



DON MCCOMAS

September 3, 1942 — October 19, 2016

In Don's own words:

“Hired in 63 as an Ops Agent handling charters and MAC flights. Served all over but based out of Burbank. Finally went to Cold Bay to save money so I could go to flight school. Started school on Jan. 1, 66 and finished April 11 and went to FTL with ink still wet on my final ticket. Jack Martin hired me and I started flying as a copilot in June 66. I was really lucky but found Tigers was the only airline that told all employees if you got your tickets we'll give you a try. There's about 9 or 10 that enjoyed the opportunity. From there I couldn't have had a better life if a Hollywood script writer was writing a movie. Great people, good and bad, great adventure, great life.”

**Celebration of Life
For
Don McComas**

Sunday, November 6, 2016
Bear's Best Las Vegas Golf Course
12:00pm to 4:00pm

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Meet and Greet

Photos and Videos

Hors d'Oeuvres and Drinks

1:00pm – 4:00pm

Welcome

Lunch

Introduction of Don McComas family

Speakers:

Mr. John Dickson
President of Flying Tiger Line Pilots Association (FTLPA)

Mr. Mike Akin

Mr. William Mayfield

Mrs. Gloria McComas

Mr. Marcus McComas

FTLPA members/family/friends

Don McComas – Always a Tiger

Don McComas was a Tiger. In the true sense of the word - Whether at Flying Tigers or Fedex - Whether you were with him on the golf course or in the cockpit - As a friend or family member - From his friendly smile to his colorful golf pants - Come rain or shine, Don was Always a Tiger.

His career spanned 36 years, flying everything from DC-8 to Boeing-747 to MD-11. Don had the confidence of one who rose from handling agent to Check Captain. And he carried that confidence with just enough humility that pilots were always happy to discover that Don was their instructor. He had a way of conveying his experience in an easy, friendly way, making it something useful and fun for his students.

But not just flying. Don spent thousands of volunteer hours in service to his fellow ALPA pilots. He served on the Master Executive Council, Negotiating Committees through several contracts, and Grievance Committees during the interims, protecting those contracts and their benefits. Many of those benefits are still in play today, enjoyed by current FedEx pilots.

Perhaps his crowning jewel of service to his fellow pilots was through his selfless, dedicated work as Chairman of the Flying Tiger Merger Committee during the Tiger/Seaboard merger. Through months of countless 12+ hour workdays, Don led his team that protected his fellow Tiger pilots, while he treated the incoming Seaboard pilots with civility and respect.

Don McComas' working life is a legacy for those who followed, continuing to this day. His positive attitude, "Can-Do" spirit, his leadership, and mostly his friendship and easy smile - will be missed by all who flew with him.

Even in retirement Don served his Tiger family as President of the Retired Pilots Association and who could forget his organized and memorable New Orleans "Parade of Tigers" down Bourbon Street, it was fun for all..

Don McComas was - in every sense of the word - Always a Tiger.

Fly in Peace.

By: A Dear Fellow Tiger, November 2016

Shared Memories of Don McComas

My respect for Don was great. My name is Ty Turley and was FTL and FedEx, worked with Don in my early years as a flight engineer instructor in the Tiger training department. At FedEx, when checking out as a new MD11 FO, with new Capt. Roger Adams as my training partner, Don was our primary simulator instructor. About 3 years later I checked out as a Captain myself. The lessons that Don pounded into our heads, kept me out of trouble for almost 20 years of very demanding international flying of a complex aircraft. I flew to age 65, retiring about 2 years ago. I will miss him.

Respectfully, his student,
Capt. Ty Turley

I wish I could join the celebration, but I cannot at this time. I have many good memories both of flying trips with Don and working with him in the Flight Training Department. I also appreciated his work and dedication with ALPA and the Retired Pilots Association.

David Morris

Card enroute. We shall miss him.

Paul Stokes

I only met Don once during my time with Tiger while I was the Gen My God bless him this is one Tiger that will be missed.

Frank Marble Jr.

I have fond memories of my flights with Don. You are in my thoughts during these difficult times.

