

## Donald Stolz, 78

**DES MOINES** — Donald Dean Stolz, age 78, died peacefully after a courageous battle with cancer, Friday, April 9, 2010 in Johnston Mercy Hospice.

Don was born to Henry and Ruth Stolz and spent his early years in Harlan. Following his graduation from Harlan High School, Don worked at the Harlan Tribune as a typesetter and apprentice printer. His career took him to Ida Grove, then to Hannibal, MO, where he served the Hannibal Courier Post for more than 10 years.

Don and his wife, Carole, raised three children; Douglas, Susanne, and Craig. They were active in the Hannibal Lutheran Church and the

school system. Don served as a church deacon for several years while there. Don moved his family to Des Moines in 1967 accepting a position as printer and layout composer with the Des Moines Register and Tribune, serving the newspaper until his retirement in 1997.

Those who knew Don, knew his love and devotion to racing, NASCAR, and his loyalty to #3 – the "Intimidator". NASCAR memorabilia fills his home. His love for racing began in his youth when he would sneak away to the Harlan Racetrack, peeking through the fence to watch Tiny Lund race. Travels took Don to the opening NASCAR Daytona 500 27 consecutive years; plus also attending races in Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Texas, Kansas, and Newton. World War II history, airplanes, fighter planes, battles, skirmishes – all could keep Don talking for hours. He loved talking with the men from WWII who made the trip to the Washington DC Memorial. His collection of caps, buttons, books, tapes, & movies justified his interest. One of his favorite trips was visiting the USS Arizona Memorial and the USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor. Sketching, photography, bird watching, travel, and being with friends were Don's joy and showed his love for life.

Don is predeceased by his wife, Carole J. (Rabe) Stolz; his parents, Hank and Ruth (Smith) Stolz; and a brother, Richard. Surviving are his long-time companion and friend, Blanche Riordan of West Des Moines; sister, Mary Ann (Bernard) Stein of Prairie City; brothers, Ralph Stolz of Eau Clair, WI and Roger Stolz of Colorado Springs, CO; sons, Douglas (Shellie) Stolz of Tulsa, OK, and Craig (Terri) Stolz of Aurora, CO; and daughter, Susanne (Dave) Lunders of Parkville, MO. "Adopted" families include Jeannine (Larry) Laughlin of Waukee, Tony (Amy) Riordan of Urbandale, and Beth Thede of Lakeville, MN; six grandchildren, eight "adopted" grandchildren, one great-grandson; and many, many loving friends and relatives. We loved him and he will always share a place in our hearts. He is at peace!



**Caldwell-Raddatz  
Funeral Home &**

A memorial service was held Friday,

April 16, 2010 at Windsor United Methodist Church, 6222 University Avenue, Des Moines. Visitation was one hour prior to the time of the service, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Memorials may be made to his church. Online condolences may be made at [www.caldwellraddatz.com](http://www.caldwellraddatz.com).

## Crematory

[www.caldwellraddatz.com](http://www.caldwellraddatz.com)  
8201 Hickman Road  
Urbandale, IA 50322-4307  
(515) 276-0551