



Pete de Jong

February 20, 1927 - July 15, 2020

Pete de Jong of Escondido, California went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on the morning of July 15, 2020 at the wonderful old age of 93 years!

Pete was born on February 20, 1927 in The Leiden Hospital near Aarlanderveen, The Netherlands. He was the second son of Arie and Maartje de Jong. The family moved to the United States in 1949. Pete followed in 1950 after finishing his tour of duty with the Dutch Army in Indonesia. Together with the family, he began Hollandia Dairy on the corner of 17th Street and Highway 395 in Escondido. This 28 cow dairy with an attached Cash and Carry store was a big step up from the 10 cow dairy that Pete had been born on! As co-owner he spent many years in charge of public relations, marketing, and administration. Though he retired in 2006, he continued attending board meetings well into his 92nd year, even after the business was sold to the next generation of de Jongs.

In 1956 Pete met Rena Dragt at the Escondido Christian Reformed Church. Though she was not sure he was her type, encouraged by her Mom and because he was a Christian, she decided to give him a chance. They dated for a year and on January 30, 1957 they were married. They took a three-month honeymoon across the United States and then on to Europe. By the time they returned home, they were expecting their first child. The rest of the children followed in rapid succession until 11 years later they had their family of seven children; enough to fill a station wagon and then some! Many family trips were taken in that station wagon with all the supplies packed on top, including a 2-room tent, a cookstove and sleeping bags for all! What an adventure those trips were!

Pete was very involved with his church and community. He was a member and Elder of the Escondido United Reformed Church and served with the Christian Business Men's Committee, the Oceanside Servicemen's Center and Wednesday Night Evangelism. He was active on the boards of Calvin Christian School, San Diego Farm Bureau and Westminster Seminary. But there was nothing he enjoyed more than sharing the story of salvation through Christ with those he met!

Pete is survived by his wife Rena to whom he was married for 63 years. He is also survived by his children Theo and Jeanne de Haan, Arie de Jong, Gerrit and Hinke de Jong, Gilbert and Marjie den Dulk, Peter and Ingrid de Jong, Mark and Elsie Bousema and Sandra de Jong. He leaves behind 34 grandchildren who loved him dearly and 41 great grandchildren with 4 more on the way. They all called him "Opa" and had so much fun with him!

He was preceded in death by his son, William de Jong and daughter in law Carol de Jong, also a grandson and great grandson.

Also surviving him are his brothers and their wives, Teun and Hinke, John and Willie and Arie and Anneke de Jong and his sisters and their husbands Ellie and Wim Griffioen, Jet Gailey and Richard and Mary Westra, also sisters in law Shirley, Dita and Helia de Jong. He was predeceased by his brothers Karel, Elso and Kees de Jong.

The family suggests memorial donations be made to: Westminster Seminary 1725 Bear Valley Parkway Escondido, CA 92027 or Abounding Grace Radio P.O. Box 732 Lynden, WA 98264

A Memorial Service will be held at 10:30 am on Thursday, July 23, at Melrose Ranch 16757 Old Guejito Grade Road, Escondido, CA 92027.

Cemetery

Events

**Oak Hill Memorial
Park**

2640 Glenridge Rd
Escondido, CA,
92027

**JUL
23**

Memorial Service

10:30AM

Melrose Ranch

Melrose Ranch 16757 Old Guejito Grade Road, Escondido,
CA, US, 92027

Comments



“ After my mom died I began taking my dad to the evening service. Many times Pete would come out to the parking lot and greet my dad and be his usual happy and welcoming self. My dad was really impressed and grateful for his kindness. I'll always remember Pete for helping my dad at a rough time for him.
Janis Nilsen

Janis Nilsen - July 23 at 06:27 PM



“ The legacy of love for his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, his family, country and friends left by Pete will not soon be forgotten by anyone who knew him:.. his ready smile, sincere desire to listen and help, that mischievous smile and above all Pete's desire that you come to know his Jesus in a personal way all made up the man we knew and loved and called friend. Thanks for the many years of friendship and memories, Pete.. Please accept the sincere sympathy from the Julius Behling family: Wynona, Mike and Lana Wolford, Eric and Diane Wright and Robert and Stefani Behling, Wynona Foy Behling

Wynona Foy Behling - July 22 at 09:37 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Pete de Jong.



July 22 at 02:31 PM



“ Troy & Connie purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Pete de Jong.



Troy & Connie - July 22 at 01:55 PM



“ We visited the Escondido Christian Reformed Church for the first time in 1971 with our two small boys. After the service, Pete came up and introduced himself and invited us for lunch. That gesture was so special to us as visitors not knowing anyone! Over the years, he was an inspiration and example in his compassion for others and his devotion to the Lord. We shall miss him!
Carol and Jerry Galloway

Carol Galloway - July 21 at 06:19 PM



“ Dear family. We send you our condolences. We are blessed to have known Opa de Jong. We wish you strenght and power for the coming time. You're in our hart. With love, Piet and Trudy vander Krieke. Zwolle

piet van der krieke - July 21 at 11:29 AM



“ Our condolence to your family in the loss of your father and grandfather. I have many fond memories of your father especially at Meadow brook. He was always so kind to my mother and father.

Joanna Stryker - July 20 at 11:49 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Pete de Jong.



July 20 at 05:11 PM



“ What a legacy Mr. de Jong leaves to his family! Thank you for sharing his story.

Jacklynn Ketelaar - July 20 at 03:52 PM



“ We loved Opa Pete---so full of smiles, eye twinkles, a story, and a testimony every time we met, whether in Illinois or in California. Love and blessings to Oma and to all the De Jongs and our DeHaans---Jeff & Ginny Carpenter

