



Donald M. Herr

December 12, 2021

Dr. Donald M. Herr, 83, of Lancaster, passed away on Sunday, December 12, 2021 at home.

Born in Refton, PA, he completed West Lampeter High School in 1955. He graduated from Franklin & Marshall College in 1959 and from the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine (Cornell) in 1963.

He and his wife founded the Manheim Pike Veterinary Hospital in 1964. He was a pioneer in advanced veterinary dentistry.

Dr. Herr was a trustee and member of the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association, receiving the PVMA Award of Merit in 1982. He was a past Vice-President of the PVMA, and a founding member and PVMA liaison to the Veterinary Technicians and Assistants Association of Pennsylvania, of which he was a founding member.

He was a lecturer, author, researcher, guest curator and collector of 18th and 19th century American pewter and Pennsylvania German Decorative Arts. Don was past President of the Pewter Collectors' Club of America, president of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Group. He was member of the Collections Committee of the Lancaster County Historical Society and held memberships in the Landis Valley Museum Associates, Heritage Center Museum of

Lancaster County, Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, the Hans Herr Foundation, the Pennsylvania German Society, Winterthur Museum Associates and the Museum of American Folk Art.

He was a nationally known hybridizer of *Hemerocallis* (daylilies) and received numerous awards, including the Bertrand Farr Silver Medal for “outstanding results in the field of daylily hybridizing” from the American *Hemerocallis* Society (AHS). Don was an accredited garden and exhibition judge, a life member of the AHS and lectured on his hybridizing program. He expressed his pride in local culture with daylily names such as “Rutchin” and “Ferhoodled.”

The son of Maurice Groff Herr and Anna Martha Greider Herr of Refton, PA, he was predeceased by a brother, Dr. Harold Greider Herr. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Dr. Patricia Louise Thomson Herr; a son, Roger Allan and partner Vincent Fiorenti, Brooklyn, NY; two daughters, Martha Anne, wife of James A. Brown, Linglestown, PA, and Elizabeth (Beth) Louise, wife of William B. Collier III, Marietta, GA. He is also survived by a sister, Mary Jane Graybill, Stevens, PA; and two grandchildren, Carolyn Elizabeth Brown and Aaron James Brown.

Don was a 70-year member of Covenant United Methodist Church.

He was proud of being a 9th generation Lancaster Countian and a direct descendent of the early Lancaster County settler Hans Herr.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Funeral Service at Covenant United Methodist Church, 110 N. Mulberry Street, Lancaster PA on Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Dr. Quentin E. Wallace officiating. The family will receive friends at the Church from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Private family interment will take place in Willow Street Mennonite

Cemetery. Masks are recommended.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Don's memory may be made to the Lancaster County Historical Society (Lancasterhistory.org).

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Covenant United Methodist Church
110 N. Mulberry Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Funeral Service

DEC 16. 11:00 AM (ET)

Covenant United Methodist Church
110 N. Mulberry Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald M. Herr*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Sending our sympathy on Don's passing. He was always kind, pleasant, and helpful to us at PCCA meetings. We truly enjoyed the time we visited your home and saw your wonderful collections of pewter, textiles, and day lilies.*

Fran & John Latch

Fran & John Latch - January 01, 2022 at 01:23 PM



“ *Sending our sympathy to Pat and family following Don's passing. Carl and I have fond memories of our visit to your home several years ago to view your pewter and textile collections and crossing paths at PCCA meetings. Sending prayers.*

Carl & Carol Murphy - January 01, 2022 at 01:07 PM

RB

“ *Trish and Family, Totney and I are greatly saddened to learn of Don's passing. We had been PCCA friends for nearly 40 years and enjoyed visiting each others homes and admiring your collections. Don is a PCCA legend, not only for his extensive collection of outstanding pewter, and his scholarly research and publications, but because of his willingness to always share his knowledge and to try to improve the club. He was of invaluable assistance to me the year I was PCCA president when we had the featured pewter exhibit at the Philadelphia Antique Show, and when I had to be the speaker pretending to be an expert on PA pewter. He will be greatly missed. Wishing your family our deepest condolences.*

Rick & Totney Benson, Westport, CT

Rick Benson - January 01, 2022 at 12:36 PM

GC

“ *Trish and family,*

Denny and I were sad to read of Don's death. We remember, with gratitude, all the knowledge he shared with us about pewter, fraktur, day lilies, Lehn ware and more. He was a generous man of mind and soul. We know he will be deeply missed by your family, his colleagues and his fellow antique collectors. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers as you mourn his passing.

