

Donald Robert Spurgeon

Died: April 13, 1962

Don died on Friday, April 13, 1962, at the age of 22 after a 14-month long battle with cancer.

He grew up in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he went to high school. He was on the student council and was elected class vice-president. He was named to the honor society, and served on the yearbook staff and debating team.

According to an Alumni Magazine obituary in October 1962, Don's high school sports were baseball and football. He was the starting halfback on the school's state championship football team.

Don left Dartmouth after his freshman year, transferring to Pomona College in California, says the obituary. He left his mark at Dartmouth in the short time he was with us. Our classmate Tom Conger remembers him as "a quiet, deeply religious man, who played freshman football, and always bowed his head and said grace before meals at Thayer." The Alumni Magazine obituary reports that he played basketball his freshman year as well, and is remembered as "a friendly and courageous" member of our class.

No other information about Don's life at or after Dartmouth is available. Don completed, or nearly completed his undergraduate work at Pomona, a fair inference from the Alumni Magazine's remarkable notation that "the trustees and faculty of Pomona College conferred Don's degree posthumously — the first time they had done so."