



Mr. Ronald O. Decker

May 10, 1936 - February 5, 2013

Ronald O. "Ron" Decker, 76, of Bluffton went to be with his Lord at 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 05, 2013.

Ron was born in Wells County, Indiana on May 10, 1936 to Dale and Myrtle (Brown) Decker and they preceded him in death.

Ron married Jane A. (Faulkner) on December 5, 1992 in Bluffton and she survives.

Ron graduated from Lancaster High School in 1954. He was a U.S. Army Veteran having served as a Paratrooper and MP. He served our country in Panama and Germany.

Following his military service, he attended Franklin College where he earned a B.A. degree in elementary education. Later he earned a Masters degree from Ball State University. His career included teaching in Arizona, Clarksville, and Bluffton.

He served both as a teacher and principal in Clarksville and Bluffton area schools including Columbian, Poplar Grove and Bluffton's Community Christian School.

He also served several years in the Superintendent's office.

Ron retired from his teaching career to pursue his hobbies. He loved fishing,

playing cards, woodworking, and attending auctions. He was an active member of the Markle Church of Christ. He was also active in the community and was a former member of the VFW, American Legion, and bowling leagues.

Despite how bad he felt or how bad things were going, Ron always had a smile and a comment that would make you laugh. You always felt better after having been with Ron.

Other survivors include two sons, Jon (Jari) Decker of Midland, Texas, Mike (Sherry) Decker of Fort Wayne, a daughter, Nancy Staggs of Odessa, Texas, a step-son, Andrew "Andy" Ellis of Bluffton, a step-daughter, Rebecca "Becky" Ellis of Brooklyn, New York, two brothers, Dean (Carol) Decker of Richmond, Virginia, Don (Mary) Decker of Holland, Ohio, a sister, Rinda Robbins of San Diego, California, eleven grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, John David Decker.

Calling hours are 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. Friday, February 8, 2013 at Thoma/Rich, Chaney & Lemler Funeral Home. A service celebrating Ron's life will be at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home with Pastor Greg Comp and Dr. Bryson Bell officiating. Burial will be at Elm Grove Cemetery with full military honors by American Legion Post #111 and the United States Army Honor Guard. Preferred memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Cemetery Details

Elm Grove Cemetery

3500 East State Road 124
Bluffton, IN

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - February 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM



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Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - February 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mr. Ronald O. Decker*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ Jane,

I am so sorry to hear about your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Love,
Suzanne*

Suzanne Marchi - February 13, 2013 at 07:54 PM

LD

“ *Leah Decker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker*



Leah Decker - February 13, 2013 at 01:21 PM

LD

My dad's youngest brother & also the funniest man - always with a smile or joke to share no matter how he felt inside. I will miss him greatly & know that Jane will forever & always love him & miss him.

Leah Decker - February 13, 2013 at 01:23 PM

JD

Without a doubt I will always love and miss him

Jane Decker - March 28, 2013 at 10:39 PM

GP

“ *Jane and Family -*

My sincerest condolences for your loss. May the God of hope and peace renew your joy.

I must say Ron was a very special person to me. Early in my teaching career at Community Christian School, Ron shared with me a few of his milestones in education. Frequently I have thought of him with the fondest memories. He was a true help to me in my career and I am thankful for the contributions he made to bettering our students.

Greg Paxson

Greg Paxson - February 11, 2013 at 10:17 PM

CS

“ *Dear Jane,*

Our thoughts and prayers continue for You, Jon, Mike, Nancy, Andy, & Becky. Ron was a wonderful person and such a good example to all. We are sorry we were not able to be with you. He will be greatly missed.

Carol & John

Carol Schreiber - February 11, 2013 at 07:46 AM

SF

“ Dear Jane,

What wonderful memories you must have to cherish ~ Ron was quite a character! I love the picture of him and your dad fishing. My prayers to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Sandy (Geist) Funk

Sandy Funk - February 10, 2013 at 11:01 AM

JA

“ Jane:

Ron and I were very sorry to hear of Ron's passing. We are out of state right now, or we would have come to the funeral home. I have many good memories of him (he will always be "Mr. Decker" to me) when our children were growing up and attending Columbian School and when I worked with him at the superintendent's office. Once again, our condolences go out to you.

Jean Anderson

Jean Anderson - February 09, 2013 at 09:11 AM

RS

“ Dear Jane and Family,

How do I say how much Ron is going to be missed. I saw the love you both had for each other and the love you have for our loving God. Ron is with our Lord watching over us now. Ron gave so many great memories, for us to remember him, Prayers are going up for you my dear friend. I love you.

Love Ruthann

Ruthann Schmidt - February 09, 2013 at 07:49 AM



“ *Dear Jane and Family,*

You are in our thoughts and prayers. We have such great memories of Ron.

