



FEMSA and FAMA are saddened to report the passing of
Don Bouwer, Founder of Ten-8 Fire Equipment, Inc.



Mr. Bouwer passed away Tuesday, June 13th, at his home in Bradenton, FL. He was 86 years old.

In the 1970's, Don started a company called Don Bouwer Fire & Safety Equipment. Don had many stories that he loved to share. Many have heard the beloved story of his first sale, a helmet strap that later turned into a sale of his first fire truck. He saw this as a testimony that if you take care of the little things for a customer they will trust you with the big things. Don's commitment to serving customers with honesty and integrity was the catalyst that continued to grow the company. In 1985, Ten-8 Fire Equipment, Inc. was founded. Today, Ten-8 has grown to be a major United States distributor of fire and emergency apparatus and equipment. Don always felt that the employees were the company's greatest asset.

Don was a member of the Cedar Hammock Fire Rescue from 1956 - 1981. Don served faithfully in many roles from Firefighter to Assistant Fire Chief. Many of us knew Don as an influential leader, mentor and friend. The impact he made in the Florida fire service was immense, verified when he received the lifetime achievement award from the Florida Fire Chief's Association as one of only three individuals to receive the prestigious award. Don developed and maintained countless friendships with customers and vendors that he cherished greatly.

Don leaves a legacy of influence that has touched so many people throughout the years. He was a man of strong faith.

Visitation and Funeral

The celebration of life for Mr. Bouwer will take place on June 24, 2017, at 2:00 PM and will be held at Bradenton Christian Reformed Church located at 4208 26th Street, West Bradenton, FL 34205. The Bouwer family will receive friends at 1:00 PM for a time of visitation.

Fire and Emergency Services Professionals are encouraged to attend in Class A uniforms.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be sent to the following organizations:

Bradenton Christian School

3304 43rd St W. Bradenton, FL 34209

<http://www.bcspanthers.org/get-involved/donate>

Guardian Angels

1429 60th Ave. W., Suite 200 Bradenton, FL 34207

<http://www.guardianangelsfl.org/change-the-life-of-achild/>

Firefighter Cancer Support Network

<http://www.FirefighterCancerSupport.org>

2600 W. Olive Ave., 5th Floor - PMB 608, Burbank CA 91505, or
online at <https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/WebLink.aspx?name=E201016&id=1>

Under the "type of tribute" section, choose "in memory of." Add "Don Bouwer" in the Tribute Name field and enter "sabraham@ten8fire.com." The Bouwer family will be notified about your gift.

Your personal notes of condolence may be sent to:

Dann Bouwer
Ten-8 Fire Equipment
2904 59th Ave. Dr. E.
Bradenton, FL 34203

Please keep the Bouwer and Ten-8 families in your thoughts and prayers.

STAY CONNECTED:



FAMA / FEMSA, FAMA P.O. Box 3065, Ocala, FL 34478,
FEMSA P.O. Box 147, Lynnfield, MA 01940

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