



Mr. Ronald Fenton Kendall

March 20, 1930 - June 1, 2016

RONALD FENTON KENDALL

Ronald Fenton Kendall, 86, passed away on June 1, 2016. He was born in Carthage, Missouri on March 20, 1930 to Royce Kendall and Charline (Fenton) Kendall. He was raised in the Joplin area and graduated from Joplin High School in 1948. He attended the University of Arkansas before enlisting in the U.S. Air Force in 1951. He married Sue Ann Pearson on August 11, 1951, in Los Lunas, New Mexico, where he was stationed. He was a member of the Air Police Squadron, received the National Defense Service Medal and achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant during his 4 years of service.

He completed his education at Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas, earning a B.S. in Physics in 1957. After graduating, he accepted a job as a research physicist for the U.S. Bureau of Mines in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. He performed and published research on the differentiation of organic compounds through mass spectrometry and chromatography. Later, he worked for the Department of Energy, researching enhanced oil recovery, including the impact of oil recovery processes on the environment. He concluded his career at the National Institute for Petroleum and Energy Research, where he was the technical editor of research publications.

Ron had a number of hobbies and interests. He always had a great passion for music, especially big band music. He could play a variety of instruments, playing the drums and the trumpet in a band while in the Air Force, and singing and playing the piano by ear later in life. He also loved to play golf. He and his family were members of Sunset Country Club, which was his second home. He played many courses throughout the country, with his favorite location being Myrtle Beach. He also enjoyed gardening and watching backyard wildlife. He was always curious and loved to read and learn. His favorite subject was American history, particularly World War II.

Ron endured many tragedies in his life, losing his sister Karen Grover and her family, his parents, and two daughters, Kimberly and Stephanie between 1969 and 1978. Ron dealt with such devastating loss stoically. He always had a kind and generous spirit, and will be remembered for his witty sense of humor, which he carried with him to the end. He was a proud father to Amee and grandpa to Corinne, Caleb, and Caden Pichler. He was preceded in death by Sue, his wife of nearly 64 years, in 2015. We rejoice with the hope that he has been reunited with her and his other loved ones in Heaven. He will be buried alongside them at Ozark Memorial Park Cemetery in Joplin, Missouri, in a graveside service on Monday, June 6th at 1:00 in the afternoon. If you would like to memorialize him, please make a donation to the church or charity of your choice. Services will be under the direction of the Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory. Friends who wish may sign the online guestbook and leave condolences at www.stumpff.org.

Cemetery Details

Ozark Memorial Park Cemetery

415 N. Saint Louis
Joplin, MO 64801

Tribute Wall

MG

“ Amee, I am very sorry to learn of Ron's passing. (Exactly 6 months after my dad.) I will always remember his kind and upbeat nature. As I told you recently, your home on Macklyn Lane was my second home. So many fond memories of the all the times our families spent together! If you need anything at all, let me know.

Love, Marcia

Marcia Goff - June 05, 2016 at 10:04 AM

LS

“ RON WAS MY BROTHER-IN-LAW FOR 61 YRS. AND MY SISTER, BILLIE, AND I LOVED HIM LIKE A BROTHER. MY MOTHER, WHO LIVED TO BE 100 YRS & 8 MOS., ALSO LOVED HIM AND HE LOVED HER AND HELPED HER A LOT AFTER SHE MOVED TO BARTLESVILLE. HE WAS A WONDERFUL HUSBAND, FATHER & GRANDFATHER AND HE AND SUE WILL BE MISSED TERRIBLY. WE ALL MUST LEAN ON OUR HEAVENTLY FATHER AND HE WILL GIVE US COMFORT. THAT IS WHERE ARE STRENGTH COMES FROM. OUR LOVE TO YOU, AMEE AND CHILDREN, YOU HAVE GONE THRU A LOT THE LAST FEW YEARS.

LOVE,

LOIS, JOHN & BARBIE

LOIS M. SMITH - June 03, 2016 at 04:49 PM