



Ronald E. Brown

October 4, 1947 - July 10, 2016

Ronald Brown

Roanoke – Ronald E. Brown, 68, of Fresno, CA, formerly of Roanoke, passed away on July 10, 2016 in Fresno.

He was born on October 4, 1947 in Peoria, IL to Irving E. and Marjorie Rients Brown. He married Astrid Schelander on May 31, 2003 in Fresno, CA. She survives.

Also surviving is a step son Aaron Johnson of San Jose, CA; two sisters, Diana (Givin) Owen of Amherst, NH; Coleen (Steve) Bachman of Roanoke.

As a youth in Roanoke, Ron was an outstanding athlete and scholar. He was well-known for his basketball skills, which earned him a college scholarship; and also enjoyed baseball, track, cross country, and golf. He was a member of the Roanoke United Methodist Church and active in the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

His high school basketball teams recorded some of the most successful seasons in Roanoke - Benson history, and to this day records are still held and storied legends are remembered.

Ron worked for over 30 years for the United States Environmental Protection Agency in the hazardous waste division before retiring in 2004. He was also a retired Naval Reservist having served his country for 20 years.

As the years passed Ron became very involved and dedicated to his new wife, her son, and the Brown family. He loved and supported his sisters and advised his nieces and nephew on their careers and investments. He was always there for family and friends when they needed him. Family and friends meant everything to Ron. He had a loving and generous heart and a wonderful smile.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday July 20, 2016 at 11:00 am at the Roanoke United Methodist Church. Rev. Charlie Graul will officiate. Visitation will be held from 9:30 am – 11:00 am prior to the services at the church. Burial will be in the Roanoke Township Cemetery. A celebration of Ron's life will be held at 10:00 am on Friday, July 29th at the Hope Lutheran Church in Fresno with a reception to follow immediately after services at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Habit to Humanity or to the Roanoke United Methodist Church. Online condolences may be sent to the family at knappjohnsonharris.com

Events

JUL 20 Visitation 09:30AM - 11:00AM

Roanoke United Methodist Church
401 N. Church Street, Roanoke, IL, US, 61561

JUL 20 Funeral Services 11:00AM

Roanoke United Methodist Church
401 N. Church Street, Roanoke, IL, US, 61561

JUL 29 Celebration of Life Service 10:00AM

Hope Lutheran Church
Fresno, CA, US

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Knapp-Johnson-Harris Funeral Home - July 18, 2016 at 02:11 PM



“ My thoughts are with Ronnie's family at this difficult time! I have such fond memories of going to school with him...will always remember that smile and laugh!
Jolena (Paluska)Sutherland

Jolena (Paluska)Sutherland - July 30, 2016 at 10:52 AM



“ To the BEST uncle a person could ask for, you are missed. We loved you dearly and will miss our times together!!! A family man to the end love ya. Tanja

tanja owen - July 20, 2016 at 08:00 PM



“ I just wanted to tell you how surprised and sad I was to hear of Ron's passing. Unfortunately, there are no words to comfort your grief, only lasting love and precious memories. Please accept my deepest sympathy, and know that my heart goes out to the entire family. Ann Wehrli-Beach

Ann Wehrli-Beach - July 19, 2016 at 07:06 PM



“ Mary Ann (Kenyon) Beyers purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Ronald E. Brown.



Mary Ann (Kenyon) Beyers - July 19, 2016 at 10:00 AM



“ Never heard a disparaging word mentioned about Ron from first grade thru senior year that I shared in school with him. "He was a nice guy" We should all be so lucky to have that epithet and epitaph as Ron does. Rest in peace.

John Dust
Class of 1965

John Dust - July 18, 2016 at 05:23 PM



“ My sympathy to all on Ron's passing. May you find strength in your faith, family and friends to carry you through this time of grief. May your memories and love for Ron give you comfort in the days ahead.
With sincere sympathy and love,
Amy (Burroughs)Kraft

Amy Kraft - July 18, 2016 at 08:32 AM