Thomas Borda

Don had the utmost respect from his fellow pilots. We will miss him greatly. Sorry for your loss.

Jim More

Don was a sweetheart, always pleasant to work with, funny, charming, a good pilot. We'll miss him I am very sorry for your loss.

Robin Pestarino

I was saddened and sorry to of Don's passing. Seems like just yesterday we all started at Tigers but how fast the time fly's. I'm sorry to inform you that I am unable to attend the services for Don.

Loren (Doc) Eggen

Dear Gloria,

We were saddened with the news of Don's passing and our hearts go out to you. I had the pleasure to spend a lot of time in the simulator and various aircraft with "Dandy Don". He was a piece of work but I enjoyed his company. Our best to you.

WC & Lora Harvey

Shared Memories of Don McComas

Gael and I were so terribly saddened to hear of Don's passing. When I last spoke with him he was upbeat and spoke of going to Taiwan to check on cures bypassing therapy. Don & I were near in seniority so we rarely flew together. We worked together in flight training so we saw a lot of each other there in LAX.

Don was my flight instructor on the MD-11 simulator in Memphis along with a FTL co-pilot. Being Tigers he never cut us any slack. He ignored the printed curriculum and stuck to his own methods of training. We were ahead of schedule and well prepared for our check ride which we passing with flying colors. When questioned by his superiors about his methods, Don's answer was: "why are all my students passing their check rides and half of the other instructor's students are failing theirs?"

In 2003, when Don was president of FTLPA, I totally enjoyed working with him as he organized the reunion in New Orleans and put together the Jazz Funeral March through the streets in honor of our flight attendants and FTL's passenger service department.

Our sincere condolences to you and family. Don is free of pain and suffering and at peace now. GOD BLESS YOU DON. You are most certainly missed.

Peter & Gael Okicich

Dear Gloria,

I am sorry to hear of Don's passing. Don was always a pleasure to fly with and a friend. Although you and I have never met I send my sincerest condolences in Don's passing. With best wishes and kind regards for you and Don's family.

Steve Martin

Hello Gloria,

I'm so sorry to hear about Don's death. I think he would have wanted exactly what you have planned. I'm sorry that I won't be able to make it. Hopefully, we'll see you in Portland next year!

Bob DeArmond

Please except our condolences, God bless you and Don's family.

Craig Leonard

Dear Gloria, so sorry to hear about Dons passing and you are in our thoughts and prayers every day. Don and I played a lot of golf together over the years at Tigers and it was always a pleasure and also a golf lesson to play with Don. I will miss that very much. Love to you and the rest of the family.

Susan & Paul Rebscher

My thoughts are with you, have a wonderful celebration in Don's honor.

Kathleen Lightfoot

Shared Memories of Don McComas

Bela and I send our sincere condolences. We would love to be there, however, I am flying. Raise a glass to Don for us please!

Wayne Zeitler

My deepest Sympathies. RIP, Don.

Valerie Thal-Slocum

Our deepest sympathy on the passing of Don.

Douglas Shaw

Thank you for the invitation. I enjoyed the times we flew together.

Gary Luccio

My deepest regrets to you and the rest of his family.

Alfred Avey

Sorry for your loss. Please accept my condolences.

Helen Patterson

Sorry for your loss.

Harold Carpenter

You will all be in my thoughts.

Sharon (Digiovanni) Sowell

BEST to Don – he changed my golf grip and changed my golf game...I will always remember him for that help...

Peter Boyle

My sincere condolence on your loss he was a great man.

Donna Maziarka

Dear Gloria,
Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend Don's celebration, as I'm out-of-state. Don was "one of the special ones" and will be greatly missed among the Tiger Family. I wish you peace in this difficult time and hope that all Don's memories bring you comfort.

Warm aloha,
Sharrie Schleis Smith

Shared Memories of Don McComas

Our thoughts, and many pleasant, remembrances are with you.

Jim and Judy Brophy

Thanks for the invitation. I will miss Don....

John Haggerty Jr.

