



Ronald Ray Richmond

April 1, 1941 - December 22, 2022

Ronald Ray Richmond of Tallahassee, FL, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 22, 2022 at the age of 81. Ron was born on April 1, 1941, in Linton, IN, to the late Herbert and Helen (Bjerke) Richmond. Ron is survived by his wife Sharon (Donohue) Richmond, former wife Eileen (Gomez) Richmond and their sons Erik (Holly) Richmond of Smyrna, GA, and Ryan (Patricia) Richmond of Huntersville, NC, and his sister Kay (Ed) Halderman of Ocala, FL. Also surviving Ron are his two grandchildren Rhett Richmond and Quinn Richmond.

Originally from the Midwest, Ron graduated from Bloomfield High School (Bloomfield, IN) in 1959 and received a basketball scholarship to Florida State University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 1962. In 1969, he received his Juris Doctor from Stetson University College of Law and went on to practice real estate and probate law in Pasco County and Leon County, Florida for more than 50 years. Ron served in the Florida House of Representatives from 1972 – 1984, which included a two-year term as the Republican minority leader. After his tenure in the House, he served as a lobbyist and attorney in Tallahassee, and continued until his passing.

Ron loved cheering on his beloved Seminoles and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, playing golf, debating the politics of the day, and spending time with his sons and two grandchildren. He supported his alma mater through membership in

the FSU Seminole Booster Club and as a chapter advisor for the Sigma Chi Fraternity in which he was also a brother. For his service to Florida State University, Ron was awarded the Circle of Gold award in 2000. Ron was a member of Faith Presbyterian Church and numerous organizations during his many decades in Tallahassee. A loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend, Ron will be missed by all who were blessed to know and love him. Ron's family will host a funeral service and reception on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 11:00am EST. The service will take place at Faith Presbyterian Church at 2200 N. Meridian Rd, Tallahassee, FL. Flower arrangements may be sent to Bevis Funeral Home (Tallahassee, FL), or, in lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Tunnel to Towers (www.t2t.org) in Ron's name – please include the email address erikrichmond@charter.net along with your donation.

Cemetery Details

MeadowWood Memorial Park

700 Timberlane Rd.
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Faith Presbyterian Church
2200 North Meridian Rd.
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Tribute Wall

MJ

“ *Marian Johnson lit a candle in memory of
Ronald Ray Richmond* ”



Marian Johnson - January 04, 2023 at 06:08 PM

“ Ron was a cherished mentor, advisor, friend, and colleague, as we were former members of the Florida House of Representatives. Mike also has great admiration and respect for him as a politician and public servant who was bold and straight with the press and kept his promise to represent the people of the state of Florida well and with excellence.

Ron was generous in his encouragement, wise in his advice, kind and sympathetic to the scars of serving on the battlefield of politics.

While he could be gruff, tough, and unstinting in his honesty- thank God -Ron was also kind, patient, full of joy and cheer, fun and funny,

Ron's good character and wonderful personality was one in a million - maybe ten million! He was a joy to be around, a trusted and principled advisor who always told it to me straight, and then respected me for making my own decisions even when they differed from his advice.

When I began to reveal that I wanted to run for the 2008 open seat of Florida House District 9, in 2006- as a Democrat, former Republican Minority Leader, the Honorable Ron Richmond, was one of the first leaders, my husband Mike took me to see. Ron then quickly became a mentor and advisor. He and his dear wife Sharon, invited Mike and I to their home many times but always on the 4th of July, and also to tailgate parties before Ron's beloved Seminoles played their games. Ron was generous with his time and his friendships. He introduced me to other former members and leaders; At Ron and Sharon's table, living room, and shared tailgates I was blessed to learn wisdom, the best of subtle and honorable politics while also being schooled to be wary of the bloodsport that politics can be, and to debate issues. If I walked onto the floor of the Florida House for the first time with any measure of confidence or skill, I was able to do so, in great part, because of the preparation given me by Ron Richmond and his friends.

