



**Donald William Stotz**  
**1949 - 2016**

Donald William Stotz, age 66 years, of Ida, Michigan passed away on Thursday, August 11, 2016 in his home. Friends may call at the Capaul Funeral Home, Ida, Monday, August 15, 2016 from 11AM-9PM. He will lie in-state at East Ida Immanuel Lutheran Church, Monroe, Tuesday, August 16, 2016 from 10 AM until the services at 11 AM. Pastor Curtis Garland will officiate. Burial will be in East Ida Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery, Ida.

The son of Wilmont F. and Betty (Sandrock) Stotz, Don was born on September 9, 1949. He lived and worked his entire life in the Ida area. He married Linda (Scott) Stotz on February 15, 1980. Don was a 1967 graduate of Ida High School, earning an Associate's Degree from MCCC and Michigan State University.

Don grew up working alongside his father and grandfather on the Stotz Homestead, which is now designated a Sesquicentennial Farm. He loved being a farmer, planting in the spring, monitoring his crops as they grew, and harvesting in the fall. Don loved to experiment with new methods to double crop soybeans. He was so hopeful this year, his double crop beans so far look the best ever. At least twice a day he would ride around the field monitoring their growth. Don always thought it was a wonderful life to raise his family in the farming community. He also loved watching RFD-TV, morning, noon and night.

Don loved his church, East Ida Immanuel, where he was baptized, confirmed and married. He was a school board member and past president at Ida Public Schools for 13 years. Don was also a member of Michigan Farm Bureau and the Modern Producers Community Farm Bureau Group, Southeast Michigan Antique Tractor Club, and the Florida Flywheelers Antique Tractor Club. His greatest joy was spending time with his family,

especially his grandchildren. Don would take them with him in his Honda side by side while scouting his crops.

Don was an antique tractor enthusiast, owning 4 antique tractors, his favorite being his Super MTA. He towed that tractor to Grand Island, Nebraska and participated in the World's Largest Parade of Classic Tractors. He also drove across the Mackinac Bridge all 8 years in the Antique Tractor Drive. Don loved his antique tractors and traveled far and wide to tractor shows across the United States.

Don enjoyed spending a portion of his winter months in Frostproof, Florida.

Don is survived by his wife, Linda, son, Matthew (Crystal) Stotz, daughter, Janelle Stotz, step-sons Chris Strack, Ron Strack, and Scott (Heather) Strack, grandchildren Ethan and Reese Stotz, Myles Leeper, Christopher, Miranda, Jacob, Randall, Hart, Makenna and Kane Strack, brothers Daniel (Gari Lynn) Stotz and Douglas (Denise) Stotz, Aunt Helma Haessler, nieces Jessica and Rebecca Stotz, nephews Jacob and Timothy Stotz.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Wilmont and Betty Stotz, brother David Stotz, and Aunt Mildred Stotz.

Memorial Contributions may be made to: East Ida Immanuel Lutheran Church, Monroe.

To send the family condolences please go online to: [www.capaulfuneralhome.com](http://www.capaulfuneralhome.com).