



## Ronald R. Potts

October 1, 1951 - January 15, 2025

Ronald R. Potts of Tallahassee passed away on January 15 surrounded by his family and loved ones. Ron was born October 1, 1951, to Russell and Betty Potts in Zanesville, Ohio.

Ron graduated from Wooster High School and held a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology and a Masters degree in Geological Engineering. He was a Professional Engineer (P.E.) and Professional Geologist (P.G.).

Ron had a long and productive career. He was an Assistant Professor of Geology at Arkansas Tech University, worked as an expert geology and hydrology consultant, and eventually retired from the Northwest Florida Water Management District.

Every possible spare moment was spent at the family farm where Ron tended his Chestnut and Paw-Paw fruit groves, and longleaf pine trees. Over 27 years of stewardship, the farm was drastically improved to reflect a native north Florida habitat by restoring native trees, wildflowers, and wildlife. His favorite farm activities were chopping sweet gum trees and mowing on the tractor while wearing his trademark cowboy hat.

Ron was a lifelong outdoorsman and especially enjoyed rockhounding, fishing, birding, astronomy, and amateur meteorology. He was a master of the

dad joke and pun. His passion towards desserts and sweets of all sorts was well documented in the family lore - particularly for his 70th birthday, he enjoyed all the ice cream he could eat followed by a milkshake for dessert.

Jazz, bluegrass, and folk country were Ron's favorite musical styles. He was a big fan of Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass, Chris Botti, John Denver, and Jimmy Buffet. During a brief departure from his classics in 1988, he likely set a world record for non-stop playing of the song "Kokomo", almost driving his teenage son and daughter insane.

He will be dearly missed by his wife of 43 years, Elsa Potts, son Robert Potts (Ellen), daughter Marcy Sieg (Michael), granddaughter Catherine Potts, and grandson Carson Sieg. He also leaves sister Marilyn Butzer of Wooster Ohio, and a niece, nephews, and extended family members and friends.

His family is very grateful for all the love and care shown to them by their family and friends. We thank all the staff at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital and Big Bend Hospice who provided care for Ron.

A celebration of life will be held at 10:00 AM on Saturday, January 25, 2025, at Bevis Funeral Home (200 John Knox Rd.). In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to Big Bend Hospice <https://bigbendhospice.org/>, The First Baptist Church of Greensboro FL [firstbaptistchurch2@tds.net](mailto:firstbaptistchurch2@tds.net), or The Parkinson's Foundation <https://www.parkinson.org/>.

Niki Carney of Bevis Funeral Home ([www.bevisfh.com](http://www.bevisfh.com) or 850-385-2193) is assisting the Potts family with their arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JAN 25. 10:00 AM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory  
200 John Knox Rd  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 385-2193

## Reception Immediately Following Celebration of Life

JAN 25 (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory  
200 John Knox Rd  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 385-2193

*Please join the Potts family after the Celebration of Life to enjoy light refreshments and finger foods.*

# Tribute Wall

KF

“ I grew up with Ron , most memories from Wooster Nazarene Church, i lived in the Country, we did not farm, we did have a Barn, Hay Mow, bare of Hay , maybe ten feet to Barn floor, Ron would walk this Timber like a Balance Beam, arms outstretched, i had no desire to attempt that, we parted ways after High School, You have my condolences, Ken Finley. Tulare California

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**Ken Finley** - January 26, 2025 at 05:11 PM

KF

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**Ken Finley** - January 26, 2025 at 04:58 PM

BD

“ Ron and I use to spend a lot of time working and walking our farms. Ron's obit mentioned his Cowboy hat. Years ago I took this picture of our shadows while walking the fence one day. We were best friends for 70 years! I loved Ron and am going to miss him so much.



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**Bob Daye** - January 21, 2025 at 06:11 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Janelle D. Butzer** - January 21, 2025 at 09:12 AM