After my term limited exit from the House, Ron remained a trusted adviser and friend. I regret not calling him more often and not having more lunches with him. (There is a lesson here for all of us. Don't hesitate to visit with those you truly admire and care for; make that a high priority - not only as a New Year resolution but a lifetime one.)

Mike and I will miss Ron very much. What a blessing to have known him and we are grateful for being able to call him our friend.

We hope and pray we'll see dear gruff, cheerful, so very wise and intelligent Ron' Richmond's face again in Heaven.

For the family and those who loved Ron, so many of us loved and respected Ron- we pray a prayer that includes these words of Jesus, Our Lord and Savior,

"Let not your heart be troubled, you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

John 14:1-3

We are already monthly donors to Tunnel to Towers but will be making an additional contribution on behalf of Ron.

With love and respect for Ron and all who loved him,

Michelle and Mike Vasilinda

Michelle and Mike Vasilinda - January 04, 2023 at 01:42 PM

MR

“ Ron was my friend for 73 years. We played basketball together, Scouted together, and had a few beers together. He always made sure I attended our class reunions. If Ron was your friend, you were lucky.

Ron was smart, intelligent, witty, and a joy to be around, and I will miss him terribly. My deepest sympathy and condolences to his family, to Kay and Ed, and to all others with whom he was friends. He was surely one of the good guys. Godspeed and God bless, Ron... 😞

Maynard Raggio - January 03, 2023 at 07:44 PM

JH

Well said Maynard, He will always be remembered and his friendship cherished.

john heaton - January 04, 2023 at 08:27 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald Ray Richmond.



January 03, 2023 at 03:26 PM

RK

“ Ron has been a huge part of our family! He was my dad's cousin, but they were really like brothers. Even though our families have lived far apart for quite some time, it never stopped Ron from visiting. Ron was there for my dad (Thomas Richmond) when he got sick 12 years ago. He sat by his bedside when we couldn't be there, and he never complained a bit. After dad's passing, Ron made it a point to come see us about every other year in Colorado. He kept us up to date on the Richmond's, and we were always picking his brain on my dad's childhood. Ron loved the scenery here in Colorado, and we had our normal 4 day whirlwind of tourist stops, which he never got sick of! His last trip in June, he made it to the top of Rocky Mountain National Park (if you knew him, he was extremely afraid of heights!) He never got out of the car, but he did it!!! We will miss him terribly but are blessed to have spent as much time with him as we did. Thoughts and prayers are sent to his family and friends. Love, Rhonda (Richmond) Klith

Rhonda Klith - January 03, 2023 at 02:32 PM

MF

“ So sorry to learn of the passing of RRR. My parents were family friends from New Port Richey and I worked in the House Republican Office with him while I was a student at FSU. Learned so much about politics and FL History from Ron. May peace & love surround the family

Maureen Babcock France - January 03, 2023 at 02:22 PM

JP

“ Ron Richmond was a dear friend and great Floridian. We worked together in support of preservation of Florida's legislative history.

John B. Phelps - January 03, 2023 at 06:25 AM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Ronald Ray Richmond.*



January 02, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ *May you have the peace that only our heavenly Father can give. (Philippians 4:7) And I hope that God's promise to do away with death forever will bring you comfort at this very difficult time for you.*

FB - December 31, 2022 at 05:23 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Ronald Ray Richmond.*



December 31, 2022 at 04:24 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald Ray Richmond.*



December 31, 2022 at 01:18 PM

BU

“ *Very thankful for our visits with Ron when back in North Dakota! He loved strolling down memory lane. He was such a force. Many prayers for the family during this time of mourning. Love, Brandie Ulland and Family (granddaughter of Diane Bjerke Johnson)* ”



Brandie Ulland - December 29, 2022 at 08:28 PM

LS

“ *I am very thankful for Ron's visits to North Dakota to catch up with his Bjerke relatives. My family enjoyed getting to know Ron and reminiscing about Bjerke history. He got to live a bit of our rural lifestyle and we enjoyed some day trips and cold beverages touring the backroads! We will miss you Ron, RIP. Lynette Smaage, Seth & Taylor, Levi & Traci* ”

Lynette Smaage - December 29, 2022 at 05:22 PM