I will miss Don, and his wonderful dry sense of humor! I wish I were able to attend, but due to health reasons I just cannot make it! But, I will be there in spirit, and my prayers go out to Don and his family!

Kathleen Cass

With my deepest condolences, Gloria. I met Don when I was a flight attendant at FTL and he was a wonderful man. You remember all of the joy you both had, and never let it go.

With love,
Patty Camp

Please accept our condolences.

Frank & Carolyn Christian

I would love to be there for the celebration of a great guy and awesome Tiger but unfortunately I have to work and will not be able to attend. I send my love and fasten your seatbelt for a fun celebration.

Kindest regards,
Sue Lamy

I would love to be able to attend. My condolences go to Gloria and family.

Patti Howard Skondovitch
Stewardess 1961-1962

Thank you for the invite. Unfortunately, I will unable to attend. I remember Don as an excellent pilot and a good mentor. I always enjoyed my trips with Don. Best of Luck with the event.

Denis Cesarz

Sending my sincere sympathy in your loss of Don. Tiger pilots are a one of a kind breed! I will always and forever miss my Tiger.

Jane Stoecklin

It will not be possible to attend the celebration of Don's life on this earth, but I will keep him in my prayers and thoughts. He was a good friend and mentor during my early years at Tigers and later after my transition to the MD11 with FED EX. He will be missed at the Tiger reunions.

Michael Rooney

Shared Memories of Don McComas

Gloria, I won't be able to attend, but will be thinking of you all at that time. So sad to hear of Don's passing. Hopefully he is at peace now.

Love,
Joan Arthur

God bless Don, Gloria and family.

Curt & Camille Dose

Sorry to hear about his passing. Don is n will always be in my heart.

Angel Vazquez

Hi Gloria:

Sorry for your loss, we will miss Don. God Bless you and your family.....

Jim Madison

I am so sorry to be unable to make the celebration of Don's life. He will be missed. I always enjoyed seeing him over the years.

Lou Furlong

Unfortunately for me I am unable to attend due to recent illness of heart attack and pneumonia. My heart is sad knowing of Don's passing, but happy to know he is no longer with pain and suffering.

Richard Feuerherm

Don will be missed. He was a friend to all.

Kennard Yonak

I am so sorry I cannot attend, but will hold you all in my heart that day. What a wonderful celebration you have planned, for a great guy!!!

Ardith Willner

I am sorry for your loss, and I will miss Don of whom I have the fondest memories. I am going through chemo now and cannot travel.

Norah O'Neill

I wish I could be There Gloria. Please put me down as one of Don's Flying Tiger colleagues who admired his intellect, his sense of humor and loved flying with him. Fair winds, Don. I'm there in spirit and sending my best regards to YOU too.

Richard Redditt

I would like to make it but I am dealing with my mother in law's passing in TX. I always enjoyed Don's company and it was great flying with him. A classy guy who will be missed!

Darrell Holmstrom (W)

Shared Memories of Don McComas

My deepest condolences for your loss. I just had major surgery so I will not be able to attend.

Dennis Wheeler

My regrets, I'll be out of the country then. A friend of mine still owns Dons Cherokee 6, when I see it, I think of Don.

Blacky Jorgenson

We will be unable to attend as we will be out of the country. Don will be remembered as a great instructor and friend. Rest In Peace

Robert Schmitt

I am so sorry for your loss. Don was a true Tiger, and will be missed at gatherings. I will be unable to attend the celebration, but I will be there in spirit to toast to a great Tiger.

Marilyn Breen

Our deepest condolences.

Leonard Churchman

So sorry but I will not be able to attend. Flying with Don was a pleasure. He was an interesting man that enjoyed life and his family. Sorry your family lost his bright light.

Kenneth Ciszek

Sorry to hear about your loss. Take care.

Bob Lindbeg

A good friend over many years I will miss him.

Robert Baird Jr.

Gloria & Family:

I won't be able to attend but please accept my condolences on Don's passing. He was a true Tiger.

Gene Krawchuk

We want you to know that we hold Don in the highest regard both as a professional and a person. I worked with Don on the Flying Tiger Negotiating Committee for many years and look back fondly on those days. We didn't always agree, but we had great respect for each other.

