



## Donald LeRoy Norbie

October 13, 1923 - July 30, 2017

Donald LeRoy Norbie, 93 of Greeley passed away on Sunday, July 30, 2017 at the Hospice Inpatient Unit at NCMC.

He was born in Willmar, Minnesota on October 13, 1923 to Nels and Myrtle Viola (Carlson) Norbie. In 1931 Mr. and Mrs. Norbie with their son Donald moved to Arizona for Mrs. Norbie's health. At first, they lived in Prescott, Arizona for four years and then moved to Tucson.

In 1938 Donald received Christ as his personal Savior, being led to the Lord by T. B. Gilbert. After graduating from high school in 1941 he attended the University of Arizona. His mother's tuberculosis had gotten worse and had gone into her spine. She was put into the hospital in the spring of 1942 and died in 1946.

Donald joined the U.S. Navy in August 1942 and went through Boot Camp in San Diego, California. After Quarter Master School he was assigned to the USS Mobile. He also served on two other ships, the USS Salamaua and a destroyer, the USS William B. Preston. He received six battle stars for his service as well as the rating of Quarter Master First Class. When WWII was over Donald was discharged in October of 1945 and went back to college.

Mr. Norbie married Edna Marie Adams on June 7, 1947 and graduated with honors from Westmont College in 1948. They moved to Wheaton, Illinois and he graduated with an MA degree from Wheaton College in 1949.

Donald was recommended for the Lord's work by Bethany Chapel, Wheaton, Illinois in 1949. He and his wife served the Lord in evangelism and Bible teaching. Donald taught at Emmaus Bible School for three years.

In 1952 they moved to Oklahoma. Over the years they had five children, three boys that were born in Oklahoma and two girls born in Illinois. They started a church in Oklahoma

City and also a Bible Camp in the state. In 1964 they moved to southern California to be near Marie's mother who had recently become a widow. In 1970 they moved to Greeley, Colorado. The ministry in Greeley was primarily with students at first and then broadened to include families. The church that was established, first called Koinonia Fellowship, is now called Fellowship Chapel.

Donald and Marie were also very active with Friends of International Students. They made many friends throughout the world as a result. Donald was involved for many years with the Christian Business Men's Committee. He also served at the Weld County jail for about forty years and served as chaplain during that time. He and his wife traveled extensively in the Lord's work.

Donald's wife, Marie, preceded him in death on January 9, 2014. He is also preceded in death by his son Daniel and his parents, Nels and Myrtle Viola Norbie. He is survived by four children, Donna Neilson of Quebec, Canada, Dorothy Norbie of Denver, Dale Norbie of Denver and Douglas Norbie of Greeley; six grandchildren, five great grandchildren, his brother, Kenneth and wife Arlie of St. Cloud, Minnesota and a half brother and sister, Ron and Penelope.

Services will be held on Monday, August 7, 2017 beginning with a visitation from 10:00 until 1:00 p.m. at the Moser Funeral Service Chapel, 3501 S. 11th Avenue in Evans. A graveside service will follow at 2:00 p.m. on Monday at Linn Grove Cemetery followed by a celebration of Donald's life 4:00 p.m. on Monday at the Fellowship Chapel, 2100 22nd Street.

Memorial gifts to Christian Missions in Many Lands in care of Moser Funeral Service.

An online obituary and guestbook are at [www.moserfuneralservice.com](http://www.moserfuneralservice.com)

# Cemetery

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## Linn Grove Cemetery

Greeley, CO, 80631

# Events

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**AUG** **Visitation** 10:00AM - 01:00PM

**7**

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The Moser Funeral Service Chapel  
3501 S. 11th Avenue, Evans, CO, US, 80620

**AUG** **Graveside Service** 02:00PM - 02:30PM

**7**

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Linn Grove Cemetery  
Greeley, CO, US, 80631

**AUG** **Celebration of Life** 04:00PM - 05:00PM

**7**

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Fellowship Chapel  
2100 22nd Street, Greeley, CO, US, 80631

# Comments

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“ Brother Don was my mentor while I was in college. I did not hear of his passing until today when was looking at timelines on facebook. My condolences and sympathies to family and friends. I am thankful to have known him and to be taught by him. I will see you in Heaven and in the Saviors warm embrace. Your friend Ken Clodfelter

**Ken Clodfelter** - October 10, 2017 at 12:18 PM

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“ I never met Mr. Norbie, but I always stopped to listen when I heard his voice on KFKA. His messages were thought provoking and conveyed love; how wonderful to still be soldiering for our Lord Jesus Christ at his age.

Teresa Detterer  
Greeley

**Teresa Detterer** - August 08, 2017 at 12:43 AM

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“ As a young Christian, both Don & Marie had a major impact on my life when I moved to Greeley CO in 1972. I'm grateful for their loving care & discipleship & helped me get grounded in my faith in Christ. May family & friends who are gathering today be encouraged & blessed as they share & comfort one another.

