

DONALD LEE SMOLDER, SR.



Donald “Don” Lee Smolder, Sr., 74, of Callahan, passed away on January 24, 2022. He was born in Charleston, West Virginia on February 22, 1947, to the late Estel Smolder and Mary Inge Smolder. Don was raised in West Virginia and relocated to Jacksonville, as a young adult. He enjoyed his longtime career at Anchor Hocking Glass Company where he dedicated over 33 years of service in their maintenance department. In the early 2000’s, Don met his best friend and longtime companion, Diane Louise Smith. They were happily married on June 4, 2005, and have enjoyed the past 16 years of marriage. Don was known for his green thumb, growing flourishing vegetable gardens and full citrus trees. He enjoyed being outdoors, hunting, fishing, tending to this yard and sitting around his pond which he always kept well maintained and manicured. Don was a longtime member of Lannie Road Baptist Church where he enjoyed attending and worshipping, but most of all, Don loved his family and enjoyed spending time with them. He was preceded in death by his parents; and brother Leonard Smolder.

Don is survived by his loving wife, Diane Smolder of Callahan; children Donald (Peggy) Smolder, III, Scott (Jessica) Smolder, Brian (Dana) Smolder, Nita (Keith) Collins, Melissa (James) Monday, William (Beth Nichols) Smith, Angelia (Robert) Young and James Smith; sisters Karen Williams and Sharon (John) Martini; 15 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; mother-in-law Dottie Hartley; and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

A celebration of Don’s life was held Saturday, January 29, 2022 at Lannie Road Baptist Church with Pastor Buddy Wimberly officiating.

Arrangements under the direction of Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

Visit www.nassaufh.com to sign the family’s guest book.