Don was a good man who did some great work for the Flying Tiger pilots. He will be missed by all of us.

Frank Maguire

I am saddened to learn of Don's passing. He will be missed.

Rich Dancaster

Shared Memories of Don McComas

Mrs. McComas,

I am so sorry for your loss. I had the privilege of flying with Don when I first got hired at Tigers. He was not only a great Aviator, but a true Gentleman. His passing will truly be felt by all in the aviation community!

Sincerely,
Brick Gilliland

Sandy White here, I am so thinking of you, I know you know how sad I am. You and Don were such a support system when he was President of FTLPA, I learned so much from Don working with him and most of all what a TRUE friend he is. There has never been a time if I dialed his number that he ALWAYS had time to talk and care about Bob and myself.

Sandy White

My condolences to you.

Kathy Hill (Richard L Hill FTL 1965)

So sorry for your loss, Gloria. Over the years, Don contributed greatly to FTL and our pilot group.

Ronald Burson

I'm sorry for your loss Gloria. Don and I go way back as friends and Union Representatives. He always worked hard for his fellow crewmembers and will be sadly missed.

Raymond Rignel

I regret that I cannot attend. I am so sorry for your loss. What a lovely gentle man.

Ellen Griffin

I'm looking forward to mixing it up with family and friends of one of the brightest and nicest individuals I've ever known.

John Dickson

I am honored to be a part of celebrating his life. Thank you for including me.

Pat Lavender

Dearest Gloria,

So sad to hear of Don's passing. Bob and I are sending our deepest condolences. Don will be missed and remembered with loving thoughts. We will celebrate Don's life sharing memories of our times with him. Our thoughts are with you Gloria at this difficult time. Love & hugs.

Myra Proctor

Shared Memories of Don McComas

Hello Gloria,

What a very sad day for all of us. I loved Don like a brother. Cindy and I cannot express in words the sorrow we feel for your great loss. We have such good memories of your wedding party, my training in the MD11 with Don and all of our golfing adventures. He will be missed by all that touched his life. I just can't believe right now that he's gone. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.

Love,
Kevin & Cindy Gallagher

Dear Gloria,

I am so sorry for your loss. I flew copilot for Don in the DC-8 and remember how much I learned from watching him work.

Sincerely,
Terry Miles

Dear Gloria,

I flew with Don often and have terrific memories of our times together. He was a captain I wanted to emulate. He will be missed.

Robert Tymczyszyn

I have fond memories of flying with Don. His smile and wit will be missed. Tailwinds and fair skies.

Lane Chenoweth

We will regretfully be unable to attend due to a family emergency requiring hospitalization and surgery on my 92-year-old father-in-law. Our hearts and thoughts will be with you and Don's memory will continue to live within us.

Jean-Claude Demirdjian

I always enjoyed seeing Don. He always had a smile on his face!

Edward Henry

I will forever miss CAPTAIN DON MCCOMAS and his sincerity, friendliness, constant smile, professionalism and all he accomplished for the FTL Pilots. I attempted to take many of his admirable qualities and apply them to my Left Seat flying with FedEx. The best of the best he was and will always be.

Richard Fordem

Gloria,

I thought very highly of him throughout our careers at Tigers and always enjoyed our phone chats following retirement. Annie's and my thoughts and prayers are with you and yours.

God Bless,
Bill and Annie Bond

Shared Memories of Don McComas

Sorry to learn about Don's passing. Our prayers are with you. Don was a class act!

Stephen Gagliano

We will raise a glass in honor here in CT. Safe travels to all attending!

Rob Bonn

My prayers & deepest sympathy to you & family.

Karen Fischer

Don was a great guy and mentor. I regret that I will be unable to attend Sunday as I am currently in Sydney on a long Asia trip. We will all miss Don.

God Bless,
Jeff Warneke

I loved working with Don. He flew a nice airplane and was easy to work with. A real gentleman and will be missed.

