



## Don French

April 4, 1936 - May 5, 2013

Memorial services are scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Friday, May 10, 2013 at Anderson Bethany Funeral Home Chapel for Don French, 77. Pastor Jason Perry of Tabernacle Baptist Church will officiate.

Don was born in Ruidoso, New Mexico to Willis and Mamie French. They have preceded him in death as well as his wife of 45 years, Pat French. Don was a very rare and special man, the definition of integrity is to do the right thing, even if no one is looking and he definitely was a man of integrity. It was such an honor to have been raised by this man. He touched so many people's lives in so many ways. He loved the Dallas Cowboys and John Wayne. Don graduated from Roswell High School in 1954 and joined the National Guard from 1953-1959. He wanted to be a fireman and applied for the job but there were no openings, he would keep checking for openings so often they thought he worked there so he was finally hired. He was promoted to Fire Marshall and later became Fire Chief and held that position until 1986 and retired after 25 years of service. He definitely loved his job at the Roswell Fire Department. He always tried to treat anyone he was in contact fairly and with respect. Very seldom did he have something bad to say about anyone, but if he did it was probably because they deserved it.

Don is survived by his children, Laura Peterpaul and her husband Anthony; Kim Young and her husband Mike; Donny French and his girlfriend Denessa Barraza. Grandchildren: Christina Stubblefield (Ray); Anthony DeLaRosa; Tracy DeLaRosa-Rietkerk (Hank); Becky Cartright; Ryan French, Joseph

DeLaRosa; Matthew DeLaRosa (Victoria); Courtney Young (Angel Zambrano); Victoria French; Shawn Young; and 15 great-grandchildren; his brother Bill French and his wife Elaine; a very special cousin J.C. Shaw and his wife Ginger; his sister-in-law, Marcy James and brother-in-laws Art Janssen and Ed Janssen. Honorary pallbearers are Billy Connell, Chris Connell, Art Janssen, Ed Janssen, Steve Green, and J.C. Shaw.

We would like to thank the ICU staff at ENMMC for taking care of our Dad and Gloria and the Staff at Mission Arch Care Center.

Our Dad touched so many people in so many ways and will surely be missed. We were blessed to have him in our lives and have learned so much from his example.

Services are under the direction of Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home and Crematory.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Don French*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *i'm so sorry for your loss, my thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

**peter crist** - May 20, 2013 at 11:28 AM



“ *Christina and famiy you are in my thoughts and prayers. I love you and your family. Melissa Bezouche*

**Melissa Bezouche** - May 10, 2013 at 01:34 PM



“ *LORLEE, KIM, AND DONNIE, UR DAD WAS MY NAME SAKE. MY DAD THOUGHT SO MUCH OF THIS MAN, UR FATHER, TO NAME ME, AFTER HIM. = DONITA, LIL DON. I TELL THE STORY ALMOST ON A DAILY BASIS,ITS AN UNUSUAL NAME. I FEEL BLESSED TO HAVE HAD U ALL IN MY LIFE. MICHIGAN STREET! I LOVE YOU ALL, AND THINK OF U OFTEN! GOD BLESS U GUYS IN UR GRIEF AND SORROW. HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU ALL SOMETIME. GOD BLESS U AND UR ENTIRE FAMILY! LOVE YA! DONITA.*

**DONITA ANDRUS-KISH** - May 09, 2013 at 10:18 PM



“ *Don French*

**Bill Moss** - May 09, 2013 at 06:34 PM

MD

“ We were very saddened to hear of the loss of Mr. Don French. This is a great loss to you and to the people of Roswell as well as the Members of the Roswell Fire Department. He was a great Chief, Friend and colleague. We all loved him as well. It was a blessing to have known him. Michael D. Drew -RFD-1975-1992 Retired

Michael D. Drew - May 08, 2013 at 10:56 PM

TC

“ French Family,  
Please accept our heartfelt condolences on the loss of Mr. French. May God give each and every one of you peace and strength during this difficult time.

Terry & Lisa (DeLaRosa) Chaves - May 08, 2013 at 07:54 PM

TT

“ Donny, I'm so sorry to hear about Don. He truly was a special friend. We met in 1963, when I was hired by RFD, he was a driver on Engine#3 and I was tailboard man. I learned many things from Don, not the least was to respect everyone and always do the right thing! We later worked together at AMPI, and he was still a pleasure to work with. I've lost a good friend and you all a great Dad.. My sincere Sympathy, Terry

Terry Turner - May 08, 2013 at 10:26 AM

JR

“ I'm sorry for your loss. It was an honor to have known Don and to have worked with him. He left a lasting impression on my life as I remember the kindness that he showed. I guess it would be true to say that it's a loss for everyone that he ever met.

Jimmy Robinson - May 07, 2013 at 07:53 PM