

## **Grecia Ambrozheichik**

As I've been searching our archives I have been dismayed at how little of everything (photos, videos, etc.) I've been able to find of Don. This is partly because we are still recovering from a house move: things are in disarray, we can't find stuff and much is divided between two countries (themselves divided by the corona crisis). But the other reason is what I think was one of Don's characteristic traits. He was one of the humblest, self-effacing, unpretentious people I've ever known. Never even wanting, and certainly not seeking, to be in the limelight and 'doing' it so gracefully so as not to make anybody feel uncomfortable in the least. On most videos and photos you find him somewhere on the side or in the back. He occupies such a humble place on our mementoes but how this contrasts with the role he played in so many people's lives!

I didn't get to spend with him all that much time (frankly, no amount of time would've felt sufficient, it was so easy, peaceful and secure to be with him) and yet I consider him an epoch in my life. Of course my first Brunk experience was with Dave who was a defining influence on me. Then I met Don and it was like, "But of course! Now I see why". This is not something I can easily put into words. I guess it just made perfect sense that a Dad like this would be behind someone like Dave. Both these epochal guys are shown on one of the photos I'm attaching; this one was taken in Jackson in August of 2013. The other one is of Don with Jan, another of my favorite people, in June 2015 when we celebrated Dave's life, also in Jackson.

And the third photo was taken in spring of 1995. It shows part of the student body of Christ for the Nations Bible Institute in Minsk, Belarus, that had been started by Dave and Jan (front row, on the right) about two years earlier. Now if you look closer, then closer still, you will see behind everyone else, in the very back on the right... Pops -- JD, Don Brunk -- the man who was very much behind this and many other great endeavors and so many great people of God! I will always consider myself lucky, blessed and deeply honored to have known Don Brunk.

*Much love to you and Julie from our whole family!*

*Grecia*