



Ronald "Ron" H. Heames Jr.

November 11, 1943 - September 28, 2021

Heames, Ronald "Ron", September 28, 2021 age 77 of Ann Arbor. Beloved father of Michelle (Don) Watler. Loving son of Ronald Heames Sr. Dear brother of Cindy Derr and Jan Johnson. Ron retired in 2004 after a lifelong career with Ford Motor Company. A Private cremation has been arranged by the Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army. To share a message of condolence, please visit vermeulenh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Ronald "Ron" H. Heames Jr.*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *I was shocked to hear of Ron's passing. I had known him for years and loved his kindness and outrageous sense of humor. Life events separated us this past many years, but I have never forgotten him and I never will. My condolences to his family, especially his daughter who was his biggest and best topic of conversation. R.I.P. old friend.*

Karen - January 09, 2022 at 07:16 PM



“ *Ron and I were "boxing fan" buddies, as well as softball teammates. I was very lucky to have Ron as a friend.*

John Wolford

John Wolford - December 11, 2021 at 07:42 PM



“ *So Sorry to hear this sad news about Ron, He got his haircut with me over the years and his humor will be missed. Bob Dascola Ann Arbor Mi*

Bob Dascola - October 29, 2021 at 10:53 AM

JC

“ I remember Ron's good sense of humor and dedication fondly working with him when he volunteered at Matthaei Botanical Gardens during the summer's when I worked there. He always had a story to tell and always seemed genuinely interested in what other people had to share too. Always a good conversation during break time to look forward to! My condolences to his family.

Joe C. - October 11, 2021 at 09:05 PM

DV

“ Please accept my condolences for the loss of this lovely person. We used to share stories about adult daughters and how much they mean to us. His volunteering was an impressive constant. With his hard work and cheerfulness, he was really the face of MBGNA volunteers. Now that sense of humor and those jokes..! Ron will always be remembered with great fondness!

Denice Virgo - October 08, 2021 at 03:49 PM

CH

“ I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Ron since 2013. He was kind, caring, and hilarious. I will miss sharing running stories with one another, jokes, and hearing his consistent greeting of, "Whatta ya say, buddy?" - the only person I've ever been okay with calling me "buddy."
I'll always share his phrase of "Don't kill the job!" A phrase he told to me our first summer working together.

Rest in Power, friend.

Chad - October 05, 2021 at 10:01 AM

MI

Thank you. His jokes will be missed by many...

Michelle - October 05, 2021 at 08:38 PM

JU

“Michelle, I am shocked and saddened. Heartfelt sympathies to you. Ron and I used to run together regularly, and even went to Grandma's Marathon. He was a great friend and mentor, always had a joke at the ready too. And of course we had to have silly "code names", he was Jake, I was Trixie. Just thinking about that made me laugh.

As I got busier raising my two girls, we fell out of touch, but reconnected in the last few years, thanks to my former neighbors Jeff & Terri Walters. And Ron was EXACTLY as awesome as before.

Not only am I a better runner for all the miles we logged together, I am a better person for time spent with him.

There was never a run or coffee time that your dad did not talk about you. He was very proud of you. I thought it was so cool all the races you would do together. My heart breaks for your loss.

When I lace up for my run today, I plan on having a long conversation with Ron, he may not be here, but he's forever in my heart. And I'm going to see how many ridiculous jokes of his I can remember.

Julie Parrish AKA Trixie

Julie - October 04, 2021 at 03:04 PM

MI

Thank you Julie. I'm glad he touched many lives with his running and his humor. It has been a very, very difficult time for me as you can imagine. He always told me you can't eat an elephant in one bite, something I keep in mind as I deal with my grief going forward - Michelle

michelle - October 04, 2021 at 09:53 PM

TZ

“ Ron was always one of my favorite guys at Matthaei when we volunteered together. He always had me laughing and asked me regularly about my children, especially a son who'd had some health problems. May he rest in eternal peace.

Theresa Ziolkowski - October 03, 2021 at 08:55 PM

MI

Thank you. He loved working at the garden and seeing everyone. Loved to make people laugh

michelle - October 04, 2021 at 09:54 PM

PO

“ Michelle, We were devastated to hear of the loss of your father. He was a wonderful man and we enjoyed talking about all of the marathon that you and he said run over the years. It's hard to believe that he has passed. We had just seen him about a week or so ago, talking and planning for the future. Sorry for your loss. Pat O'Neill and your friends at Family Legacy.

patrick oneill - October 03, 2021 at 05:55 PM

MI

Thank you Pat. It's been very difficult this past week. It's unbelievable to think he's gone. One day at a time right now..- Michelle

Michelle - October 03, 2021 at 06:46 PM

RV

“ I am greatly saddened by the passing of Ron. I had volunteered at Matthaei Garden with him for 6 years and always enjoyed his wit and humor. He was a great worker and a wonderful gentleman to be associated with. My deepest condolences to his family and loved ones during these times.

