



Donald Ray Phillippe

April 9, 1933 - June 1, 2025

Donald Ray Phillippe, 92, of Anderson, died peacefully on June 1, 2025, at Community Hospital–Anderson. He was born on April 9, 1933, in Cutler, Indiana.

Don graduated from Anderson High School (Class of 1952) and served his country (US Naval Reserves 1951 to 1957) during the Korean War in the United States Navy, attached to NATO-6th Fleet from 1954 to 1956. With funding from the GI Bill, he went on to earn degrees from the International Business College (BSC in 1954), Ball State University (BS Accounting in 1959), and Indiana University Law School (JD in 1963).

Launching his career in 1956, Don served his community as an Accountant, an Attorney at Law (admitted to practice before the US Supreme Court and the US Court of Appeals–7th Circuit), and as the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the 50th Judicial Circuit. In 1972, he won the first of a record-setting 11 elections to become a Judge for the Anderson City Court, where he served proudly until 2015. In 2016, he was honored by the Indiana General Assembly (Senate Resolution 9) for his 44 years on the bench and 51 years as an Attorney. If you worked for him, you always remained a part of his team. If you worked with him, you honored his fairness on the bench and the knowledge he shared so generously with all, especially younger attorneys. And when he loved you, he shared his wry humor and complete loyalty–family, friends, "the

lunch bunch," "the wrecking crew," and the AHS Band kids.

Don was a member of the Bar Associations for Madison County and the State of Indiana, and also served as President of the Indiana City and Town Court Judges Association while also being a member of the Judicial Ethics Committee, Judicial Conference of Indiana. He further supported the community of Anderson with the Anderson Noon Optimists, Anderson American Legion Post #128, 40 & 8, Anderson Elks Lodge, Madison County Shrine Club, University Club, Rooster Club, Roosevelt/Kennedy Club, Fraternal Order of Police #48, F & AM #681, Scottish Rite, Indianapolis and Anderson York Rite, Chapter 52, Counsel #69, Commandry #32.

Don loved gardening, computers, a dry red wine, fried eggs (only if you "cremated them"), vanilla bean ice cream, and his nightly Heineken while "vegetating". He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Dottie Phillippe; three children, Amy Anesi (Anthony), Dean Miller (Carol), and Debra Miller; four grandchildren, Nathan Miller (Amy), Abigail Zakhary (George), and Marguerite & Adeline Kosterman, and three great-grandchildren, Elijah Zakhary, Rebecca & Naomi (due in August) Miller. He was preceded in death by his parents, A. Gerald Phillippe and Elsie F. Veatch.

Cremation will take place with the family receiving friends on Saturday, September 6, 2025, at Loose Funeral Homes and Crematory from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. A Celebration of Life service will begin with a Masonic Service at 3:00 pm.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Madison County Humane Society, <https://www.mchsandersonin.org/> or The Animal Protection League Inc., Indiana. <https://www.inapl.org/>

www.loosecares.com

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 6. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Loose Funeral Homes & Crematory
200 W 53rd St
Anderson, IN 46013
(765) 649-5255
info@loosecares.com

Memorial Service

SEP 6. 3:00 PM (ET)

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Anderson, IN 46013
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Tribute Wall

BM

“ *Such a good man*



Brenda McGlothlin - September 04, 2025 at 02:58 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Ray Phillippe.

September 03, 2025 at 12:17 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Phillippe.*



September 03, 2025 at 12:17 PM

EL

“ *A great public servant! I worked for him in his court for 2 years and enjoyed every minute of it. He was a fantastic judge. When I became Police Chief of Anderson in 1996, he gave me my oath of office, chosen by me. My condolences to his entire family.*
Ed Leonard- former Anderson Police Chief.

Edward Leonard - June 09, 2025 at 11:54 AM

RH

“ Renee Hull-Allen lit a candle in memory of Donald Ray Phillippe



Renee Hull-Allen - June 07, 2025 at 01:01 PM

RH

*Judge Phillippe and his lovely wife Dottie had been such wonderful supporters, and shared their encouragement during high school when Amy and I were in activities and that support continued through my appearances in numerous theatrical productions for years thereafter. Always will I fondly reflect upon their shared spirit of support for this community.
Warmes regards,
Renee*

Renee Hull-Allen - June 07, 2025 at 01:08 PM

KO

“ So sorry for your loss, Amy. Sending love & comfort ❤️

kathleen osta - June 06, 2025 at 11:57 PM

JH

“ Don was and always will be one of the most influential men I'll ever have known, for more reasons than I can share here. Mostly admired for his tenacity and sense of fairness in the cases he represented our families. 2 adoptions (one of which, he had to learn some case law); legal and moral advice on several occasions. Plus, he was co-owner of the Phillippe Water with his father. I'll always remember him coming into the shop, a little perturbed over something, he said very clearly, "Never forget, you're representing my name in what you do for this company!" Integrity message received and will never be forgotten. I'll ever be grateful he's part of my life's story. A TRUE one-of-kind!

James E Harrison - June 06, 2025 at 07:49 PM

LR

“ Our deepest condolences to Dottie and family. Don will be greatly missed. Jack and Linda Reed

Linda Reed - June 06, 2025 at 04:52 PM

Ψ

“ Anderson has lost a giant in its judicial system, but heaven has received a faithful servant—God's peace and comfort to the Phillippe family.

Steven Hoskin

Steven Hoskin - June 06, 2025 at 08:16 AM



SH

“ I remember one year on Halloween Judge Phillippee was dressed up as a cute Lil duck at a party i worked at Edgewood Country Club. We all had so much fun that night! I know he will be missed by so many. Prayers for family and friends 💙

Shelly Hurst-Baker - June 05, 2025 at 01:52 PM

SK

“ I am so sorry Dottie and family. He meant the world to me. He was the best boss a person could have. I've always had the highest respect and gratitude for him. May he rest in peace.

Sandra Kellams - June 05, 2025 at 11:50 AM

JA

“ Enjoyed many moments with Don and Dottie as next door neighbors. Sending love and prayers to the family.
Jim and Judy Atherton

judy atherton - June 05, 2025 at 11:41 AM