



Donald Gring

March 18, 1944 - February 17, 2026

After a short illness, Donald Gring, 81, of Toledo, Ohio, passed away February 17, 2026, with his family at his side. A man of unwavering kindness, quiet strength, and boundless love, he devoted his life to his family, friends, and community. He will be remembered for his warm smile, wise counsel, and the way he made everyone feel valued.

Don was born to the late Donald and Betty Gring, March 18, 1944, in Victoria, Texas. He was the oldest of three children. He graduated from Whitmer High School in 1962. He has multiple master's degrees from the University of Toledo. Donald was both a teacher and then a Counselor for the Toledo Public School system. He retired after many years of service. Some of Don's other roles were as a girls track coach and as an advocate for children at the courts. After he retired, he helped adults study for their GED. He always had a heart for the students he taught and counseled.

He is survived by his daughters, Sheila Coates (AJ) of Toledo, and Stephanie McNett (Mark) of Royal Oak Michigan. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Brandon Armstrong (Melissa), Brianna Walker, Brooke Walker (Kurt), Sara McNett and Jonathan McNett; 6 great-grandchildren; 4 foster children; brother, Gary (Sherry) Gring; sister, Debra Gring; as well as numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by one great-grandchild.

Don met the love of his life, the late Mary Gring, when she was 15 years old. They were both attending a dance at the YMCA. Mary was being chased by a girlfriend when she literally fell at his feet. He then, of course, helped her back up. They married in 1964.

Don enjoyed spending time with his friends and family. He enjoyed spending time with friends from the Whitmer reunion team. He would talk about his time at Whitmer High School and has remained friends with many of his fellow students. He also made great friends at the Jewish Community Center where he played poker. He appreciated having a place to go twice a week to meet, talk, and of course, play poker.

Friends and family are invited to visit Friday, March 13, 2026, at Ansberg-West Funeral Home, 3000 W. Sylvania, from 4-7pm, with a prayer service at 7:00 pm. On Saturday, March 14, 2026, a procession will begin at 11:00 am at the funeral home to the interment at Toledo Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, please consider a gift to help cover funeral expenses or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Cemetery Details

Toledo Memorial Park

6382 Monroe Street
Sylvania, OH 43560

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 13. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Memorial Service

MAR 13. 7:00 PM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Procession to Cemetery

MAR 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Tribute Wall

AL

“ I am so sorry for your loss He was such an incredible man!!! I went to hi numerous times when I was in school at Woodward and he helped me more than anyone knows. He was always so gentle and caring when i went to him with my problems as a student, but he also made me laugh at times too. I have so many positive memories of him.

Amanda Lyne - March 13 at 08:47 PM

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“ Don's Whitmer High School Class of 1962, send their sympathy to his family. We will miss him at our class reunions and Lunch. Lots of good memories.

Dorothy Harget Yakumithis - March 08 at 05:47 PM