

## Rev. Donald Matthiessen, 87

April 24, 1929- Feb. 3, 2017

**STERLING** – Donald Matthiessen was born in Persia April 24, 1929 to PW and Lillie (Martens) Matthiessen. He was a graduate of Persia High School, Dana College, and Concordia Theological Seminary in Springfield, IL. He was ordained as a minister in July of 1975.

Don married Rosemary (Mortensen) of Elk Horn on July 26, 1975 in Persia. He faithfully and passionately served the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod his entire life as a layman, Bible Study leader, and minister including churches in Winner, Clearfield, and Hamill, SD; Gresham, NE; and Our Saviors Lutheran, Sterling. Don was a farmer for many years prior to his ordination. He farmed many acres around the Shelby area. He was drafted into the Marine Corps and was honorably discharged in 1952 after the death of his father.

Rev. Matthiessen passed away Friday, Feb. 3, 2017 at Regency Care of Sterling.

He was preceded in death by his father, mother, sister Maxine, and brother-in-law William Oloff.

Rev. Matthiessen is survived by his wife of 41 years, Rosemary, their children George Matthiessen of Osan Air Force Base, Osan, South Korea; Robert Matthiessen of Dixon, IL; and Amy (James) Morrison of Tarzana, CA, and one granddaughter, Alice Morrison of Tarzana, CA.

In celebration of a life well lived, there will be a visitation at McDonalds Funeral Home, Rock Falls, IL on Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017 from 5 - 7 p.m. Funeral services will be held at McDonald Funeral Home, Rock Falls Thursday, Feb. 16 at 10 a.m. with the Rev. Mark Hawkinson, family friend, officiating. Graveside services will be held 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17 at Elk Horn Lutheran Church Cemetery, Elk Horn.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established. Condolences may be sent to [www.mcdonaldfuneralhomes.com](http://www.mcdonaldfuneralhomes.com).



*McDonald  
Funeral Home,  
Inc.*

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Sterling, Illinois 61081