

Donald Selby Crouch

September 2, 1932 - December 4, 2025

Donald Selby Crouch Sr., an aerospace engineer who worked on the iconic NASA Apollo and Viking Programs, died December 4, 2025 at HeartFields Assisted Living in Easton, Maryland. He was 93.

His death was 11 years to the day after the passing of his beloved wife of 39 years, Shirley Jean.

Don was born September 2, 1932 on Kent Island, Maryland to Dorothy (née White) and Louis Selby Crouch, Sr. His early years were spent trapping muskrats, hunting, boating, and playing sports. After graduating from Stevensville High School in 1949, he left the Eastern Shore to attend Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, where he earned a degree in electrical engineering in 1954. Don spent two years in the Army before beginning his aerospace career.

As a project manager for Lockheed Martin, Don headed teams that developed tools used in the Apollo lunar program and robotic arms used on the twin Viking Landers to sample the soil on Mars. He was also involved in the Tethered Satellite System for the space shuttles. His work took him around the world, including stints in Germany and Italy. In 1968 he moved to Littleton, Colorado, where he met Shirley; they married in 1975.

After his retirement Don stayed mentally and physically active. He especially enjoyed training for and participating in the Bay Bridge Run, where he was the

oldest finisher from 2021-2024.

He is survived by his daughters, Patricia Winchester Underland and Ellen H. Merkey (Tom), stepdaughter Karla Blimes (Michael), stepson Steve Holland (Jackie), his brother Louis Selby Crouch Jr. (Cristina), sister Beverly Young, his grandchildren, Erica Collins (Ryan), Sarah Sampson (Doug), Laura Heller (Jason), and Scott Underland (Kristen), step-grandchildren, Zach Entwistle, Alaine Fulton (Michael), Jon Perry Entwistle (Scarlett), Matt Morris (Missy), Andy Morris (Lauren), and Jonathan Morris, and 21 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his former wife, Jeannette Marx. He is predeceased by his son, Donald Selby Crouch, Jr., and his stepdaughter, Sheryl Entwistle.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution to Maryland Public Television.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC 13. 12:00 PM (ET)

Stevensville Cemetery
808 Main St
Stevensville, MD 21666
(410) 643-2226

Tribute Wall

KL

“ *Louis and Beverly, so sorry to learn of your brother's passing.*

Kathy T Lantz - December 18, 2025 at 08:26 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Don Crouch Photos*



Linda Collier - December 13, 2025 at 09:47 AM

PD

“ *2 files added to the album Don Crouch Photos*



Patty Morris Dunlap - December 12, 2025 at 10:34 PM

PD

“ *Donnie has been one of my favorite friends since the 5th grade in Stevensville. I had such a nice visit with Donnie for our 70th High School Reunion (2019) - the '49ers! I also was so glad for Donnie to visit here in Orlando after the reunion. Love you, Donnie! Patty Morris Dunlap*



Patty Morris Dunlap - December 12, 2025 at 10:24 PM

BY

“ *Bill Jane Young lit a candle in memory of Donald Selby Crouch*



Bill Jane Young - December 11, 2025 at 10:58 PM

BN

“ *Bobby And Genevieve Norris sent a virtual gift in memory of Donald Selby Crouch*



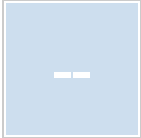
Bobby and Genevieve Norris - December 11, 2025 at 03:07 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Donald Selby Crouch.



December 10, 2025 at 03:10 PM



“ - Marcus and Sharon - planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Selby Crouch.

- Marcus and Sharon - - December 10, 2025 at 03:10 PM



“ I was glad to have met Don, he was truly a character.

Teresa - December 09, 2025 at 09:20 AM



“ Rest in peace big brother. Sorry you didn't get to see my new "digs".



Beverly Young - December 08, 2025 at 07:06 PM

LC

“ 1 file added to the album *Don Crouch Photos*



Lou Crouch - December 07, 2025 at 05:19 PM

NH

The Stevensville Gang. Bad to the Bone. God Bless

Nancie Lewis Hall - December 08, 2025 at 11:22 PM

LC

“ *RIP Big Bro*

Lou Crouch - December 07, 2025 at 05:03 PM