*With deep sympathy,
Gaye*

Gaye Cox - December 20, 2021 at 09:36 AM

SZ

“ I too worked many years ago (1976-81) at MPVH, with Drs Herr, Thompson and Rovner, and was saddened to hear of his passing. My prayers and condolences to his entire family. Sue Zaccano

Sue Zaccano - December 18, 2021 at 03:32 PM

DE

“ I worked with Dr. Herr at MPVH for almost 20 years. (Yes I still call him Dr. Herr) I was always impressed by his genuine interest in all things. He always wanted to know "more". He had many interests, Pennsylvania Dutch Pewter, Daylillies and veterinary medicine. But he never forgot about people, always asked how my family was and what they were up to. Also proud to tell me about his 2 grandchildren and where in life Beth, Martha & Roger were. We shared fun days at MPVH even recently when he stopped in to visit. I will miss seeing him as he still stopped in to care for his daylillies that grew in the basement every year at MPVH. I am proud to say I have many of his flowers in my yard. Every holiday I would buy him peeps, he is only person I know who loved Peeps. I guess I won't need to buy them anymore but I will think of him every time I see them. His presence will be missed in our halls. Love and hugs to the entire Herr family. Denise Warner

Denise - December 16, 2021 at 09:58 AM

ND

“ Sad to know the demise of Dr. Donald M . Herr
Our Veterinarian colleague, when ever I met him he was very kind and respectful. Please accept my condolences to all family and Dr Patricia Herr. My prayers and I hope good Lord give patience to bear this great loss.

Nasir H Shah, DVM

Nasir H Shah, DVM - December 16, 2021 at 09:57 AM

BC

“ I'm very sorry to read of Dr. Herr's passing. Many years ago, I worked at Manheim Pike Veterinary Hospital for doctors Herr, Thomson, and Rovner. I have many fond and humorous memories of my time there. Dr. Herr led an extraordinary practice and showed pet owners, pets, and staff respect and kindness. My condolences to his family.

Bridget Carroll - December 16, 2021 at 02:49 AM

WS

“ Dear Trish and Family,

Chris and I were very saddened to learn of Don's passing. Don was a wonderful person and we, along with everyone in the PCCA, will miss his presence and extensive knowledge of pewter. His contributions to the club were notable and his book on "Pewter in Pennsylvania German Churches" was a groundbreaking volume in the study of 18th and 19th century pewter for ecclesiastical use. Our sympathy goes out to the Herr family and please know we are thinking of you during this time of great sorrow.

Bill and Chris Snow

William Snow - December 16, 2021 at 12:08 AM

MV

“ I first met Don close to 36 years ago, just as I learned I was accepted into Veterinary school. I loved his gentleness and passion! He was such an awesome role model. We also had the love of daylillies (well I liked them, he loved them)! He taught me so much about the hybridization process. I am proud to say I am the owner of over 20 varieties of his 'cast-offs'. He was such a generous gentleman! I will have warm memories of him...

Margot Schwag, V.M.D - December 15, 2021 at 11:00 PM

WT

“ I just saw Don's obituary! I'm so sorry! I'm so glad that I was able to reconnect with Don and Trish as an adult at the Heritage Center. Every time I would drive by your home, He was tending to the flowers. What a legacy, what a loss! To Trish and Beth, May laughter and beautiful memories fuel your souls as you mourn.

Wendy Toole - December 15, 2021 at 09:56 PM

LD

“ I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Dr. Herr. My and Joe 's thoughts and prayers are with Dr. Thomson and the entire family. LuAnn Jindela (a former client from Manheim Pike Veterinary Hospital)

LuAnn Davis-Jindela - December 15, 2021 at 11:05 AM

QU

“ QUO purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Donald M. Herr.



QUO - December 15, 2021 at 10:34 AM

CT

“ Anyone who ever met and spent time talking to Don will always remember him. There should be more people in the world like Don. He was a kind and generous man in so many ways. He loved sharing his knowledge and gave so much. With sincere sympathy to Trish and the rest of his family. Carol Trego

Carol Trego - December 15, 2021 at 08:06 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald M. Herr.



December 15, 2021 at 06:20 AM

KM

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Dr. Herr and Dr. Thompson were there for me when my regular vet would not have time to put down my paralyzed dog. I have been at Manheim Pike Veterinarian Hospital ever since. They were sorely missed when they retired. They were a great team together. Loved that they cared. Every animal I had that passed through there, they had sent a sympathy card. Sorry to hear of Dr. Herr's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Mike and Karen (Deist) Michener

Karen Michener - December 14, 2021 at 11:24 PM

AD

“ We are so sorry for your family's great loss. We knew and appreciated him as a dedicated member of the PCCA (Pewter Collectors Club of America). He was a wonderful pewter friend, with so much knowledge to share! Always so kind to all. We are happy he will live on through his books, and of course through his marvelous flowers.
Our heartfelt condolences to all of you, especially to Trish.

Arlene Diercks - December 14, 2021 at 06:53 PM

LP

I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Dr Herr I send my most sincere Sympathy to the family my parents started going to their veterinarian clinic when they first opened and I continued going there in my adult life with my pets until I moved and it was too far to travel there I will never forget the compassion that he and his wife had for the animals and their humans This world needs more people like him and Dr Thompson in it you will greatly be missed by all RIP sir

Lisa Poehner - December 15, 2021 at 10:26 AM

JW

“ I will always remember Don, his generous spirit, freely sharing his knowledge of antiques. He and he was always genuinely interested in what I ha seen or how my painting was coming. Trish, I believe I can only remember seeing Done one time that you were not by his side....I would always look for you both , at a sale or the York antique show....thank you for being a part of my younger years and your teaching me about antiques as well. My condolences to you and your family.....

