



Donald Ray Piefer

May 25, 2026

Donald Ray Piefer, 79, of East Petersburg, passed away peacefully on May 25, 2026, surrounded by his loving family. A lifelong resident of East Petersburg, Don retired as a sixth-grade teacher at Fulton Elementary School in the School District of Lancaster.

Don earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Millersville University. He was an avid model train collector and a longtime member of the Train Collectors Association. Dedicated to his community, he volunteered with the Boy Scouts, umpired girls' softball, and coached youth soccer. Known for his quick wit, sense of humor—especially his Dad jokes—and generosity, Don was a faithful member of Bethany Presbyterian Church.

Don is survived by his wife of 56 years, Mary Susan Piefer; his sons, Andrew, Tadd, and Zachary; daughters-in-law, Robin and Jolene; and five grandchildren, Avery, Hudson, Kara, Rachel, and Tyeler. He was preceded in death by his grandson, Logan Ray Piefer.

A private graveside service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Don's memory to Hospice & Community Care.

Tribute Wall

NN

“ *My sincerest condolences to Zach and his family during this difficult time. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family.*

Nitza Nieves - June 03 at 12:00 PM



“ *Mr. Piefer was my 6th grade teacher in '89-90. He always made the day fun and I've always remembered him. ❤️*

Christina Edsall - June 01 at 04:51 PM

AM

“ *My condolences to the family. Mr Piefer was my 6th grade teacher at Fulton back in '96-'97. Here we are 30 yrs later, and I can still recall the amazing teacher he was. A great sense of humor he had, and always made learning fun.*

Sorry for your loss. ☐

-Adriana

Adriana Mora - June 01 at 05:42 AM

LW

“ *I am deeply saddened by the death of my best friend Don. It is very hard to accept that he is gone from our lives. He was so supportive and positive to everyone in his life, always with a humorous flair. We very much enjoyed the many trips and events we traveled to with he and Susan.*

My sincerest condolences to his wife, Susan, and his three boys, Andrew, Tad and Zach and his extended family.

Larry Wise - May 31 at 08:23 PM

BL

“ Growing up in East Pete with Don, and you Sue, bring back many good memories. Some of my fondest ones are the days that Don, Ted McComsey and I went to the YMCA to compete on their archery team. Many, many Saturdays! My condolences to you Sue, and your family.

Bob Leonard - May 31 at 07:51 PM

MT

“ Don was an avid supporter of East Petersburg in many ways. I remember how invested and involved he was with our Boy Scout Troop. He was a great organizer and promoter of our events. Always friendly, funny and innovative, he kept the Boys active and engaged. He will be missed on the trail. Condolences to his family.

Mike Toole and family

Michael j Toole - May 31 at 09:47 AM

DO

“ I remember Don from when I worked at Weavers. Always teasing about Animal crackers that didn't have legs for Eula Mae Kline. May he rest in peace.

Dorothy Oberholtzer - May 31 at 08:38 AM

JB

“ I knew both Donald and his wife Susan growing up in East Petersburg. Sending condolences yo Susan and the family. Theirs was a love story of marrying the girl next door.

Janet Bedger - May 30 at 09:58 PM

LB

“ Remembering Don as a member of our Hempfield graduating class of 1965 and an active member of our reunion committee. I am thankful that he chose to spend his career as an elementary teacher at a time when few males took the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of younger children. Rest in peace, Don.



Linda Morris Bear - May 29 at 09:39 AM