness to pitch in and help. I'm thankful to have been a small part of his life. May the God of Peace bring comfort to you all during this time.

December 3 at 4:17 AM



Tribute Wall

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Larry Moffett posted:

Donny was a great bat boy and never forgot a face or your name. He loved sports and always had time to stop and talk to you, He was full of energy and made you feel good when you saw him. Donny was a good person from a very good family. He will always have a soft spot in my heart!!! *Moo*My heart goes out to the family in this time of mourning.Larry Moffett

December 2 at 11:26 AM



Cinda K Armstrong-Williams lit a candle in honor of Donald.

Suzanne, I am so sorry for your loss of your brother. I wish peace and comfort to both you and your loved ones as you go through this journey of mourning and healing. You are in my thoughts during this difficult time.



December 2 at 4:53 AM



Media

Donald L. "Donny" Thornton

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Memories only last if you share them

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



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