



## Donald James Fant

September 24, 1953 - May 23, 2020

Donald James Fant, 66, passed away on May 23, 2020 after a long journey with dementia. Don was born on September 24, 1953 in Baltimore, Maryland to the late Mary F. (Smoke) Fant and George W. Fant. Don is the beloved husband of Rachel M. Fant; loving father of Jason Fant and Alexandra Fant and grandfather to Noah and Rebecca Fant. He is survived by his brother, George Fant and sister-in-law, Rose Fant. Also, survived by many other loving relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his sister, Virginia “Ginny” Shipley and her husband, Kenneth “Topper” Shipley.

Don lived a full and exciting life. He enlisted in the Navy in April 1978 and spent his 23-year career working on the avionics of Naval aircraft; contributing his part in helping to keep the world safe. Recognized for his knowledge and leadership abilities, he catapulted through the ranks to Aviation Electronics Technician Chief in 10 years with a goal of becoming an Officer. He accomplished that goal when he was selected for the Warrant Officer program, retiring as a Chief Warrant Officer 3. He not only completed 8 deployments on 5 different Aircraft Carriers, he also supported the re-dedication of the Statue of Liberty in 1986 and attended an Inaugural Ball. He taught himself to play guitar at the age of 23, often entertaining his family, friends and shipmates with performances; writing many songs for his family and church services. His other passions included riding motorcycles, golfing, scuba diving, boating, hiking, camping and generally entertaining friends. He was a charter member of the Baltimore Football Booster (formally Colts

Corral). Ordained as a Priest in Community of Christ, he provided exceptional support for congregations he attended.

Don's remains will be cremated. Memorial service to be held June 20, 2020 at 7:30pm CST via Zoom/online. For link please contact the family. Don's desire is to be buried at sea from Alexandra's first sea duty assignment following her commission into the United States Navy. Day Funeral Service is honored to serve the family of Don Fant.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN **20**. 7:30 PM (CT)

Zoom/Online

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lisa Langham lit a candle in memory of Donald James Fant*



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**Lisa Langham** - February 26 at 03:11 PM



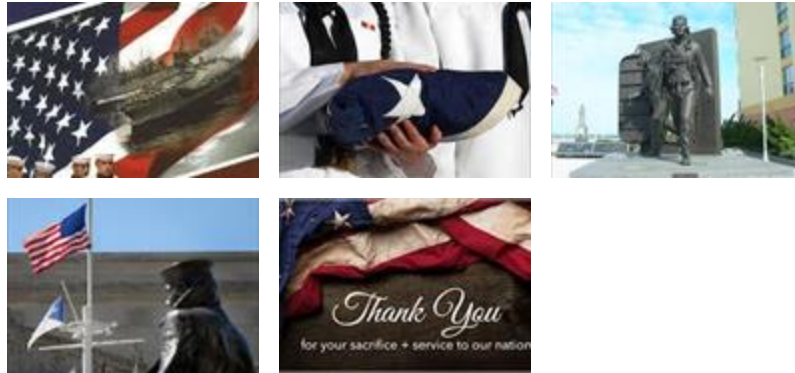
“ *Just saw this obit. CWO3 Don Fant was one of the nicest and most intelligent guys I ever met. I was lucky enough to have him come work for me at AIMD Barbers Point HI, when there was one. He immediately took over as the Avionics Officer and made great and positive changes to the Division. He was knowledgeable, talented, humorous and a great pleasure to be around. His wedding on Oahu was a beautiful event. Played a few rounds of golf with Don in Hawaii and back at Pax. He sang a mean karaoke Secret Agent Man and most any song played. We drifted apart due to careers which I regret, and I will miss him greatly.*

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**David McNamara** - May 28, 2025 at 06:17 PM

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“ God Bless and a Heartfelt Thank YOU CWO3, Fant for your 23 years of service in Naval Aviation. "Fair winds and following seas". And Semper Fi. SIR.



Herb Sharfenaker USMC - June 23, 2020 at 12:33 PM

JM

“ Rachel/Jason/Alexandra.....Emerald and I send our deepest sympathies and affection your way during this time of loss. We recognize how difficult a journey this has been for you and words are so inadequate at this time. We grieve with you at Don's passing, but our faith assures us he's in a much better place now, free of the unfair yoke this life placed on him these past years. Please know his legacy of accomplishment and humanity will always remain untarnished by dementia's cruel grip. Likewise, be assured your family's love and dedication to Don as he dealt with his illness will always be an inspirational memory and example of unconditional love for those of us blessed to know you!

Jim & Emerald McClaugherty

James McClaugherty - June 05, 2020 at 09:57 PM