



## Arthur Jones Ranson III

October 12, 1943 - February 13, 2018

Arthur Jones Ranson, III died unexpectedly on the morning of February 13. Randy, as he was widely known, was born to Arthur Jones Ranson, Jr. and Lillian Rigby Ranson on October 12, 1943 in Florence, South Carolina. He is survived by his spouse of fifty two years Angela Garner Ranson, children Clark Ranson of Orlando, Angela Smith (Paul) of Atlanta, Arthur Jones “Jay” Ranson IV (Andrea) of Clearwater, Catie Ranson of Aurora, OH and Ashley Ranson of Cleveland, OH; by eight grandchildren; and by brother Charles Rigby Ranson (Sheryl) of Tallahassee.

Randy attended public schools in Apopka, graduated from Florida Presbyterian (now Eckerd) College in 1965 (B.A. Political Science) and from Vanderbilt University College of Law in 1969 (Order of the Coif, Law Review Editor.) He served as Law Clerk for U.S. District Court Judge William Miller (Middle District Tennessee) and then relocated to Orlando in 1970 where he embarked upon an active civil litigation practice that continued to the time of his death.

Throughout his life, Randy demonstrated an active commitment to diverse aspects of his community, serving as Elder of the Winter Park Presbyterian Church, president of the Brookshire Elementary P.T.A., founding member of the Downtown Athletic Club (an originating sponsor of the Butkus Award annually awarded in recognition of college football’s most outstanding

linebacker), officer of the Meridian Club, and various other civic and professional organizations.

Randy found particular joy and satisfaction in his longstanding commitment to Eckerd College, where he served as Trustee from 1976-2002, including as Chairman of the Board from 1998-2000. In recognition of his service, in 2002 he was named Trustee Emeritus and continued his active participation in the life of the College until the time of his death. In 1979, Randy was awarded Eckerd's highest alumni award, the MacArthur Award.

Randy's deep and abiding relationships with his family and friends were his greatest joy. He will be deeply missed by the countless lives he's touched.

A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, February 25th at 3pm at Winter Park Presbyterian Church, 400 South Lakemont Ave., Winter Park, FL with a reception following in Fellowship Hall.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks for donations to be made to the Ranson Endowed Scholarship, for Randy's beloved Eckerd College:

<https://www.eckerd.edu/ranson/>

Via Mail:

Eckerd College Advancement Office

Attn: Ranson Endowed Scholarship Fund

4200 54th Ave South

St. Petersburg, FL 33711

Check payable to "Eckerd College"

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

FEB **25**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Winter Park Presbyterian Church  
400 S. Lakemont Avenue  
Winter Park, FL 32792

# Tribute Wall

SL

“ *It has been a pleasure to live across the street from Randy and Angela for over 20 years. We will miss Randy's friendly wave and hello.*

*Larry and Shari Lewis*

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**Shari Lewis** - February 27, 2018 at 02:28 PM

CM

“ *I attended the service for Randy and it was very well done. It was amazing to see the breadth and depth of his impact on those around him. I knew he was an extraordinary individual but I don't think I knew the full character of the man. Based on the remembrances shared at the service, his was a life well lived, although too short in this day and age, I only had the opportunity to work with Randy for 4 years. One of my most striking memories was the day we had the shooter in the Gateway Building. Everything was very chaotic but I will always remember Charlie Shuffield and Randy standing in the conference room off of the main lobby. At that time there were no locks on the doors from the conference room into the office and had the shooter come that way... nothing was there to stop him, except for those two men in their suits... no kevlar, no bulletproof vests... just coats and ties. They were both fully prepared to die to try to stop the shooter from getting into the office where people were gathered in disbelief. That selfless act was an extraordinary act of quiet courage by Randy and Charlie. I am honored that I got the opportunity to work with both of them.*

*Courtney Moore*

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**Courtney Moore** - February 25, 2018 at 08:45 PM

CF

“ Charles Rigby Ranson and family purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Arthur Jones Ranson III.



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**Charles Rigby Ranson and family** - February 23, 2018 at 06:10 PM

OH

“ On behalf of your friends at Ryan Homes purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Arthur Jones Ranson III.



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**On behalf of your friends at Ryan Homes** - February 21, 2018 at 07:37 PM

SS

“ We are thinking of your family during this time- Sarah and George Sprinkel

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**sarah sprinkel** - February 21, 2018 at 05:12 PM

PB

“ Dear Cousin Angela,

*Jane and I were so sorry to learn of Randy's sudden passing. He was a fine, godly man who was greatly loved and will be sorely missed by many. Unfortunately we won't be able to attend the memorial service but please know that you and the family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Paul Barber, Greenville SC*

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**Paul Barber** - February 19, 2018 at 06:33 PM

BO

“ Ann and I were so sorry to hear about Randy's passing. It was a real shock. Angela, you and Randy were two of our favorite people going back to when Randy and I met during the Patrick Wilson selection process in the Spring of 1966. Our 3 years together during law school and the extra year you all spent in Nashville made us friends for life. I am so glad we got to spend time with you all at our 45th reunion 3 years ago. Randy was always such a pleasure to be around and we will certainly miss his warm laughter. You and your children and grandchildren are in our thoughts and prayers. I know there will be a big void in your life and in the lives of all of the people Randy came in contact with. Bill and Ann Ozier, Nashville, TN

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**Bill Ozier** - February 19, 2018 at 10:53 AM

GG

“ Arthur and Lillian Ranson produced and nurtured two great people. I respectfully offer my condolences and loving prayers for the families. Rest in peace Randy, and thank you for all you did for FPC.

*Gerry and Jane Green*

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**Gerry Green** - February 18, 2018 at 06:14 PM



“ Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Arthur Jones Ranson III.



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February 18, 2018 at 07:46 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Arthur Jones Ranson III.*



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February 17, 2018 at 01:12 PM



“ *Dear Angela -- I learned just this morning of the death of your husband and wanted to email along this note to let you know how very sorry I was to hear of your loss.*

*May God bless you and your family and know that my prayers are with you.*

*Fondly, Alice Guion Roess*

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**Alice Guion Roess** - February 17, 2018 at 11:35 AM



“ *Randy was just an all-around nice guy. That sounds corny, I know, but it is true. He was always smiling and pleasant and deeply committed to his family, his church and Eckerd College, in particular. Angela, I can't even begin to comprehend your loss. My husband David joins me in sending sincere condolences to you and the rest of the family.*

*Jeanne, Eckerd '64, and David Smoot  
Wake Forest, NC*

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**Jeanne Johannessen Smoot** - February 16, 2018 at 05:36 PM

GD

“ I was shocked and so sorry to learn of Randy's passing. I worked for him many years ago and found him to be a wonderful boss but, more importantly, an amazing and caring person. My heartfelt sympathy to Angela and his children and brother.

*Gail Desabrais*

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**Gail Desabrais** - February 16, 2018 at 01:41 PM

DN

“ I consider it a blessing of my 4 yrs at Florida Presbyterian to have been Randy's roommate for 2 years. Would have been 3 but he became a dorm counselor while I served with a small group responsible to help those with particular problems with college life. My wife Joan (FPC '65) and I are thankful to have known Randy and Angela for many years! He was a true friend and I will miss him! Joan and I are praying for Angela and the family! God's Blessings and Peace In Christ, Dave Nichols.

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**Dave Nichols** - February 16, 2018 at 01:27 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Arthur Jones Ranson III.



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February 16, 2018 at 09:08 AM