



Ronald F. Austin

August 26, 1935 - September 18, 2017

Ronald Frank Austin, 82, of Cincinnati, Ohio passed away quietly on September 18th, 2017 with his beloved wife by his side. We rejoice in his homecoming with our Lord and Savior. He has known the Lord since he was twenty-eight years old, when he was baptized in the waters of Old Solida Creek.

Ron was born in Ironton, Ohio and was the oldest of eight children of the late Ennis Earl and Eloise Austin. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers Dave and Chuck, his sister Mary, and his daughter Tonya Austin Johnson.

Ron was a graduate of South Point High School, class of 1953, where he met his wife of 62 years, Barbara Ann Austin née Wheeler, in the marching band. He first studied chemical engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, where he was part of the Army ROTC program, and then finished his studies in machine design at Marshall University.

After completing a co-op program as a student, Ron began working at Allied Chemical in South Point, Ohio in 1959 as an instrument machinist. During a career that took him and his family to nine states, from frigid North Dakota and Wyoming to sunny Arizona and throughout West Virginia, Kentucky, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and his native Ohio, he served in positions ranging from mechanical engineer to piping superintendent and construction area manager. He retired in 2004 from Northstar Steel, a subsidiary of Cargill, as a project manager.

Ron loved working on projects in his spare time, from building his first home (the “little green house”), with the help of family and friends, through countless hours spent in his meticulously crafted basement workshop (as he would say, “the man cave”), to most recently sewing an awning for the porch swing at his Cincinnati home of 36 years. Perhaps his favorite places to travel were the beaches of South Carolina and the Outer Banks. His other hobbies included computer programming, metal detecting, and spending time with his family. He was aided in all these pursuits by a lifetime spent as a scrupulous student of detail and precision. Ron always seemed to have a book at hand, whether it was the notebook he always carried in his shirt pocket to measure and record the beauty he saw in the world around him, or the science fiction of his favorite author, Edgar Rice Burroughs, which let him explore other worlds still. A man of quiet devotion, Ron was always the first to act and the last to judge. Nowhere is this more true than in napping; “Pop-Pop”, as he was known to his adoring grandchildren, could famously fall asleep anywhere, on command, regardless of the circumstances.

Ron leaves behind the love of his life, his devoted wife Barbara Ann Austin; daughter Deborah Huffman (Steve), grandson Brandon Johnson and great grandson Nicholas Austin Johnson of Charleston, WV; son Ronald Mark Austin (Dawn) and grandson Zachary Aaron Austin of Powell, OH; son-in-law Richard Johnson and three grandchildren Ashley Mae Johnson, Ryan Mikel Johnson, and Kyle Logan Johnson of Harrison, OH; brothers Bob (Esther) of Ironton, OH and Jim (Sheila) of Richmond, KY; sisters Carol Daniels (Jim) of Kennesaw, GA and Ennis Ann Dickerson of Newcastle, OK, and many nieces and nephews whom he loved.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, September 23rd at 10AM at Rutherford Funeral home in Powell Ohio, 43065. Graveside service to follow at Oller Cemetery in nearby Delaware, Ohio, where Ron will be laid to rest next to his beloved daughter Tonya. To send an online condolence, please visit www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Oller Cemetery

State Route 257
Delaware, OH 43015

Previous Events

Calling Hours

SEP **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell
450 West Olentangy Street
Powell, OH 43065
(614) 792-1471
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Graveside Service

SEP **23**. 11:30 AM (ET)

Oller Cemetery
State Route 257
Delaware, OH 43015

Tribute Wall



“ *Ronald F. Austin*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *When Mark and I moved into our first house I had a lot of ideas about what to do with that big blank yard, but didn't know the first thing about gardening. I will never forget when Ronald F. came to Columbus to teach me how to plant. First things first, I had to rethink the design plan I had envisioned. He helped me place the plants I had bought: not where I thought they looked the best but where they should be according to their needs. This first venture took a lot longer than I had expected. Ron explained to me that taking the time to prepare the soil before planting was the real key to success. He showed me how to dig a hole twice the size I thought it should be, how to loosen and trim the root balls and how to backfill. I learned proper gardening is a dirty business and the best fashion accessory is a good pair of tamping shoes. I still laugh today remembering him watering each new plant and then dancing around while tamping the dirt down carefully with his foot to press the soil firmly around the roots. By the end of that day we were filthy, our root balls were level with the ground and I was on my way to a lifetime love of gardening. Ron taught me that any barren landscape can become beautiful if you are willing to put the work into it. ~Dawn Austin*

Dawn Austin - September 26, 2017 at 08:44 AM

CP

“ Our heart felt condolences to Barbara and Family. You are certainly in our thoughts and prayers during this trying time.

*Clifford & Jeanine Provencal
Jeanette McKenzie*

Cliff & Jeanine Provencal - September 21, 2017 at 09:35 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald F. Austin.



September 21, 2017 at 11:19 AM

AD

“ Amy Rafa & Matthew DeVoe purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Ronald F. Austin.



Amy Rafa & Matthew DeVoe - September 20, 2017 at 11:07 AM



“ Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald F. Austin.



September 20, 2017 at 09:31 AM