

All, I guess you read in paper that Donnie Downs had passed away on 1 sept and a small service at his house in colby village is being held on Saturday 11th at 11:00 am..

Don was my diving partner on my clearance diver course in 1967 and he was quite the character.. he couldn't hardly run around the block without gasping for air, but he was like a fish in the water and a great little worker in the water. i can remember him laughing through his mouthpiece while working underwater, so it certainly was a great joy for me to have him for my diving buddy during the 6 months on the westcoast. he was a cocky bugger and that was another thing i liked about him, and always opened his mouth when he thought something had to be said. he reminds me of a good neighbour of mine who is a trained plumber and just loves his trade and doesn't want to be anything else.. donnie just wanted to be a working diver, not a supervisor, not the buffer on a boat, just a "give me the tools and i'll see you on the bottom " kind of guy.. that is why he always declined promotions and mainly the reason he got out of the branch after a short stint with the diver mob as it were ....i will miss his smiling face, sharp tongue and of course all those real fast powerful souped-up cars he used to drive in his early days at the unit. donnie was a throwback from " 77 sunset strip " , and only a select few knew about that and his classmates of 1967 were the privileged few. ( chuck wilson, neil connors,don jones,danny anderson,tuffy murray,sam semple )

take care Andy and all the best to you and Marie

Sam Semple