Les Johnson

Wish we could be there - I know it will be a wonderful celebration of Don's life. Len and I will raise a glass tomorrow afternoon in his honor.

All the best,
Deb and Len Flaherty

Jeanette and I both offer our sincere condolences to you and all your family. Don was a great friend and an inspiration to all of us who had the privilege to fly with him. As he flies west our prayers go with him.

Robert Carona

Gloria,
I will be unable to attend but my thoughts and prayers are with you. Don will be missed.

Regards,
John Michel

Sorry to hear about your loss. Mike was very fond of Don.

Marci Solway

Shared Stories

From: Dick Dunn d.dunn@iasaviation.com
Subject: FW: Don McComas
Date: October 23, 2016 at 08:26
To: Gloria McComas (gwumccomas@gmail.com) gwumccomas@gmail.com

Gloria,

I sent this to Don's email hoping you would see it.

I am so very sorry at the news.

The only emails from him lately were from his IPAD so I figured he was off on one of his adventures. Never realized the cancer had returned.

To say I am devastated is a big understatement.

Wish I had the words to make you feel better.

Hope to talk to you soon.

From: Peter Lonsdale [<mailto:Peter@chezlonsdale.com>]
Sent: zondag 23 oktober 2016 14:59
To: Dick Dunn
Subject: RE: Don McComas

Hello Dick,

Sad news indeed. Don McComas was a great character. I got to know him way back in the late 70's or early 80's when he was a Captain on FT DC8-63F's and he was based in Dubai for a month or so when we were flying live goats out of Adana as well as Erchan (northern Cyprus) into SHJ during Ramadan. I used to ride the flights regularly as a goat handler (!) and to assist the FT L/M (it was a walk-on / walk-off double deck penning system with a portable loading ramp carried in the belly hold) - no ASU at Erchan so we had to keep # 3 idling the whole time we were on the ground and then cross-feed bleed air to start the other three engines.

Tension between the Greeks and Turks on Cyprus was very high at that time - the Greek ATC was still active in the control tower at Nicosia Airport although the airport itself was closed as it was right on the demarcation line (as it still is today). We always planned to land and take-off at Erchan towards Turkish air space and when interrogated by the Greeks over the radio would claim that we were ' climbing through 10,000 feet out of Adana ' when in fact we had just departed Erchan.

A bit of a farce really as the Greek ATC folks could see us through binoculars from their tower at Nicosia when we were on the ground at Erchan ! One day we loaded the goats and were ready to depart Erchan but the wind was in the wrong direction and we were obliged to take-off towards Nicosia - as soon as we were airborne the Greeks called up on the radio with much indignation and we gave them the usual spiel about passing FL 10 climbing out of Adana. The shattering roar as we climbed at low level over Nicosia was a bit of a give-away -L The next day the Greek CAA in Athens threatened to ban all FT aircraft permanently from Greek airspace unless we ceased immediately operating out of Erchan - and that was the end of the contract !

I recall many afternoon beer and snooker sessions in the ' Le Mirage ' Sports Bar behind the Dubai International Hotel (now Le Meridien Dubai) with Don and other crew members - he was always cracking jokes and had a great sense of humour and was very entertaining to be around.

The end of an era - Don will be greatly missed.

Peter

Peter Lonsdale
P.O. Box 30864 , Dubai , United Arab Emirates / Liewegje 26 , 2033 AC Haarlem ,
The Netherlands
Tel : +971 50 653 4269 (Dubai mobile) Tel : +31 6 22 69 89 84 (Dutch mobile)
E-mail : peter@chezlonsdale.com Skype : plonsdale1

From: Dick Dunn [<mailto:d.dunn@iasaviation.com>]
Sent: 23 October 2016 10:17
To: Peter Lonsdale <Peter@chezlonsdale.com>
Subject: FW: Don McComas

Peter...FYI....

Don McComas

The following email was received from Pete Okicich (FTLPA) –

It's with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Don McComas. He made his final *Flight West* yesterday after succumbing to the cancer that he valiantly fought over the past decade. Don wore many hats as a pilot at Flying Tigers, and was our association's President from 2000 to 2003, organizing reunions in Seattle, Sacramento, and New Orleans.