John David Wissler - December 14, 2021 at 06:11 PM

JW

“ I let Don through the DVDS and daylilies were our common thread of love. I be last saw Don last July at his open garden in July. He was happily sharing his beloved daylilies. I am sad he will no longer bring his light and joy to the world. I will miss him. He was a kind man.

Joan Wimer - December 14, 2021 at 03:52 PM

EL

“ As fellow PCCA members, Laurie & I will always remember Don as a patient and gracious educator; ready to generously share his broad knowledge of pewter.
Trish and family; we are so sorry for your loss. Don will be greatly missed. Eric Lanka



Eric & Laurie Lanka - December 14, 2021 at 03:50 PM

GA

“ This is very sad news. Terri and I are in total disbelief. We have known Don for over 15 years and shared the love of Pewter and Pennsylvania Dutch artwork. As we were reminiscing about Don and Trish after hearing the news, we truly felt lucky that we got to see them this past summer when we went to their open house and spent part of the day vesting and talking. Yes indeed, Don was a wonderful person and we will miss him.

Gamal and Terri Amer

Gamal Ammer - December 14, 2021 at 03:50 PM

KT

“ Beth, Roger, Martha, Jim, Aaron and Carolyn, I am sooo sorry for your loss! My thoughts and prayers are with you!!!Kris Burchett Toombs

Kris Toombs - December 14, 2021 at 02:05 PM

LP

“ Trish & family,

*I was so sad to read that Don has passed away. What a kind and generous person he was!
The daylily world will mourn his loss. I think of him (& you) when his beautiful introductions bloom each year. There are so many I can't pick a favorite.*

*Hugs,
Linda Pinkham
Tidewater Daylily Society*

Linda Pinkham - December 14, 2021 at 11:04 AM

VJ

*Dear Trish and family,
I am so sorry to learn of Don's passing. What a kind, talented and interesting man- he leaves layers of legacy indeed. I regret that I am unable to attend his memorial service; you will be in my prayers.
Fondly,
Dr Valerie Jordan*

Valerie Jordan - December 14, 2021 at 01:20 PM

DW

“ *Dearest Trish,
Our hearts are broken with just hearing of the passing of such a dear friend and you have our deepest condolences. We spent over 50 years enjoying the love of pewter together.
May his memory be a blessing forever.
Bette & Mel*

Dr. Mel & Bette Wolf - December 14, 2021 at 09:49 AM

KH

“ *Please accept our sincerest condolences on your loss. My memories of Don are from his time supporting his kids in the music program at MT, and just being one of the kindest and most genuine persons I have ever interacted with. Sincerely, Ken & Linda Husler*

Ken & Linda Husler - December 14, 2021 at 08:16 AM

AM

“ *Dear Martha, Jim, Carolyn, and Aaron,
We are very sorry to hear of your father's passing. I remember seeing him at orchestra events, district orchestra and American Music Abroad. What amazing interests he had.
We wish you peace, comfort and strength at this time and always.
May his memory be eternal.
With sympathy,
Angie & Mark Moshos*

Angela Moshos - December 14, 2021 at 07:47 AM

JP

Condolences to the Herr Family.

*Sincerely,
John Palko*

John Palko - December 14, 2021 at 08:43 AM

MB

Don created some beautiful daylilies, three of which I grow in my garden. You Are My Sunshine, which looks exactly like the name, Carnival King, and Her Best Bloomers. I did meet him when he came out to the Pacific Northwest for a daylily meeting. I found him so interesting to talk to and loved his daylily creations.

MaryAnn Borcharding - December 14, 2021 at 12:58 PM

EB

December 14, 2021

Don Herr was an outstanding person in so many ways. I certainly remember how wonderful it was to visit his Daylily garden a few years ago. He created many special Daylily cultivars.

Edd Barrows, Bethesda, MD

Edward M. Barrows - December 14, 2021 at 07:08 PM

GL

Dr. Herr was a wonderful man, generous with his knowledge and his time. I always enjoyed visiting during his open garden time, seeing all the beautiful plants. He was also an interesting speaker and had so much knowledge about so many different topics. He will be greatly missed. Gayle Lawrence (DVDS)

Gayle Lawrence - December 15, 2021 at 06:42 PM

DD

In this Christmas season, we are saddened to hear of Don's passing, but heartened by the certainty of his eternal life. We treasure the times spent with him and Trish at PCCA gatherings.

Don & Nina Dorsch

Don & Nina Dorsch - December 16, 2021 at 11:05 AM

RP

Debbie and I knew Don and Trish from several different views. First he was not just a passionate collector but a generous scholar who shared his knowledge freely even with those of us who were not at his level. Secondly we bought wonderful daylilies from him for our home in Downingtown and when we moved, the daylilies came with us. We will miss this truly wonderful man.

Ron and Debbie Pook

ronald pook - December 18, 2021 at 03:07 PM