



Ronald Lawrence Smith

November 16, 1950 - January 22, 2024

Ronald L. Smith, age 73, of Manassas, VA, lost his battle with depression on Monday, January 22, 2024. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 50 years, Robin W. Smith; children, Wendy M. (Josh) Desilets and Mark D. (Sara) Smith; loving grandchildren, James H. Elliott, Michaela, Madison, Jacob, and Joshua Desilets, and Violet and Felicity Smith.

Retiring after 26 years as a first responder with Fairfax County Fire & Rescue, he then drove a school bus for Prince William County Public Schools for 20 years. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and supporting them in all their many athletic activities and recitals. He will forever be loved and missed by all.

Family and friends will gather for a Visitation on Thursday, February 1, 2024, from 10:00am-12:00pm at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center St., Manassas, VA 20110. Funeral Services will be held at 12:00pm. Interment will take place on Friday, February 2, 2024, at 11:00am at the Fairfax City Cemetery, 10567 Main St., Fairfax, VA 22030.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Ronald's name to the Ronald McDonald House or St. Jude's.

Cemetery Details

Fairfax City Cemetery

10567 Main Street
Fairfax, VA 22030

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 1. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Funeral Service

FEB 1. 12:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
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Burial

FEB 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fairfax City Cemetery
10567 Main Street
Fairfax, VA 22030

Tribute Wall

DH

“ Ron was my beloved Brother-in-law married to my sister, Robin, for 54 years after our fathers' untimely passing. I was already married and expecting my second child when he and my sister married. With my husband in the military, in Virginia, I would visit my home in Fairfax, Va. with my son, and see all my family fairly often. When Robin and Ron built their house in Manassas, Va. it seemed to be in the middle of nowhere and hard to find the first few times I drove to see them. Needless to say, Manassas built up around them and their location was private but beautiful and close to the city but not too close.

I went home every year in the ensuing years after my husband's military retirement and always spent time with Robin and Ron and their family, and when their children married and had children of their own, I got to visit with them too.

Through the years, Ron and I had many walks through the neighborhood almost every time I came to visit and talked about our families, to catch up on their lives and life in general; cars, plants, golf and various and sundry topics were covered on those walks together. Rides in his Corvette and trips to visit sights he thought would interest me are some of my fondest memories of time with him and Robin.

One of my most precious memories is Ron putting items down in his wooded area for my Granddaughter to find. At 3 years old she was so excited to find deer antlers, leaves, and other things he had hidden for her to find and poke sticks in the creek, visit their pet cemetery, where he told her about all their pets now in pet heaven. It is one of my fondest memories of her and "Uncle Ron" sitting in the floor talking about all their special finds. My pictures of them together are even more precious now as she passed away suddenly 4 years ago and now he has sadly left us too.

Ron's kindness, caring, and good humor will be so missed. He was always willing to lend a hand and help anyone. A handyman, mechanic, school bus driver, golfer and an outstanding and dedicated fireman, his care for those around him will be remembered by his family and all those he helped through the years.

We always called him "Robin's Ron" as my husband is "Ron" too. His passing has left a void in our whole families' hearts and lives. Our prayers and heartfelt sympathy go out to Robin, my sister, their children and grandchildren. We will miss Ron's smile, his laughter, and his compassion for all who knew him. Rest in Peace Ron. We love you. We miss you. Our grief at your loss will always be with us because your love will be with us too.

Darlene Hassler

Darlene D Hassler - February 08, 2024 at 05:49 PM

“ Ron was my dear brother-in-law whose kindness knew no bounds. I have known him for over 50 years. I was 10 years old when I first met Ron. At the time my brothers and I were still reeling from my Father’s untimely death that year. Ron and my sister Robin were so generous and would often include my two brothers and I on trips to Shenandoah National Park, driving the scenic Skyline Drive or the Blue Ridge Parkway, and Nags Head N.C. among other places. They would take us to movies and food outings which were always exciting for us. When he was in the fire dept. he would sometimes take us to see the practice drills where they would put out the fire of a burning abandoned building they had set on fire. Watching how they trained in this way was fascinating to a kid my age. Throughout the years he was always there for my family, helping my Mom in innumerable ways with house repairs and such. When he and Robin got married he was a positive presence during my adolescence and has always been a role model throughout my life. He had a love of nature and wonder, a good sense of humor, and was so knowledgeable about a myriad of subjects.