*With love,
LeRoy and Vicki Cramer*



Vicki Cramer - February 08, 2013 at 12:46 PM



“ *Laurie Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker*



Laurie Johnson - February 08, 2013 at 09:03 AM



*Dear Jane,
My prayers are with you in the passing of your husband. You were both so gracious, welcoming me back to Indiana. I know that your faith in God will lift you up. We will all be together soon with our Savior and those who passed before us.
Love, Laurie*

Laurie Johnson - February 08, 2013 at 09:06 AM



Thank you Laurie. God bless

Jane Decker - March 28, 2013 at 10:41 PM

DS

“ *Doug & Julie Swisher lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker*



Doug & Julie Swisher - February 08, 2013 at 06:31 AM

VJ

“ *Thinking of you, Jane. I'm glad you two had so many years together. I did not know Ron well, but I know you both lucked out. God bless. Valerie Wilson Jackson and Mom*

Valerie Wilson Jackson - February 07, 2013 at 10:24 PM

SM

“ *Sheila Meek lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker*



Sheila Meek - February 07, 2013 at 05:04 PM

GS

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. What a blessing and joy to know this is not the end, but only a time before we will all be together in heaven rejoicing and praising our Lord & Savior. Jane you will be in our prayers while walking thru this difficult time. Isaiah 41:10*

Greg & Becky Starr - February 07, 2013 at 12:28 PM

KA

“ I have great memories of Mr Decker. He was a 6th grade teacher at Poplar Grove when I attended there and he was always well liked. He was always a good man.

Kayleen - February 07, 2013 at 05:18 AM

AL

“ Alan Lutz lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker



Alan Lutz - February 07, 2013 at 01:31 AM

BG

“ Jane and family,
So sorry to read of Ron. You two always seemed so happy. You will be in my thoughts and Prayers.
BJ Gray



BJ Gray - February 06, 2013 at 09:34 PM

SB

“ Sandy Bevington lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker



Sandy Bevington - February 06, 2013 at 06:48 PM

BL

“ We are sorry for your loss of Ron's presence here, but rejoice that he is now with the Lord.

*Bill fondly remembers the trip Ron made with him to visit missionaries in Mexico. For years Ron completely supported a Mexican preacher, Mario Lugo. He was a big part of winning souls for Christ in Mexico. What a mansion he has in heaven!
Love & Prayers, Bill & Ruby Leamon*

Artesia, New Mexico

Bill & Ruby Leamon - February 06, 2013 at 06:44 PM

CH

“ Ashley and Isabella - Deepest Sympathy for your loss.

Aunt Carolyn, Uncle Roger Holmes



Carolyn Holmes - February 06, 2013 at 04:10 PM

DE

“ I loved to sub at Columbian when Ron was the principal. He was a fair, caring, but believed in discipline. Ron would tell me stories of my brother and sisters that he went to school with.
When I moved to Houston, I tried to keep what Ron expected out of his teachers in my teaching.

Jane and family, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Debbie Heckman

debbie - February 06, 2013 at 04:08 PM

DM

“ Jane - - Wish we could be there for you at this difficult time. We will miss Ron!
His sense of humor was wonderful - - and he was a great neighbor! We know how close you two were & hope you can find some comfort in all your great memories.
Dottie & Dennis Marbach



Dottie & Dennis Marbach - February 06, 2013 at 04:08 PM

CD

“ 6 files added to the album New Album Name



Cindy Decker - February 06, 2013 at 12:40 PM

CD

“ We love you,
Doug and Cindy Decker



Cindy Decker - February 06, 2013 at 12:34 PM

TB

“ *Our condolences to Ron's family. May comfort and peace come gently to you.*

Tom and Maureen Butler - February 06, 2013 at 11:37 AM

HP

“ *Herschell L. Penrod lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker*



Herschell L. Penrod - February 06, 2013 at 08:02 AM

DH

“ *Debbie Heckman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker*



debbie heckman - February 06, 2013 at 07:43 AM

KF

“ *Ken & Jeannie Flowers lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ronald O. Decker*



Ken & Jeannie Flowers - February 06, 2013 at 05:12 AM

KF

Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Ken & Jeannie Flowers - February 06, 2013 at 05:13 AM

NH

“ Jane, please accept my sincere condolences; my heart aches for you. I know how much you two loved each other, and I'm glad you were able to share so much together.

I am praying for you that God will give you the strength and courage to face each day. I hope you heal and find comfort in the memories and love you shared. May God's love enfold you in your darkest hours, and bring you peace. (Yesterday was the four month anniversary of my husband, Frank's passing.)
Love, Nancy Reusser Halstead



Nancy Reusser Halstead - February 06, 2013 at 12:44 AM

RS

Jane, My thoughts and prayers are with you during this most difficult time. I have many fond memories of Ron from Christmas Eve's that I will always treasure.. Both of you are so very special. My sympathies, prayers and love.

Rina Stuck - February 06, 2013 at 11:20 AM