D FALCONER LIFE.

[Image of a falconer with a bird on a perch]

Don was a falconer for life. It was a major part of his character.

He would fly his birds at various locations in the area including Whittier College, Long Beach, Sepulveda Farms, and of course the nearby beach areas. He made many friends through the falconry community, and his remarkable craftsmanship made him a friendship with many bird owners.

Don's custom perches made of redwood and exotic woods and laminates, and it wasn't long before Don's work was recognized. His brother Dennis had a lathe in his garage and wanted Don to help him build a perch. Don was good with crafts, for example, and he made beautiful wooden blocks for his birds. His friend Bill Linde worked at a paper mill and would bring his family to the ranch for meals.

Don was one of 10 siblings — six boys and four girls — and he was right in the middle of that pack. When the family moved from Chicago to California, it opened the door to a familial interest in falconry. Today, those Don Grisco perches are still prized and often used as show blocks at falconry meets. They are treasured by those falconers lucky enough to have one.