I remember one time when he was helping me move. After loading some stuff in his pickup truck he noticed in the apartment was a huge tree (a log standing upright). A friend in college had sanded and stained it as a sculpture project and then gave it to me. Nearly 8 feet high and with the base circumference of about 4 feet, Ron looked at it and hesitantly asked “Did you want to take that?”. I replied “Yeah, if that’s ok.”. “Are you crazy?!!” Ron exclaimed incredulously. “Yes.” I answered. He then proceeded to heed my wishes and as we loaded it onto his pickup he was smiling the whole time. He was so kind that he was willing not only to help me with this absurd request, but he found it amusing. I still have the tree to this day.

Although his passing is heartbreaking, I will always cherish the good memories of Ron. I know he was also a good husband, Father, and Grandfather among his many rolls in life. My heart goes out to the family.

GV

“ I met him last year when he and his wife Robin came here in Colorado Springs for their visit with Shane and my mom. My heart is breaking to hear the news of his passing. My condolences go out to Robin and family during difficult time. I am sending lots of love tonthe family.



Gino Villarreal

Gino Villarreal - February 01, 2024 at 11:32 PM

PE

“ We will always remember Ron with such fondness. He was a neighbor that was available day or night if any assistance or need was warranted. If I was alone with 3 kids, I knew I could call Ron day or night and he would lend his helping hand. Along with Robin, it could be a decision on whether stitches were needed or a lawn mower had to be started. In one situation, Ron scrambled up a tree to bring down a 3 yr old who was too high for my comfort. It happened to be Mark, but he would have scrambled for any of the neighborhood kids. No request would have gone unanswered - always a smile, always willing. Ron was a giver, through his profession and his daily life. Our hope is for comfort in memories for Robin, Wendy, Mark, and all the grandchildren. Peggy and Mike

Peggy - January 30, 2024 at 10:10 AM

JT

“ Judy Taber lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lawrence Smith



Judy Taber - January 29, 2024 at 11:41 AM

JT

“ In deeply saddened me to hear of Ron’s passing, he was such a kind soul. Ron and I worked together for over 15 years, I still remember the stories he shared with me over some of the students he transported, he sure had patience. I retired in 2019 but always think back to the good days, Ron is always part of those memories. Sending my condolences to Robin and the family 🙏🙏🙏

Judy Taber - January 29, 2024 at 11:38 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald Lawrence Smith.



January 29, 2024 at 10:31 AM

SM

“ My dear cousin Ronnie you will be missed so very much by your family and friends. You left me with so many memories of my visits to Va. You always made time to take us on little trips to show us the Virginia countryside. And you were so sweet last year to your "Aunt Pat". It is all these kinds of memories that will see us through. God bless you Robin, Mark, and Wendy and grandchildren. RIP Ron. Love, Sharon

Sharon McKnight - January 28, 2024 at 04:37 PM

JW

“ We are sorry for your loss. You are in our prayers for comfort thru all the days forward.Hold on to the good memories but go forward as if he is with you.
Judy and family.

Judy Waybright - January 28, 2024 at 11:52 AM

SN

“ Dear Robin, Wendy, Mark and your families,
My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Ron was a wonderful man who loved his family dearly. He was kind, caring, and giving. I'm so very sorry for your loss. I pray that God will give you comfort and give you the strength to get through this difficult time. I love you all.

Sherry Nelson - January 28, 2024 at 10:45 AM

GT

My thoughts and prayers go out to you and the family. I know in my heart how much he loved all of you precious memories he left behind is now what you can enjoy. Aunt gerri turner and family.

Gerri turner - January 29, 2024 at 01:25 PM