



Dr. Ronald Stephen Ostrowski

March 3, 1939 - November 16, 2017

Dr. Ronald Stephen Ostrowski, 78, of Sherrills Ford, passed away on Thursday, November 16, 2017. He was born on March 3, 1939 in Chicago, IL, to the late Stephen and Julia Salinski Ostrowski. Ron grew up in Chicago's South Side and graduated from De La Salle High School. He was a proud veteran of the U.S. Navy. After service to his country, he received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Northern Illinois University and his Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame. He worked as a Professor of Biology specializing in Genetics at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte for 34 years, retiring in 2005. During that time, he mentored many students in biology and pre-med. He also had many other professional activities that included serving on the Planned Parenthood Board of Directors, consulting for the Association for Sickle Cell Disease, and collaborating with the Clinical Genetics Program at Carolinas Medical Center. Since 1992 he enjoyed working as a DNA consultant and expert witness in the court system. Ron enjoyed gardening, remodeling and home projects, ballroom dancing, classic old movies and fifties music (especially Doo Wop) – he would sing along to every song. He was a wonderful teller of stories – and oh the stories he told! (He had many adventures in his life!) He had a strong love and loyalty to his family and his many, many dear friends. He will be greatly missed. In addition to his parents, Ron was preceded in death by his first wife, Carol Dressel Ostrowski. He is survived by his loving wife, Linda McNally; daughter, Beth Ostrowski Kooby; grandchildren, Dylan and Sienna Kooby; mother-in-law, Nellie McNally;

brother-in-law, Steven McNally (Karen); sister-in-law, Cheryl Woodburn (Mark); cousins, William "Bill" Ostrowski (Kathy) and Diane Wilson (Larry); and extended family and friends. The family would like to thank Dr. Timothy Kuo and the staff at Lake Norman Oncology for their care and compassion throughout Ron's illness. Funeral services with full military honors will be held at 3:00 PM, on Monday, November 20, 2017 at Cavin-Cook Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Dr. Robert L. Kerr officiating. A reception will follow the service in the Heritage House of Cavin-Cook Funeral Home. The family will receive friends on Sunday, November 19, 2017 from 3:00 – 5:00 PM at the funeral home. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, November 25, 2017 at Walnut Hill Cemetery in Baraboo, WI. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105, The Salvation Army, 501 Archdale Drive, Charlotte, NC 28217 or the charity of your choice. Cavin-Cook Funeral Home & Crematory, Mooresville, is serving the Ostrowski family. Condolences may be made to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.

Tribute Wall



“ I loved Ron in the early to mid eighties. Some will say that it was quite the affair given that he was 24 years my senior. I truly loved him, so much so that I gave up another relationship of three years. Ron visited me after I left Charlotte in Cedar Rapids. He later told me that I was in such a bad state that he felt that there was nothing he could do. I disagree, he could have saved me. I might have been a productive person. And I was until a few years ago. I just feel that Ron would have steered me to a more productive path if he had stood by me. Not that he is to blame. Life just doesn't always work out the way we want it to. It's hard to imagine life without him. Rest in peace my beloved.

Denise Hodgden - November 15, 2022 at 01:47 PM



“ *Dr. Ronald Stephen Ostrowski*

February 14, 2021 at 11:24 AM



“ *Dr. Ronald Stephen Ostrowski*

February 14, 2021 at 11:04 AM



“ *Dr. Ronald Stephen Ostrowski*

February 14, 2021 at 11:03 AM

FG

“ I sure will miss Ron. I first met him 40 years ago when he was one of the people who convinced me to come to Charlotte, and we remained in contact all this time empathizing about work, parallel family events and general philosophy of life - and what a great conversationalists. He could make three hour car trips to meetings a pleasure, and he always required that we take a break half way for a sausage biscuit. My sincere condolences to Linda and Beth and Dylan and Sienna.

Frank Grass - November 29, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Shipmate: Rest in Peace.....Fair Winds and Following Seas

November 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Ron was an esteemed colleague, a fine scientist, and a wonderful individual to know. Bob Vermillion Emeritus Professor Department of Physics

November 21, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Linda, Beth and family Our heartfelt sympathy to all of you for your loss But we can celebrate a life well lived. We will cherish the memories forever ! David & Darlene

November 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Linda, Thank you so much for reaching out to me regarding Ron's passing. It is so difficult to express the love and adoration I had for him. I know that your love gave him the strength to live the life he did for many wonderful years. I'm sorry that we won't be able to attend the memorial service, but please know that memories of Ron will stay with me forever.

Jerry Regenbogen - November 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ The news of Ron's death saddens me greatly. Ron worked on many of my cases here in Hoke County over several years and was helping me to the very end! He never revealed his illness to me, which is not surprising. He was strong and always gave much more than he received. I was fortunate enough to become fairly well acquainted with him, hearing great tales of his youth in Chicago. Ron was a gentleman and a professional in the truest sense of those words, and I will miss him very, very much.

Jim Hedgpeth - November 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ Beth and Linda, I am saddened by the news of Cousin Ron's passing he will be greatly missed. I always enjoyed spending family time together. May your hearts soon be filled with wonderful memories of joyful times together as you celebrate a life well lived.

Lynn Kamradt-Unnerstall - November 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *I'll truly miss him. We were friends for 65 years. Bob Solczyk*

[Contact Me](#)

November 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Although Ron has left us, fond memories of our friend will live on. We feel blessed to have had Ron in our lives ... his quick wit, compassion for others, and great resolve in the face of adversity should serve as a role model for us all. Take good care Linda and please continue to share your life with us as we soldier on, or in Ron's case ... sailor on!*

Mac & Sandy - November 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Linda, Beth and Family...So sorry to hear of Ron's passing. Really hate hearing these Taps playing for him. We've visited a few times over the years since the Navy and must say, he was one great guy, that I had the privilege of serving with. Dan...EM2, USN, USS TOPEKA CLG-8.*

Daniel and Marie Gallucci - November 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Ron was a beautiful human being, much beloved by the entire Rotkis family. We are deeply saddened by Ron's death, the world is missing a deep and kind man. Our condolences with love for Linda, Beth, Dylan, Sienna, and the entire McNally and Ostrowski family.

November 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ We will miss your many, wonderful stories, but especially your smile and welcoming love to everyone!! Our love for you will remain always and we will cherish our memories and our time we had to spend with you!

Steve & Karen McNally - November 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ I am saddened to hear of Ron's passing. My deepest condolences to you Linda and the rest of his family. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Yvette Huet - November 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest condolences to your family. Continue to cherish the memories you had together until you can meet again. May the words at 1 Thessalonians 4:14 comfort your heart knowing there is hope for your loved one.

Lisa - November 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM



JP

“ *Linda, I was so sad to hear the news of Ron's passing. From our conversations, I know that he fought his battle well. We are all reminded of our collective destinies at this time, but we rejoice in the knowledge that Ron's life was one well lived. Your courage through his travails gives encouragement to all of us. Jerry Putnam*

Jerry Putnam - November 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am very sad to learn that Ron died this week. He always filled the room with joy. Grieving with you,*

November 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM