

Ronnie L. Powers,
72

Jan. 29, 1945 - Aug. 25, 2017

HARLAN – Ronnie Lee Powers was born January 29, 1945 in Creston to Bud and Bonnie (Haley) Powers. He was named after a Ronnie candy bar and had the candy wrapper in his baby book to prove there was one. He grew up in Kellerton and attended school there while helping his dad raise turkeys and cattle. He enlisted in the Air Force and served his country before working in the packing house industry and road construction.



While living in Des Moines, Ronnie married Juliet Gosch and had three children, Holly, Jennifer, and Philip, before divorcing in 1985. He met Betty Maxwell in 1987 and the couple married on August 26, 1988. He then had two more girls, Cindy and Julie Maxwell. Ron and Betty were married one day short of their 29th Anniversary when he passed away.

Ron drove for various trucking companies and enjoyed all the truckers he met along the way. Ron was a "foodie," so his list of favorite spots to eat along the road was long. He had been to all 48 states in the lower U.S.

Ron had a bucket list and checked off as many places as he could, but still had many more places to see. He was a lifelong, die-hard Cubs fan. His other favorite teams were Iowa, Iowa State, Creighton, the Oakland Raiders, and whoever was playing Nebraska!

Ron was most proud of his faith, his family, his 32 years of sobriety, and being called the "Chief Noodle Hanger" at the Congregational Church's annual noodle fundraiser. He loved to pass out recipes and jokes, many jokes.

Ron was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer in June 2017, and underwent major surgery to remove his prostate and bladder on August 15th. He was a fighter and loved life, and things looked good for a future without cancer, but he developed septic shock and his body was unable to fight it off. Ron passed away on August 25, 2017 at the Buffett Cancer Center in Omaha, NE.

In addition to his parents, Ron is preceded in death by his daughter, Holly Stevens; brother-in-law Ed Fenton; one aunt and several uncles; and his special poodle, Missy.

Ron is survived by his loving wife and soul mate of almost 29 years, Betty Powers; children, Jennifer Powers; Philip Powers; Cindy Maxwell-Ostdiek and husband Fred; Julie Maxwell; his beloved poodle, Abby; sister Nancy Fenton; grandchildren Nic, Teddy, Alex, Cassie, Luke, John, and Grace; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews; and many, many friends. Ron will be severely missed by all who knew him.

An 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service was officiated by Rev. Donna Ewert on Wednesday, August 30, 2017 at the Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Avoca. Nic Lane, Scott Coleman, Joel Fenton and Alex Bearden served as urn bearers. Military Rites were conducted by Hancock American Legion Post No. 720 at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Hancock.

Pauley Jones Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Pauley Jones
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