



Donald Watchorn

July 10, 1926 - Oct. 20, 2017



FREMONT — Donald C. Watchorn, age 91, of Fremont passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends on Oct. 20, 2017.

Don was preceded in death by his wife Joan; parents, Walter and Pearl; two brothers and two sisters. Don is survived by his daughter, Carolee and son-in-law, Patrick Cronin of Fremont; grandson, Andy (Trisha) Cronin of Tumwater, Washington; and granddaughters, Colleen (Tanner) Cronin Daum of St. Louis,

Missouri, Kelly (Travis) Cronin Blecha of Omaha, and Mary Kate Cronin of Denver; sister, Donna (Eslick) of Atlantic, Iowa; and great-grandsons, Deacon and Evan Cronin and Jack Daum.

Don was born in North Bend on July 10, 1926, and raised in Ponca. Don enlisted in the U.S. Navy following graduation from Ponca High School and served on the USS Windham Bay in the Pacific during World War II. Don married Joan Tooley on Aug. 4, 1947. While Don had a distinguished 40-year career as a Football Coach and Athletic Director at locations including Ponca High, Schuyler High, Omaha University/UNO, and Midland Lutheran College, he will always be remembered for the relationships he established with student-athletes, staff and coaching peers, and family and friends.

He was a member of the Midland Athletic Hall of Fame (1950 graduate of Midland College, now Midland University), Nebraska Football Hall of Fame and the Rotary Club.

The funeral will be at 10 a.m. today at First Lutheran Church in Fremont. Burial will be in Memorial Cemetery with Military Honors.

Memorials are suggested to Ponca Community Educational Foundation, 505 3rd Street, Ponca, NE 68770.

Ludvigsen Mortuary is in charge of arrangements. On-line guestbook at www.Ludvigsenmortuary.com.



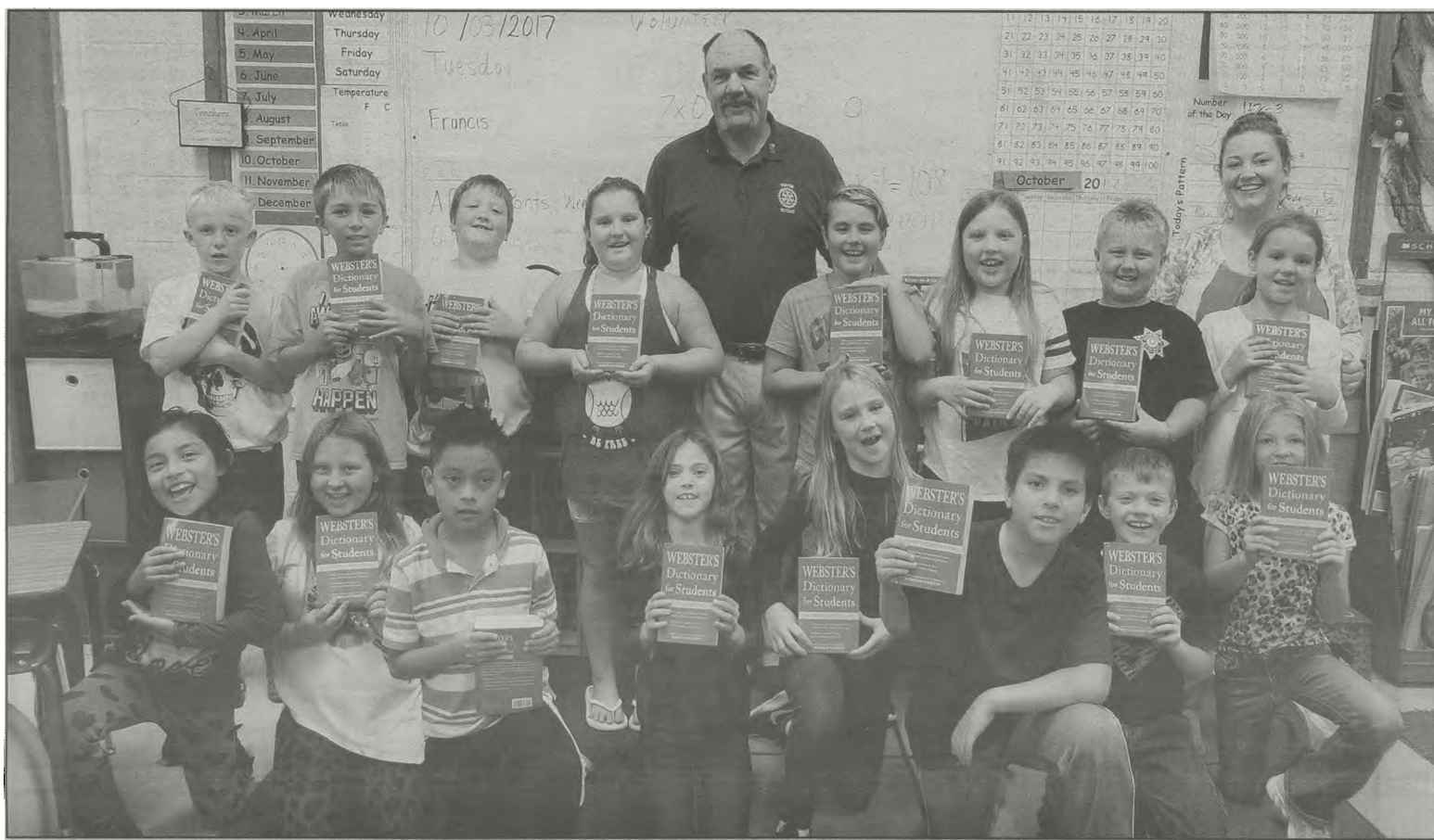
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Students receive dictionaries from Wayne Rotary Club

