



Ronald Dale Hartsema

July 29, 1932 - June 8, 2021

Ronald D. Hartsema passed away peacefully on June 8, 2021 in Mooresville, North Carolina.

Born July 29, 1932 in Muskegon, Michigan, he lived there until 1980 when he and his wife Mary Lynne (Wilkinson) moved to Raleigh, North Carolina.

Ron was a husband to Mary Lynne for 66 years, father of three, avid golfer, radio and audio enthusiast, and perhaps most notably "the voice of the Grand Haven Musical Fountain."

He was a graduate of the Muskegon High School Class of 1950 and spent much of his retirement preparing audio CD mementos for the MHS Class of 1950 Reunion attendees, including his final work on the 70th Class Reunion in the summer of 2020.

He served in the US Army during the Korean War and spent his 50-year business career as a manufacturers' representative in the electronics industry. Outside of family, work, and his golf game, Ron was devoted to the Grand Haven Musical Fountain. He was part of the original musical fountain committee in 1962.

From 1962 to 2006 he created, produced and recorded over 200 original

fountain programs. His signature "Good evening and welcome, I am the Grand Haven Musical Fountain" is well-remembered by many throughout Western Michigan.

He was an accomplished golfer and a former member of White Lake Golf Club, then Muskegon Country Club, and finally North Ridge Country Club. He had hundreds of stories about his golf game, golf partners, six holes-in-one, and the vast number of courses he played. All but a few of those stories are actually true.

He is survived by his sister, Marlene (Richard) Anderson of Muskegon; son Doug (Jennifer) Hartsema of Mooresville, NC; daughter, Nancy (Larry) Gittleman of Myrtle Beach, SC; granddaughter Sarah Taylor Hartsema and grandsons Sam and Spencer Shores.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Lynne who died unexpectedly on August 27, 2020 and his son, Scott.

A joint memorial service is being planned for Ron and Mary Lynne this summer in Muskegon.

Cemetery Details

Restlawn Cemetery

Muskegon, MI 49442

Tribute Wall

DS

“ Condolences to the family of Ron Hartsema as well as losing Mary only nine months ago. Such a special couple! I looked forward to their summer visits in Muskegon each summer.

With thoughts and prayers, from Doreen Squire, friend and classmate.

Doreen Squire - June 15, 2021 at 03:57 PM

JR

“ Condolences from the Riley Family (George Riley) , Kalamazoo MI. I fondly remember the stories about the gags and pranks my dad and Miles Hadden at Warren Radio would pull on Ron during his electronics rep days during the 1960's and '70's. He was a great sport and friend- and, after retiring, I know my dad appreciated Ron stopping by to visit him at Lake Doster when Ron would drive up to Muskegon . He certainly was a member of the electronics industry representative's "greatest generation”

John Riley

John Riley - June 11, 2021 at 07:23 PM

JG

“ I will never forget the day in Lansing,MI.
Just after new knee replacements in 1997 when a knock on my door
and I
Said come, and there was my old
School friend Ronny who was on his way to Grand Haven with new
music
For the "Fountain". What a great
Surprise after so many years. We stayed in contact ever since. God
Bless him the day he stopped in
Lansing

Jim grant - June 10, 2021 at 07:30 PM