Toni Strzebala, Logan UT

**Toni Strzebala** - August 07, 2017 at 03:28 PM

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“ Don, I think I talked with you on the phone about three months ago. That conversation was the last one between you and me. I just wanted to encourage you who were unhealthy, and I called you once in a while. I miss you very much. I've always liked your teaching since we met in my country, South Korea. You stayed at my home for your speaking at my church, before I was married, in late 1990's.

Don, I purchased almost all of the books which you wrote, and I will read them. You were a very good Bible teacher with deep thoughts. I will see you later in heaven.

I express my condolences to the family.

In NY,  
Changhoon Lee



“ Don has been such a blessing to me and my family. I first met him at 2 years of age when my parents took me to a Bible study. Although I don't remember that, I do remember in 1997 when I first started talking to him. I was in the weld county jail looking at spending the rest of my life in prison when Don came to visit me. I was ashamed, lost, scared, and helpless. I thought I was a Christian because I said a prayer when I was young. My mind and heart we're darkened and God used Don to be a light in a dark place. I committed my life to Christ and have lived for Him since. In 2002 I was released from prison. Don and the saints at Fellowship Chapel welcomed me with open arms. I am now married with 4 kids who grew up with Don. He was such a blessing to us all and he will be missed, but we know we will be with him again. Now if only we can be so faithful...

**Nate Templeman** - August 07, 2017 at 10:17 AM

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“ I never had the privilege of meeting Don but have heard stories about him. I heard he was with Set Free Prison ministries back a few years and helped with the work there. our condolence to the family and may God comfort for you at this time. I trust we will see him again someday.

Director of SFPM  
John & Corky Lopez

**John Lopez** - August 07, 2017 at 08:17 AM

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“ Memories of dear Don go back to the 60's before I left Colorado to go to Korea in 1966. His visits to Korea for teaching and fellowship were always much appreciated. He had a sharp mind and memory to the end. We rejoice with him in being present now with the Lord he so loved.

Doug Neiswender (South Korea)

**Doug Neiswender** - August 07, 2017 at 06:38 AM

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“ To Don Norbie's family, friends and fellowship, I wonder where I would be now, without Don, Don Nielsen, Marie, Donna, and the Koindonia's testimonies in my life. Probably on a fast road to hell. It was from you all preaching the gospel to me that my life was changed. I desire to pass on what has been given to me. This seed of the word of God has sprung up to produce much fruit. Many in my family, neighborhood, and friends have gotten saved and they have led many to the LORD. I have worked in a Christian School and in local assemblies and

have seen some saved. Working with camp work, international students, Awana, and now refugees hope to see even more saved. My children profess salvation and my husband and I labor here in Knoxville, TN to see a fellowship started. All this resulted from from you all reaching out to an aimless, confused Catholic college student on the campus of UNC. There will be more praise in heaven for eternity because of Don, Don Nielsen and the Koindonia's outreach. May the LORD comfort and console the family, friends and fellowship of Mr. Norbie. Christy Vatterott Tefft

**Christy Vatterott Tefft** - August 07, 2017 at 05:53 AM

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“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald LeRoy Norbie.



August 07, 2017 at 05:47 AM

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“ So grateful to Don and Marie for Koinonia House. Many fond memories.

**Bruce Hoag** - August 05, 2017 at 11:55 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donald LeRoy Norbie.



August 04, 2017 at 11:48 PM

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“ Don was a father to both Kathy and myself. His loving influence stabilized us during our young adult years. When Don taught, you could hear his love of the Scriptures and his passion for teaching. Don's excellent knowledge of God's Word was especially evident in the Revelation study that was held in The Belly of the Whale coffee shop. Kathy and I both took part in his Greek class and what we learned has stayed with us through the years. When Chuck took Greek at seminary, he had an excellent head start due to Don's teaching.

Don was a fine example of what a husband and father should be. He was devoted to Marie and very proud of his kids. We remember Don showing off his garden. He was always sharing produce with whoever might stop by or with the saints at fellowship.

Don was faithful. He admired faithfulness in others and certainly demonstrated that quality himself. He kept on teaching, preaching, serving.

Of course, we are very grateful that Don performed our wedding service. Don (and most of the believers at the fellowship in Greeley!) did not mind driving to Evergreen to perform the wedding.

Certainly our Father has greeted him with a "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Lord!" (Matthew 25:23).

We will miss him and are extraordinarily honored to have known him.

Chuck and Kathy Bonnet

**Charles and Kathy Bonnet** - August 04, 2017 at 08:14 PM

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“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald LeRoy Norbie.



