



Donald R. Thinnes

January 27, 1947 - January 20, 2024

Age 76, peacefully passed away in his home on Saturday January 20, 2024; surrounded by loved ones and his faithful 4-legged companion Honey.

Donny had been an active member of Pittsburgh's LGBTQ community since the 1970s. He owned and operated a gay bar on Herron Avenue in Polish Hill that had numerous names over the years including DB's, The Norreh, Leather Central, and Donny's Place. Donny was a member of the Pittsburgh Tavern Guild, a group of bar owners that held a variety of events and raised money for many LGBTQ causes. He was a founding member of the Delta Foundation of Pittsburgh, an LGBTQ advocacy organization which planned Pittsburgh Pride and other community events.

Donny was also a proud Vietnam Veteran having served a tour of duty in-country from 1966-1968,

In addition to his parents Walter and Genevieve (Plohr), Donald was preceded in death by his brothers David and Kenneth Thinnes. He is survived by his brother Raymond (Marilyn) Thinnes, and sister Kathleen McCluskey, sister Roxanne (Dutch) Kokula. He was the proud uncle of Karyn (Michael) Reinhart, Wendy Durick, Tracey (Daniel) Nichol, Susanne and Christopher (Margaret) Thinnes. He was also the proud great-uncle to his ten nieces and nephews, and his great- great - niece and nephew.

A Memorial Service will take place at a later date. Donations can be made to Shepherd Wellness Community, 4800 Sciota St, Pittsburgh, PA 15224.

Tribute Wall

SD

“ Donny was amazing in his endless contributions to the community in which he believed in helping people in need. He gave more than most. During the Aids crisis, he lost his brother and his partner and still Donny helped those who were in need . He stands out as one of the greatest in the history of gay Pittsburgh. I will always remember Donny fondly

Stephen Dario - February 29, 2024 at 02:04 PM

DS

“ One of the great ones. Donnie was a terrific person to get to know. Every day was new day for Donny and he lived his life with courage, love and gusto! A life well lived!

Farewell my friend. Peace be with your family.

Douglas Shields - January 29, 2024 at 11:27 AM

MT

“ My condolences to Donnie’s family. We will always be great for his generosity to the LGBTQ+ community. May he rest in peace.

Michael Tevis - January 29, 2024 at 10:16 AM

RN

“ In my opinion the biggest letch. Good riddens!!

Rick nelson - January 26, 2024 at 10:54 PM

PB

Shame on you. If you had issues with Don, fine, I get it. This was not the place to post it. Compassion and kindness must not be a part of your vocabulary!

Pat B. - January 29, 2024 at 09:43 PM