As soon as we are notified of any plans for a memorial service we will pass this onto you. In the meantime, a letter of condolence was composed and sent to his wife, Gloria, on behalf of the entire FTLPA membership. Flowers from FTLPA will follow.

Please keep Gloria and the rest of Don's family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time for them.

Sincerely,

The Officers of FTLPA

From: Dick Dunn d.dunn@iasaviation.com
Subject: Memories
Date: October 24, 2016 at 05:29
To: Gloria McComas (gwumccomas@gmail.com) gwumccomas@gmail.com

Gloria,

Today I remembered my golf lessons.

Back in 1975 we had a big Flying Tiger operation into Germany for the US Military.

We stayed in a wonderful old hotel - the Ritterspark Hotel in the town of Bad Homburg - about twenty kilometers north of Frankfurt.

On the other side of the road was a casino "Spielbank Bad Homburg". This Casino was known as the Mother of Monte Carlo.

Seems the owners of this Casino decided sometime back in the mid 1800's decided to branch out and they opened the first Casino's in Monte Carlo.

The Casino was surrounded by a nine hole golf course.

This is where Don decided that he would teach me how to play golf.

The first few tries were not very successful but Don persevered for a couple of weeks. (I was based there and he was flying in and out from McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey).

About the third week we were on hole number two. This was a par 3 - a couple of hundred yards long. I managed to hack the ball off the tee and get it about half way to the green. Don of course put his straight onto the green.

I took my next swing. I didn't have a very good grip on the club. I missed the ball completely and the club flew out of my hands and landed on the green.

That was the end of my instruction.

He suggested that golf was not my forte and that I should find some other way of occupying my free time.

I haven't picked up a club from that day to this.

From: Dick Dunn d.dunn@tasaviation.com
Subject: FW: Memories
Date: October 25, 2016 at 00:49
To: Gloria McComas (gwumccomas@gmail.com) gwumccomas@gmail.com

In the late 70's Don was a check and training Captain at the Flying Tiger flight training center in Los Angeles.

One afternoon he didn't have anyone to check or train so we went into the DC8 simulator.

He decided to teach me how to fly a DC8.

The DC8 simulator was identical to the airplane including full visual effects etc. etc. and reacted just like the real airplane.

He started with take offs explaining that when power was applied at the beginning of the takeoff roll then the airplane would tend to move to the left.

All I had to do was apply a little right rudder and that would keep it heading straight down the runway. The rudder pedals are also the brake pedals...the top (using the toe) for brakes and the bottom (using the heel) for rudder.

I applied the brakes instead of the rudder on first time attempt and was informed that "the top part of your foot is the toe and the other end is the heel".

Anyway – after a few tries I managed to get the thing into the air.

Now we have to land the thing back in Los Angeles. This proved a little more difficult. I can still hear him yelling "DON'T DO THAT".

I finally managed to land it after about ten crashes only to have him inform me that I had successfully landed on Imperial Highway in El Segundo.

Around five o'clock in the afternoon we both realized this wasn't going to get any better so we adjourned to the Admiral's Dinghy.

The Admiral's Dinghy was a bar in Playa Del Rey, close to Flying Tiger Headquarters and was a favorite watering hole Flying Tiger people back in the day.

While we were having a few drinks I suggested that the problem could very well be with the Instructor and not the student.

His response was that that may well be, however, unless and until that was proven to be the case then "for the safety of the general population there are at least two things that you should NEVER have in your hands.

The first is a golf club and the second is a DC8".

From: frank maguire f-maguire@att.net
Subject: Re: Join Don McComas to Celebrate
Date: October 26, 2016 at 09:46
To: Evite gwumccomas@gmail.com

Gloria:

We have a commitment in the Bay Area on the 6th and will not be able to attend Don's celebration of Life but want you to know that we hold Don in the highest regard both as a professional and a person. I worked with Don on the Flying Tiger Negotiating Committee for many years and look back fondly on those days. We didn't always agree, but we had great respect for each other.

