



Ronald Hert

February 3, 2018

Ronald “Ron” Sterling Hert, 77, of Windsor died peacefully following a courageous battle with acute myeloid leukemia surrounded by his loving and devoted family on February 3, 2018. Ron was born in Omaha, Nebraska, on December 13, 1940, the oldest son of Herman and Florence Hert.

Ron is survived by his mother Florence; wife Mary; daughter and son-in-law Stefanie and Patrick; granddaughter Katie; brother Gary; brother and sister-in-law Larry and Marilyn; sister and brother-in-law Barbara and Larry; and several nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his father Herman and sister-in-law Jean.

Ron graduated from Technical High School in 1958 in Omaha. He married Mary in Council Bluffs, Iowa, in 1963. Ron was the first in his family to obtain a college education and earned his B.A. from University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1964. He moved to Des Moines and worked as a copywriter for Better Homes and Gardens magazine.

In October 1966 Ron and Mary embarked on an adventure rich with happy memories as they joined the Peace Corps and served as teachers in Tanzania, East Africa. Ron taught secondary school English, initiated a school magazine, directed construction of sustainable fish ponds, coached basketball, served as Tanzania correspondent to Volunteer Magazine and

played on a regional rugby team. Ron made lifelong friendships in the Peace Corps which brought him great happiness.

Upon returning home, Ron earned his M.A. from Illinois State University in 1971. While completing his studies, Ron and Mary welcomed their daughter, Stefanie, and set about teaching her to love learning, travel, and the arts.

Ron devoted his career in higher education to ensuring that disadvantaged students from inner cities could pursue and obtain a college education. He moved his young family to Atlantic City, New Jersey, to found the Department of Developmental Studies at Atlantic Community College and would later serve students at Mountain View College in Dallas, Texas.

Ron's dedication to education was eclipsed by his love for family, so in 1984 he moved his family to Fort Collins to join Mary's parents in their family business, Vern's Toffee House. Ron quickly adjusted his learning pursuits to business and entrepreneurship and skillfully nurtured Vern's Toffee into a legendary Fort Collins business.

Ron could not leave education behind completely and achieved his Ph.D. from University of North Texas in 1988. He also continued to offer his expertise to students at Front Range Community College and Colorado State University.

Ron was passionate about fly fishing, reading, photography, fitness, sports, and the arts. At the conclusion of their time in the Peace Corps, Ron and Mary travelled extensively through the Middle East and Europe. They would later also travel to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and throughout the United States. Above all, Ron enjoyed time with his family and had a special bond with granddaughter Katie. Ron was an active and dedicated member of St. John's Lutheran Church.

A funeral is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on February 9 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Fort Collins, with a reception to follow. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Ron's life. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to Pollyea Leukemia Research Fund, The Denver Hospice, or St. John's Lutheran Church c/o Goes Funeral Care.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 9. 11:00 AM (MT)

Saint John's Lutheran Church
305 East Elizabeth Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524
<http://www.stjohnsfc.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Ronald Hert*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *Dear Mary,*
Just a note to let you know how sad I was to hear Ron has succumbed to his illness. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers daily. I was so impressed to see what a glorious life Ron has had! His dedication to learning and helping others is beyond admirable. He will continue to be spiritually by your side as you go through the grieving process and beyond!
Sincerely,
Sandi Keairnes

Sandra Keairnes - February 27, 2018 at 01:34 PM



“ *Dear Mary,*
My sincere condolences to you and your family. I just heard about your loss in an email from Sally Carlson. I met Ron at least once at some Waterpik event, probably a banquet that you both attended. From his obituary, he was an amazing fellow who led a full life with an amazing wife and wonderful family. How fortunate you all are to have shared your lives with such a fine fellow. Ron, a PhD man who became Ron The Candy Man. Life is truly a mysterious journey.

Sincerely,

Lynn Van Stone

Lynn Van Stone - February 20, 2018 at 03:10 PM

KH

“ I was shocked to learn of Ron’s illness and death. I remember him from our mutual days at Front Range Community College, then my annual holiday visit to Vern’s for sweet gifts. He was far too modest for his many accomplishments and caring life. Please know how very sad I am for your loss.

Kay Hood

Kay Hood - February 08, 2018 at 05:29 PM

DM

“ Mary, we are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

*Sincerely,
Debby and Lyle McBridr*

Debby McBride - February 08, 2018 at 01:39 PM

CC

“ Chuck And Bev Crafton lit a candle in memory of Ronald Hert



chuck and Bev Crafton - February 07, 2018 at 01:53 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Ronald Hert.



February 07, 2018 at 10:43 AM

ST

“ *Sailing in BVI and Florida was times to remember and cherish.....Sally and Jim*

sally and Jim Thomas - February 06, 2018 at 09:13 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Goes Funeral Care & Crematory - February 06, 2018 at 02:53 PM

ST

The best for the best!!

sally and Jim Thomas - February 06, 2018 at 09:14 PM

CK

I cherish the memories and share your sorrow, especially having lost my own Ron, Mary. You are on my thoughts and prayers.

Connie Krosschell - February 07, 2018 at 11:16 AM

MW

Dear Mary, I am so sorry for your loss. What a beautiful tribute to Ron.

Marti Walsh - February 08, 2018 at 06:03 AM

JS

So sorry for your loss, Mary. Treasure all the happy memories that you and your family shared with him.

Jan Strickland

Janet Strickland - February 08, 2018 at 03:38 PM

SK

*Mary, so sorry to learn of Ron's passing.
Bill and I will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.
With love,
Bill and Sandy Kuhns*

Sandy Kuhns - February 09, 2018 at 12:42 AM

JB

Mary, Terry and I are so sorry for your loss. This picture is so reflective of your love for each other. Much love to you, Stephanie, Katie and the rest of your family.

Janice Brown - February 09, 2018 at 11:15 AM

RY

Dear Mary; I don't know if you would remember me from 1973-1974 in Atlantic Community College. Ron was a great teacher who helped me run the ACC newspaper back in the day. I remember when your daughter Stephanie was a small child. I ended up contacting Ron one day a while back. He was a great man indeed. He counseled me in writing and I've been published ever since. Sorry for your loss. Robert A. Young, A.A. Atlantic Community College, B.A. Rutgers University, Retired Phila. Police Dept. Currently: Licensed Community Assoc. Manager, Naples, Fla. and run: Robert A. Young's blog for social responsibility @ blogspot.com Ron will never be forgotten...

Robert A. Young - December 31, 2018 at 01:19 AM