Thanks to the Wayne Rotary Club, third graders in area schools have or will receive new dictionaries that belong to them. Local students receiving the dictionaries include the following schools: Wayne, Wayne St. Mary's, Winside, Wisner-Pilger, Pender, Emerson-Hubbard, Wakefield, Allen, Walthill, Winnebago, Omaha Nation, and Laurel-Concord-Coleridge. The goal of this project is to assist students to complete the school year as good writers, active readers, and creative thinkers by having their own personal dictionary. The Wayne Rotary Club has given away over 3,000 dictionaries since the project started in 2007.

Pictured are the two Emerson-Hubbard 3rd grade classes. Nancy Casey and Kimberly Francis are the teachers. Rotarians who assisted with distribution in this school were Darrell Miller (chair for this project), Bill Engebretsen, Carol Dunning, and Anne Nolte.

The Rotary Dictionary Project is striving to give every third grade student in the U.S. their own dictionary. Over two million children received a dictionary in 2016. This is thanks to the generosity of sponsors, such as Rotary, who have participated in the project.



Emerson-Hubbard students receiving dictionaries pictured: front row, from left: Jennifer Lopez, Jenna Gunn, Baldwin Garcia, Sierra Lewis, Paige Johnson, Deigo Dominguez, Kaleb Bruggeman, Giselle Legett; back row: Nash Morgan, Matt Bousquet, Christopher Bloomenburg-Sherer, Ashlyn Jacobsen, Madison Miller, Ivy Martineck, Landyn Servine, Kenley Clements, Mrs. Francis.



Emerson-Hubbard students receiving dictionaries— front row, from left: Ava Reifenrath, Joslyn Mackling, Macie Swanson, Kya Hartsock, Jaxon Hall, Houstin Holloway; standing: Jayda Stallbaum, Aubery Mitchell, Briley Anderson, Edgar Ortega, Emily Mitchell, Jenna Madison, Sophie Cimino, Jamil Usngan, Mrs. Casey.