

July 23, 1939 ~ April 16, 2026

DON JONES

Don Jones, 86, of Stockton, California, took his final checkered flag on Thursday, April 16th, heading out for one more speeding ride down Highway 12 to Rio Vista with his friend Darren in the driver's seat.



Don is survived by his overly patient and accepting wife, Jonney, the love of his life – a fact she happily accepted sympathy for throughout their 62 years of marriage. He also leaves behind his daughters, Vicki (Tony) Shipman and Kathy Jones; grandsons Joseph and Jason Shipman, and Dylan and Drake Garcia; great-grandchildren Kaeson, Lily, Lucy, Ledger, and Lane Shipman, with a baby Garcia on the way; and so many wonderful friends from Elkhorn Golf Club, Rio Vista, Woodland and Tracy.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lois and Edwin Jones, his son-in-law, Rod Garcia, and his beloved dog, Henry.

Don was born in Covington, Oklahoma, on July 23, 1939. Driving his 1954 Ford Convertible, he moved to Tracy, California, in 1963, where he worked on building the Delta-Mendota Canal system for several years running trucks up and down I-5. In 1972, he and his brother-in-law, Don Tinsley, launched their own business, Delta Oilfield. In 2008, he branched out to start NorCal Construction with his partner Ross West, which he proudly operated until his retirement in 2024 at the age of 85.

Jonesy had a passion for many things, but especially car racing and horse racing. From 1970 to 1976, he raced his car, *The Ugly Duckling* (#23J), at Stockton 99 Speedway, collecting an impressive number of trophies along the way. His love for horse racing was evident in the many photos of him and his horses in the winner's circle.

Tremendous and heartfelt thanks go to the truly exceptional doctors, Dr. S. Patel and Dr. Punja, who provided extraordinary care and countless procedures over the past 35 years. Don had a remarkable ability to bounce back time and time again, even when the odds were uncertain, guess he was a favorite. Though often encouraged to follow a Mediterranean diet, Don made it clear to the doctor's that he would continue enjoying prime rib whenever he pleased.

Friends and family are invited to celebrate Don's life on Saturday, May 16th, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Elkhorn Golf Clubhouse, 1050 Elkhorn Dr, Stockton, California.

In lieu of flowers, place a bet on *Renegade* – or your own pick – for the Kentucky Derby on May 2nd, and think of Don.