August 04, 2017 at 02:05 PM

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“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I know for many of us, growing in Christ involved knowing Don and learning from his quiet and steady example to live whole heartedly for the Best and Kindest of masters, the Lord Jesus.

Angie Crompton Lange

**Angela Lange** - August 03, 2017 at 10:09 PM

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“ Love knows no boundaries. While Don Norbie is no longer physically with us, his spirit is always around us. Our deepest condolences.

Bey-Lih Chang & Li-Hwa Lin (Taipei, Taiwan)

**BeyLih Chang** - August 03, 2017 at 08:03 PM



“ Love and prayers to you and your family, Donna. I remember your dad as such a kind, sweet man from our times at Lake Koronis.

Fran (Tjomsland) Marsha'  
Lexington, South Carolina

**Fran Hunter Marsha** - August 03, 2017 at 11:15 AM

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“ Donald came to Tucson during the late 80s to look up the little boy, my husband Fred, whom he had known during the 1930s when his family lived there in Tucson. He renewed the acquaintance and came to make it into a friendship, with annual letters exchanged, and prayers for us. I think of him as a friend, though we met only once, and treasure the memory of knowing him.

**JoAnn Kluge** - August 03, 2017 at 08:25 AM

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“ Jo Ann Kluge lit a candle in memory of Donald LeRoy Norbie



**Jo Ann Kluge** - August 03, 2017 at 08:18 AM



“ Praying for you and your family in your loss, that the Lord's comfort and presence will sustain you and keep you in His peace. Jo Ann (Not Jo) Kluge

**JoAnn Kluge** - August 03, 2017 at 08:20 AM



“ I am so very thankful for Mr. Norbie's teaching me Christian Doctrine at Culver City Bible School (CA) back in the spring semester of 1967. His attention to the importance of the truths of Christian faith made an enormous impression upon me, such that I have never forgotten him.

I also remember him staying with my folks when he drove his ancient Volvo through El Paso in the late 60's or early '70s--and how impressed I was at his ability to sustain the constant rigors of Christian ministry as an itinerant preacher and teacher...how many he has blessed in this way!

Last year I discovered him as a reference in a prominent commentary on the Pastoral Epistles as I was preaching through 2 Timothy, and looked up the referenced article--Mr.

Norbie was quite proficient in Greek! I was then highly motivated to see him again, and was blessed to visit him one last time this past October in Greeley. I was taken with his faithfulness to the end, despite many difficulties. I was also taken with his ability to do so many "fourteeners"!

May God give us all the ability to "finish well" as did he, and as did Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph before him (Heb 11:8-22)...we have been so blessed by this gift of God!!

Brian L. Thom, Harker Heights, TX

**Brian L. Thom** - August 05, 2017 at 11:44 PM

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“ We were married by Mr. Norbie in 1974. His gentle guidance and wise counsel in our early Christian lives has had a deep impact on our lives. We remember him with great love and send our condolences to the Norbie & Nielson families. Tom & Susie Baker



**Bakers** - August 02, 2017 at 02:53 PM

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“ Don was a great bible teacher and friend. Always open to hear and help in any way All of us at Turkey Hill Ranch Bible Camp have learned a lot thru his ministry. It's a joy in knowing he is with his Lord and will be praying for the family during this time In Christ. Steve Allan

**steve allan** - August 02, 2017 at 06:41 AM

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“ Oftentimes I introduced myself as Susan Norbie. I was from Taiwan to UNC as an exchange scholar from 1990 to 1997, to study PhD in Biology Sciences. We became so close as I stayed with the Norbies a few summers and winters in their home. I love them as my parents, because they love me as their daughter.

**Lee, Shu-Wen** - August 02, 2017 at 12:06 AM

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“ Mr Norbie meant an awful lot to me and he really encouraged me in my walk with the LORD. A special memory for me is a canoe ride we shared once at Storybook Lodge Christian Camp. We had a good talk and he helped me considerably with my relationship with my unsaved Dad.

**Doug Lowe** - August 01, 2017 at 08:41 PM

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“ My desire is very much to be at my brother's funeral but health issues prevent that from happening. I know that he is resting in the arms of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. Kenneth and Arlie Norbie, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

**kenneth norbie** - August 01, 2017 at 08:40 PM

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“ Dear Donna and Family:

I met Don in Oklahoma City in early 1963. I was traveling with Herman Luhm at the time.

He was always an encouragement through the years. He remained faithful through the years. No better testimony.

Charles Fizer

**Charles Fizer** - August 01, 2017 at 08:24 PM

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“ Dear Donna, Don and Family,  
please receive our warmest sympathies.  
"Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance." Jude 1.2

Claude and Karen Noël  
Québec, Canada

**Claude Noël** - August 01, 2017 at 02:23 PM