

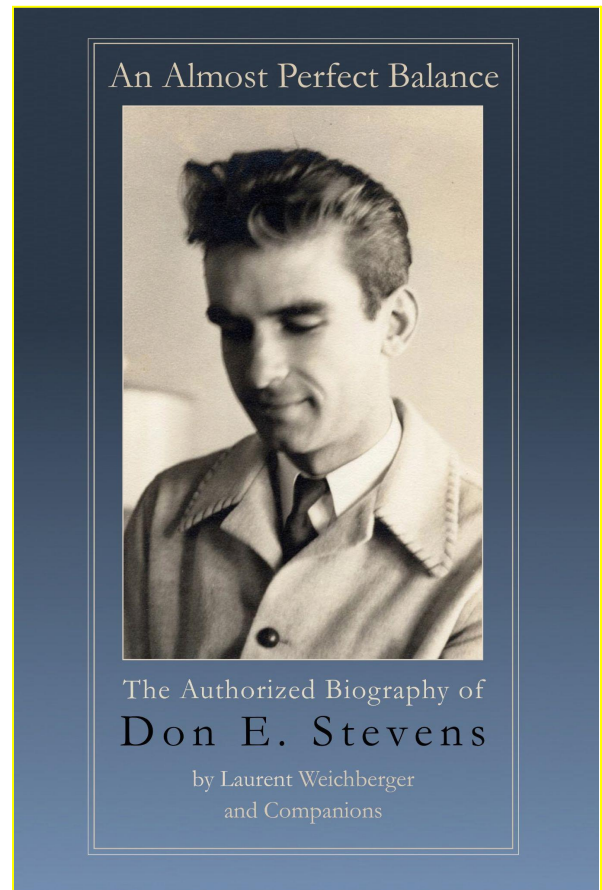
For Immediate Release

Asheville, NC [November 15, 2022]: Today local Asheville author Laurent Weichberger has released his new book, *An Almost Perfect Balance, the Authorized Biography of Don E. Stevens* (Asheville: OmPoint Press, 2022), 886 pp. This publication was funded by a grant from Beads on One String Foundation (beadsononestring.org), an organization created by Don Stevens before his passing in 2011. Don was a preeminent “Western” disciple of the Persian spiritual master Avatar Meher Baba (b. 1894 in Pune, India, d. 1969 in Meherazad, India).

Avatar Meher Baba said: “Don has an almost perfect balance of head and heart.” Don lived his life from 1945 until 2011 under the guidance of Avatar Meher Baba, first in a Sufi order directed by Murshida Rabia Martin, and then later in Sufism Reoriented, under Meher Baba's direct guidance, and then finally he was released from his role in Sufism, and worked directly with and for Meher Baba.

One of the many remarkable qualities of Don Stevens is that he was a Vice President at Chevron Oil (formerly Standard Oil of California) for the entire period of his discipleship with Meher Baba. This put him in a unique position to serve both an “Eastern” spiritual master, and a Western “Big Oil” firm. Furthermore, as a Sufi, his simultaneous knowledge of both business and mysticism was unparalleled in the 20th century. This is part of the story of balancing the head and heart. Another aspect of his journey is that he was bisexual, at a time when he was not permitted by society to “come out.”

Don Stevens embraced his life mission fully and with exuberance. It fueled not only his actions but it propelled many connected to Don to take up the mission of love and truth which Don found with Meher Baba. Don explored the nature of consciousness according to Meher Baba, through connection to others on the spiritual path, including fellow aspirants and devotees of Meher Baba. His life was about finding that light and truth which lives in all our hearts, and distilling practical ways of pursuing, implementing, and imparting that truth to those who came into his fold.



This book covers Don's entire life, including 90 chapters by Laurent and his many contributing authors, with dozens of images, and seminal correspondence with Avatar Meher Baba:

Introduction, by Cynthia and Richard Griffin

Part I: 1919 – 1929

Part II: 1930 – 1939

Part III: 1940 – 1949

Part IV: 1950 – 1959

Part V: 1960 – 1969

- Don Stevens, by Rick Chapman

Chapter: Image Archive (29 photos)

Part VI: 1970 – 1979

- Don's Work with Groups, by David Lee
- Don and France, by Françoise and Daniel Lemétais
- Don and Intuition, by Kathryn Harris

Part VII: 1980 – 1989

- Memories of Don, by Debbie Sanchez

Part VIII: 1990 – 1999

- Don and Groups, by Cynthia and Richard Griffin
- Jill Davis Talks with Don Stevens

Part VIII (Continued):

- Wise Counsel, Intuition and The Sweetness, The Don in Central Australia, by Craig San Roque
- A Posthumous Truig Conversation with Don E. Stevens, by Neale Lundgren

Part IX: 2000 – 2009

- Don's Last Book, by Wayne Smith

Part X: 2010 – 2014

- Don Stevens, by Charles Haynes
- Don's Story for Laurent, by Jan Baker
- In His Service, by Irma Sheppard and Karl Moeller

Appendix A:

Francis Brabazon writes to Don

Appendix B:

Exploring Don's Natal Chart, by Marlena Applebaum

The Last Word, by Vanessa Weichberger

The Book Is Now Available From Fine Book Sellers

- Sheriar Books: www.sheriarbooks.org
- Barnes & Noble:
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/an-almost-perfect-balance-the-authorized-biography-of-don-e-stevens-laurent-weichberger/1142522422>
- Wholesale orders: OmPoint Press: ompoint@gmail.com

~ And other booksellers worldwide. ~