

Chester R. O'Donnell



A lifetime in the construction industry.

It is with great sadness that we announce that Chester R. O'Donnell passed away suddenly but peacefully in his home surrounded by family on February 27, 2021.

"He would have plastered the world if he could! ODP was his empire and he loved coming to work every single day just to see what was going on. We cannot thank him enough for teaching us, inspiring us, mentoring us and being the amazing leader he was. We will continue to make you proud!!! "

He was an icon in the lath and plaster Industry and paved the way for countless others. Chet

was a former WACA board director and a founder of the association. Chet dedicated his life to our industry. He was very active and committed to our lath and plaster industry serving on several committees and boards. Chet had a brilliant sense of humor that will be sorely missed. We cannot thank him enough for his role in teaching, inspiring, mentoring and being the amazing leader, he was. His legacy will certainly continue, and what he helped build will live on.

Chet was born in Butler, PA on October 6, 1938 to Carl O'Donnell and Leona Carter. He served in the US Navy from 1956-1958, first as an aircraft mechanic on the USS Hornet, then ending his stint at Moffett Field, Ca. After his Navy career, Chet joined the plastering union and started working for Jones & Bridges Plastering. It was there he met John Filizetti and his son Gary who would have a profound impact on his career path in the plastering field. After a while he then realized he wanted to be his own boss and start his own business.

In 1972, he started O'Donnell Plastering along with the love of his life, his wife Marlene (Donahoo). He married Marlene in 1965 and raised 5 amazing children. Chet is survived by his two sisters Judy Beck, and June Field, his wife Marlene, his sons Mike (Amy), Jeff, Todd, his daughter Shawna Alvarado (Manuel), along with 8 grandchildren Matt, (Amy), Mitch (Lauren) , Miles, Tanner, Kayla, Jacob, Kira and Erin. He also had 4 great grandchildren Matea, Ellie, Maxwell, and Chase, along with numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his son Kraig.

He spent the majority of his life building his business O'Donnell Plastering Inc to be the best. Chet was always involved with Industry groups and associations, mentoring other industry leaders, serving on numerous union boards, visiting jobsites and making lasting business and

personal relationships with many, many contractors and suppliers. He was known as "BossChet" and was well respected for providing jobs for many union workers. His legacy will continue with the 2nd and 3rd generations, along with the entire ODP team that will continue to make him proud.

Chet and Marlene loved to travel and took many cruises to several countries. Every year they would take a few weeks to enjoy their time together and get away from the business for a moment. Chet enjoyed taking his boys on annual hunting trips, family camping outings and fishing trips when he could break away and rooting for his beloved Pittsburg Steelers! He truly enjoyed most of all just being around family and having large family dinners, playing cards with his kids and grandkids or watching TV. He was an avid Game Show watcher and never missed a Jeopardy show. Chet's main love besides his wife and children, would definitely be his love for his dogs. Some would say they came first..... Snickers will miss you!

Please keep Chet's loved ones in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. He will be dearly missed by his family, friends, colleagues, and the wall and ceiling industry.