Donald Thomas Williams, Jr. dedicated husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, musician, leader, and educator passed away on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, in Redmond, Washington. Those who knew him speak of his kindness, patience, and playful sense of humor.

Don was born to Don and Dorothy Williams in Everett, Washington on July 12, 1928, and spent his entire childhood in the Pacific Northwest. He graduated from Highline High School in 1946 and the Eastern Washington College of Education in 1950. He received both his Master’s and Doctoral degrees from Stanford University.

When Don was in 4th grade, he learned to play the trombone and began a musical career that led to a lifetime of adventures, as well as the love of his wife, Kathleen. He enlisted in the US Airforce, and became a member of the 751st Band and was stationed in England. The band traveled around England and Europe, performing in military parades and dance halls. Shortly before he was due to come home, he met Kathleen. After two dates he had to leave, but they continued correspondence by mail. In September 1957 Kathleen joined him in Palo Alto. Her parents and brother moved to the US in June 1958, and they were married by Don’s grandfather on Don’s 30th birthday, July 12th 1958. Don always proudly proclaimed the we could never forget his anniversary.

He began his career in education, teaching in the Highline School District for two years, then after his Airforce service he worked in the Offices of Admission at both Stanford and Reed College. Upon receiving his Ph.D. he began teaching at the university level, at the University of Illinois and the University of Washington. His teaching style drew heavily on student participation rather than professorial lecturing. By the time he retired in 1995, he chaired 51 doctoral committees and was he major advisor for 45 master’s candidates. His students have gone on to careers in administration at all collegiate levels around the world.
Don’s calm, thoughtful approach, and his ability to listen were qualities that led to positions of leadership in many aspects of his life. He was student body president both in high school and college, the Secretary of the Faculty at the University of Washington, moderator of the church, president of the Duvall Historical Society, and President of the Resident’s Association for his retirement community of Emerald Heights. These leadership experiences lead to two memorable opportunities, meeting both Harry Truman and Queen Elizabeth II.

Don was predeceased by his parents, Don and Dorothy, his brother, Duane. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Kathleen, his sister Diane, his children Kathryn, Karen, Dave, and Andy; his grandchildren Ben, Karina, Kaitlyn, Josh, Stephen, Tyler, Riley, Rori and Quinn, and great-grandchildren, Carter and Chloe.

A memorial service will be held at 2.00 pm on Friday, December 9, 2022, at the Bellevue First Congregational church, 11061 N.E. 2nd Street, Bellevue, WA 98004. In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to the Alzheimer’s Association (alz.org) or Autism Speaks (autismspeaks.org.)

Working on the book with Don was fun. We arranged a meeting and he gave me a pile of Xerox copies of pages from the Duvall Citizen and Carnavall Reporter newspapers. Although we agreed that I would write two chapters in the book, chapter 2 on the railroads and early beginnings of the town and chapter 5 on the life in the 1950’s and 60’s, because I lived it. Don did a sneaky thing when the book was published. Although my contribution was two chapters and some photographs and Don did 90% of the book, he put my name ahead of his as author, making it appear most the work was mine. That was the nature of Don Williams, putting others before himself. R.I.P. Don, I worked with you, I got no complaints. ~ Allen Miller
Mission Statement: Duvall Historical Society’s mission is to: preserve, record, publish, and promote appreciation of the history of Duvall, and the lower Snoqualmie Valley through making history and accessible and engaging lifelong experience for people of all ages.

We believe in the power of history and the preservation of our culture.

Collections: Last Lamp Light of Duvall

The Duvall Historical Society is continuously looking for volunteers to help in its mission of recording and preserving culture. If you’d like to help with one of the opportunities below, or have an idea of your own, please contact us at duvallhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

- Dougherty House docent
- Education and outreach
- Book publication
- Maintenance of buildings and gardens
- Cataloging of artifacts, books, and ephemera
- Promotion of Historical Society membership
- Planning of speakers and programs
- Research

3&4th Quarter 2020  Duvall Historical Society PO Box 385, Duvall, WA 98019 www.duvallhistoricalsociety.org
2022 Accomplishments

January 10th ~ All Members meeting ~ Voted in new BOD
January ~ Strategic Planning meeting for 2022; Increased posts of Facebook and saw the community get engaged with history.
February ~ Support local radio history interviews by posting on collaborative social media.
February ~ Presented to the Duvall Rotary our plans for the remainder of 2022. Provided each member of the group with a copy of Hi Times.
March ~ Added an oral interview of Paula and Russell Hendricks. Individually moved to Duvall in the early 70’s and became great contributors to the local heritage and art community.
March ~ Duvall Business Directory & Visitor’s Guide comes out w/ a story written by DHS about How history changes and stays the same. Excerpts from Ralph Taylor’s book Duvall Immigrant
May 1st ~ Dougherty Farmstead Open House Sundays start.
May 11th ~ Visual story book introduced to it’s first venue The Grange.
May 14th ~ Hosted and collaborated with Duvall Civic Club for their yearly plant sale. Free tree pruning workshop with Greg Giuliani.
May 30th ~ Collaborated with Novelty Hills Cemetery’s Memorial Day Salute
June 4th ~ Promoted DHS at a booth for Duvall Days.
June 8th ~ Purchased a lawn mower for the Pioneer Cemetery located on the Dougherty Farmstead.
July 1st—4th ~ Collaborated with Duvall Civic Club in their yearly fireworks sale.
July 14th ~ Provided a private tour to the Bel Ami group from Trilogy
August 20th ~ Collaborated with Novelty Hills for Twilight Tour
August 28th ~ Presented to Snoqualmie Valley Tilth the agricultural history of the Dougherty Farmstead.
September 2nd ~ Collaborated with Novelty Hills Cemetery’s Memorial Day Salute
September 7th ~ Hosted a vendor fair with local artist at the Dougherty Farmstead.
September 26th ~ Provided a private tour to a local homeschooling group.
October 5th ~ Provided a private tour to Sno Valley Senior Center.
November 20th ~ Visual story book introduced to Duvall Library KCLS.
December 2nd ~ Promoted DHS at a booth for Light Up Duvall Christmas

We are grateful to 4Culture, Savor Snoqualmie, WSHS & the K.C. Cultural Services Agency for their support in the preservation of our heritage.

Current 2020 Officers
“Country” Roney ~ President
“Fiver” Pilon ~ Vice President
OPEN ~ Treasurer
OPEN ~ Secretary

At-Large Board Members
Kimberly Engelkes (2020-2022)
OPEN (2020-2022)
Greg Giuliana (2021-2023)
OPEN (2021-2023)
Denny Redman (2021-2023)
Lynette Ziuchkovski ~ Archivist