Ric Vix - October 03, 2021 at 11:23 AM

MW

Ric, Thank you for your thoughts... Michelle

Michelle Watler - October 03, 2021 at 02:32 PM

LF

“ So sorry to hear about Ron's passing. I knew him as a neighbor and fellow volunteer at Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Ron always had a smile and went out of his way to be helpful. He will be missed greatly. Condolences to family and friends.
Lynn Fouchey

Lynn Fouchey - October 02, 2021 at 03:32 PM

MI

Thank you. He always had a smile and loved to tell a joke. I'd give anything to hear one more. - Michelle

Michelle - October 02, 2021 at 04:33 PM

KH

“ Ron was such a nice, kind Bayberry Circle neighbor. We send our best thoughts to his family. He will be very much missed.

Kristen Haenchen - October 02, 2021 at 02:44 PM

MI

Thank you. He will be greatly missed - Michelle

Michelle - October 02, 2021 at 04:31 PM

MO

“ Ron was a wonderful friend and neighbor in our Laurel Gardens Condo community. I watched him over many years visiting and befriending one of our elderly neighbors by taking walks with them and bringing them the daily newspaper. I can hear Ron and my late husband sitting on our front porch yukking it up with Ron's jokes and their shared love of current events. We'll miss you Ron. RIP.

Mary Ellen O'Keefe - October 01, 2021 at 01:00 PM

MI

Thank you Mary Ellen. I'm glad he had an extended group keeping an eye on him!!

Michelle - October 01, 2021 at 02:42 PM

CC

“ From all of us at Matthaei-Nichols (MBGNA), we are deeply sorry for your loss. Ron volunteered with us since 2005 and worked 7,172 hours in our gardens, natural areas, conservatory, and everything in between. I feel just putting his effort, commitment, and overall presence at MBGNA into a number doesn't do it justice- even though that number is beyond impressive. Ron will be missed by all of us, but his legacy will forever reside in the plants and landscapes he helped take care of.

- Christine Chessler-Stull, Volunteer & Membership Engagement at MBGNA



Christine Chessler-Stull - October 01, 2021 at 10:35 AM

MI

Thank you for sharing this amazing picture of my dad. It's exactly the way I wish to remember him forever. He loved the "gardens" and was very happy working there.

Michelle - October 01, 2021 at 02:41 PM

BG

“ Don was certainly among the most valued volunteers at Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum--almost more like a regular staff person than a volunteer. His ready smile and hard work were appreciated by all. I know he will be greatly missed!

Bob Grese

Bob Grese - October 01, 2021 at 09:11 AM

MI

Thank you Bob. He loved that garden and was so happy working there.

Michelle - October 01, 2021 at 02:42 PM

BG

“ So sad to hear about Ron. We spent a lot of time playing softball on the same team in the Ford League and in supplier games. Ron always had a smile on his face. I'm glad I knew him. My sincerest condolences go out to Michelle (whom I remember as "Mick") and all of Ron's family.

Bill Gorley - October 01, 2021 at 08:24 AM

MI

Hi Bill. I thought of you and many of the softball guys recently and I'm glad you were able to get the information on Dad's passing. It is as unbelievable as you can imagine...

Michelle - October 01, 2021 at 02:44 PM

NH

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Norell Heinold - September 30, 2021 at 09:33 AM

NH

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Norell Heinold - September 30, 2021 at 09:22 AM

NH

“ Sending heartfelt condolences. Ron was my Supervisor in Merchandising - Section 6, Ford Customer Service Division. But he also was a great friend too. Many, many, many softball games, BBQs, parties, etc - and he was always the life of the party. At most events he was the MC as well. He was soooo much fun. Please accept my deepest condolences - RIP Ron. You were definitely 'One of the good ones'.



Norell Heinold - September 30, 2021 at 08:53 AM

MI

Hi Norell. Thank you for the kind words. I cannot express how much these pictures mean to me. My dad was one of a kind, his loss will be felt by many. - Michelle

Michelle - October 01, 2021 at 01:12 AM

NH

Hi Michelle - I am sooo sorry. Someone read it in the paper so I posted it to the FCSD Community. I remember you always being there, not sure if you remember me. Your Dad was the absolute BEST! Lost contact with him after he retired.....again my condolences. I went through many old pictures - he's in a lot of them!

Norell Heinold - October 01, 2021 at 09:47 AM

MI

I do remember you! Lots of softball games and picnics. I'm glad you shared this with the Ford community. I didn't have contact information for many of them.

Michelle - October 01, 2021 at 02:40 PM

GL

Condolences to the family and friends. My conversations with Ron about bonsai plants and his experiences at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, gave me the encouragement to craft the "bonsai look" at my front lawn.

Granville Lee - October 02, 2021 at 01:38 PM

PK

What a wonderful life. Ron was funny, even hilarious. He had at the ready over 200 jokes. He enjoyed many activities. He loved running Marathons and birding. He loved to travel He even enjoyed fishing in South Carolina. He was the best for everyone. I loved him very much.

Peggy Kleinhenn - October 09, 2021 at 07:24 PM