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The Archives of Falconry Legacy Circle, Susan Bowman, friends and family of Don Heidt, The North American Falconers' Association

IN MEMORY OF DONALD HEIDT



Donald William Heidt was born on February 9, 1938 in Davenport, Iowa to Willard Leslie and Gladys Bond Heidt. After a long illness, Don passed away on February 24, 2015.

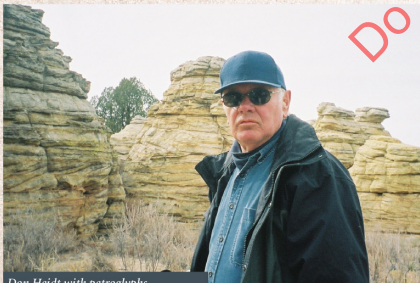
Don was active in Boy Scouting in Arlington, TX, receiving the Explorer Silver Award. One of his favorite Boy Scout experiences was attending Junior Leader Training at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Wildlife and the outdoors were a big part of Don's life.

Don completed his application for the Bird Study Merit Badge in 1955 and thereafter birds became a special interest. In the 1970's he found a sponsor, David Williamson, and his passion became falconry. Don spent many hours tromping in the woods with his hawks. His first birds were Red-tailed Hawks and later he had Harris's Hawks that he trapped in South Texas.

Don joined the Naval Reserves and served 7 years at the U.S. Naval Air Station Dallas, TX, traveling the world in his job as radio operator for his squadron. While in the reserves, he completed courses in aviation electronics. Don went on to graduate from Arlington State College

(which would become UT Arlington) in 1966 with a BS in Electrical Engineering.

Don was hired by Texas Instruments (TI) where he had the great fortune of working in Jack St. Clair Kilby's laboratory. Kilby would go on to win the Nobel Prize in physics in 2000 for inventing the first integrated circuit. Don met Susan Bowman while both were working at TI in the early 1980's. They fell in love and married in 1986 in



Don Heidt with petroglyphs



Don with his three children

Monument, CO.

Throughout his 43 year career Don was known for his technical expertise and innovative ideas. His straight forward communication style was legendary. While at TI Don became an Engineering Manager and Senior Member of the Technical Staff, co-authoring two patents related to manufacturing equipment and process technology. After leaving TI, Don became a founding partner of two other businesses. During this time, two more patents were co-authored. A modest man of marvelous intellect, Don freely shared his knowledge with others but rarely talked about his own accomplishments.

An avid bibliophile, Don was always on the lookout for falconry and archaeology books in used book stores. One day he ran across an interesting-looking, old, leather-bound volume with many added original photographs and hand painted lithographs. It was *Falconry in the British Isles*. Don spent many years researching the provenance of this book and finally concluded it had belonged to Francis Henry Salvin, one of the authors. The book was donated in 2008 to the Archives of Falconry to be enjoyed by many.

After many trips to Colorado over the years, Don and Susan retired, moving to Colorado Springs in 2002. Always the avid book collector and researcher, in retirement Don began studying archaeoastronomy, spending time with his friend and sponsor David Williamson at a remote petroglyph site in the panhandle of Oklahoma. His research was presented at a symposium in 2009 and he continued to study and be fascinated by this ancient calendar. Don was a kind and generous man who was deeply loved and is greatly missed by family and friends.



During his lifetime, Don was an engineer, wildlife enthusiast, husband and father. He was a kind and generous man who was deeply loved and is greatly missed by family and friends.



Don Heidt with Susan's family



Don Heidt with siblings Janet Roberts, Jean Carter, Dick Heidt



Don with Harris