Don was a good man who did some great work for the Flying Tiger pilots. He will be missed by all of us.

Frank Maguire

On Wed, 10/26/16, Gloria McComas <info@mailva.evite.com> wrote:

Subject: Join Don McComas to Celebrate
To: f-maguire@att.net
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2016, 9:23 AM

```
Join Don McComas to Celebrate
@media screen and (max-width:480px){
#yiv4663684578 img[class=yiv4663684578image] {
width:250px;}
#yiv4663684578 h1, #yiv4663684578 p, #yiv4663684578 span {
}
}
```

```
@media screen and
(max-width:480px){
#yiv4663684578 table.filtered99999 , #yiv4663684578
table[class=yiv4663684578footer] {
width:100%;height:auto;}
#yiv4663684578 img[class=yiv4663684578image] {
width:250px;}
}
```

From: **Dick Dunn** d.dunn@iasaviation.com
Subject:
Date: November 1, 2016 at 04:09
To: Gloria McComas (gwumccomas@gmail.com) gwumccomas@gmail.com

Hello Gloria,

Yesterday evening I passed by the Rose and Crown pub in Chorleywood near London.

This was the last place that I had a drink with Don.

Four of the people there last night remember Don from his visit to the area a couple of years ago.
We went to that pub a number of times when Don was visiting.
They recalled some very interesting conversations with Don during his visit.

They send their deepest condolences.

They asked me to tell their names which are : Roger Foorde, John Ledbetter, John Bowles and Jeff Hall.

Hope you are feeling a little less sad.

Best regards

Dick

From: Doug Happ tigerhapp@verizon.net
Subject: Don
Date: November 4, 2016 at 10:22
To: gwumccomas@gmail.com

Dear Gloria,

I am so sorry that I can't make it to Don's celebration of life. He was a good friend and fellow Tiger.

1. Don was senior to me, but not by very much and we were just friends and fellow pilots. But then Frank Maguire and I were put on the Pilot's negotiating team, for the 1976 or 1977 contract. I think we started negotiating in 1975 (the years get fuzzy) but anyway the MEC felt that Goldie was going to take all the money and put it into retirement, leaving nothing for the junior pilots and we were to prevent that from happening. Garry Duff was removed from the team and Goldie, Don, Frank and I made up the new team. The truth is, we had no idea how to control Goldie, and Don told us all along that Goldie would not do such a thing. Goldie knew why we were there, and we discussed it a few times over dinner and drinks. Lots of drinks. After a few months Don was replaced by Garry Duff and the negotiations were completed. As it turned out, Don was right all along. Goldie was very honorable and protected the integrity of that contract and the junior pilots.
2. The second story is about golf. Don was a much better golfer than me. We would play together occasionally at a few of the Tiger reunions, but that was it. One day he invited me to play in Memphis with his golfing buddies. Seems they needed one more sucker, I mean player. We played teams and you would have a new teammate every 6 holes. Don and I were partners for the first 6 holes. I was God awful! I was slicing and hooking and it was embarrassing. The next six holes I was a little better, but Don had a new teammate then, and was doing well. The final six holes, I was not much better, but Don was on his way to winning most of the money. My partner somehow kept us close, and the 18th hole was upon us. All Don or his partner needed to do, was beat us on this final hole. Don hit a magnificent drive straight down the fairway. All the others were mediocre, and my drive sliced into the trees about 200 yards out. Don was counting the money! His second shot was just short of the green, and all that was left was a chip and a put for a par and the win. I was in the middle of a small forest, but the hole was a dogleg left and I could either chip out back to the fairway or

attempt an impossible shot up through a small opening in the tree branches toward the green. Well the impossible happened. My 5 iron put the ball right through that hole and the ball landed about 1 foot from the pin. I made the putt for a birdie and cut

Don out of about \$40.00. I was laughing, and Don said to me "You couldn't hit your ass with either hand all day long, and now you come to life on the last hole and knock me out of the money."

I never did get another invite to play.

We have remained friends for 50 years, he was one of a kind, and I will miss him.

Doug Happ