



Ronald Allen DeFries Sr.

November 3, 1946 - March 21, 2020

Ronald Allen DeFries, Sr. What a zest for life! From skiing the black diamonds in Beaver Creek to walking the links at Flossmoor Country Club. He never missed a golf tournament or a re-run of “Rudy” on TV. Ronnie, a true Cubs fan, amusing those around him by yelling “Hot Dog” with the same inflection as a vendor. Oh! And watching Ronnie dance was like attending an “Italian Soul Train”. Ronnie moved from Flossmoor to the Gold Coast and thoroughly enjoyed city life walking the lake shore and even riding the bus! As many of his family and friends would say Ronnie would know the answer to the most obscure question, a true king of trivia. And please let us not forget the nightly Smirnoff with Kettle potato chips.

An amazing husband to Marilyn Lucas, a kind and gentle father to Alexandra, Ronald Jr., Dana and Josephine DeFries, and a loyal friend to anyone he held dear. Ronnie passed away March 21, 2020 quickly and peacefully.

His daily mantra: “I love my life, I love my wife and I love this place.”

Mass and memorial service pending pandemic. His last request, in lieu of flowers, donations be directed to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (lls.org) To sign guest book or for information visit heartlandmemorial.com or call (708) 444-2266.

Cemetery Details

Assumption Cemetery

19500 S Cottage Grove
Glenwood, IL

Tribute Wall

ML

“ *Life was laughter*



Marilyn Lucas - October 12, 2020 at 09:43 AM

ML

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Marilyn Lucas - August 11, 2020 at 06:57 PM

MA

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Marilyn - April 22, 2020 at 11:54 AM

TC

“ *So sorry to hear of the sudden passing of Ronnie. He was a friendly, happy person. A loving husband to Marilyn who was a devoted, loving wife. I will always remember him grilling on the roof. He loved cooking. He taught me how to use the gas grill. It sounds small, but it wasn't. I will miss Ronnie.*

Terry Caufield

Terry Caufield

Terry Caufield - April 07, 2020 at 06:32 AM

MA

Terry thanks for taking a moment to remember Ron. He always commented on how you always had a smile and a kind word for all of your neighbors. You always took the time to say hello.

Marilyn - April 08, 2020 at 10:28 AM

KL

“ ALWAYS a pleasant "Help Kenny", then related conversation. Thank you, Ron

We occasionally talked golf but never played together - my loss. Maybe we'll meet someday at that golf course in the sky. You will be easy to find. Back tees - where the champions play from.

Ken Larsen - April 05, 2020 at 11:55 AM

MA

Ken, I know this is all too familiar for you. He did so want to get that golf game in...

Marilyn - April 08, 2020 at 10:31 AM

KB

“ *Marilyn, we were so sorry to hear of Ron's passing. He was a lovely guy and a great part of the Brownstone community. Our prayers are with you. Kathy Baker and Bill Uniowski, 15A*

Kathy Baker - April 03, 2020 at 06:33 PM

MA

Thank you Kathy, he always yelled at me to park the car closer to the post in order for you to get in and out of yours LOL. I know you could always tell when he was driving. he always spoke so highly of both of you.

Marilyn - April 08, 2020 at 10:30 AM

CB

“ *Always enjoyed spending time with Ron when he would attend Allie's golf tournament with the Denison Women's golf team. We shared a lot of golf stories together and too many laughs.*
Coach and Valerie Bailey.

Coach Bailey - April 02, 2020 at 02:19 PM

MA

Thank you both. Ron always enjoyed walking the course with you coach. He always spoke so highly of you and appreciated all your efforts in coaching Alex! Lord knows he loved the game.

Marilyn - April 03, 2020 at 02:41 PM

DR

“ Blessings and prayers to Ron and his family. I worked with Ron for 12 years at csx and always had great respect for him. he was always upbeat ,laughing and talking about food especially about former. rest in peace Ron or as we at csx called him the white hair wizard. your friend and co worker. DANIEL

Daniel Rodriguez - March 27, 2020 at 07:44 AM

MA

Danielle, it was always about the food. I know Ronnie would go to work the next day after I had prepared some unusual meal and describe it blow by blow. We expect nothing less from that crazy Italian. Thanks for sharing your thoughts. Please know that he died peacefully.

Marilyn - March 31, 2020 at 11:58 AM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Marilyn - March 26, 2020 at 06:32 AM

RA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rich & Char Amadio - March 26, 2020 at 06:05 AM

AN

“ Ron we met some 15 plus years ago when we were both starting our careers at Chicago Suburban Express and today I am now missing a person whom I considered a friend I know in life all good things must come to an end, and I know someday someone will be trying to find the words to say goodbye to me. So instead of saying that I will end this with “I’ll see ya later” Rest In Peace my friend. My condolences to the Defries family May God grant you all peace. Your favorite driver (Ha ha) AnthonySnelius & Family.

anthonySnelius - March 25, 2020 at 09:00 PM

MA

Thank you for taking the time to say such kind things regarding my husband. He always had so many funny stories to tell when he came home from CSX. I know he respected all of the drivers for the job they did.....

Marilyn - March 31, 2020 at 11:54 AM

MA

Thank you Anthony, while I did not know you I heard so many stories. I know my husband thought highly of you. Yes he will be best especially the laughter and a sense of humor.

Marilyn - March 31, 2020 at 11:56 AM

RA

“ *Marilyn, Charlotte and I are very saddened with Ronnie's passing. I had some of the best times traveling with him to Arkansa to play golf for the last fifteen years. Also Charlotte and I enjoyed having dinner with you and him at so many different restaurants from here to Chicago. I always liked going to your condo and walking in and Ronnie saying, "Cuz lets have a vodka" due to the fact we both drank the same brand then, "Cuz one more drink before we go". We will never forget the great times had laughing and the great food we all enjoyed. Ronnie from one cuz to another rest in peace.*



Rich & Char Amadio - March 25, 2020 at 05:05 PM

MA

Ronnie loved you both and always looked forward to the laughter when we gathered....not to mention the food!

Marilyn - March 26, 2020 at 06:24 AM