



## Ronald Jack Ferguson

January 26, 1927 - February 2, 2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the peaceful passing of Ronald Jack Ferguson on February 2, 2024. Born on January 26, 1927, to Mary Bitner Ferguson and Jesse Ross Ferguson, Ronald lived a life filled with love, faith, music, and unwavering commitment to his family.

On March 12, 1949, Ronald married the love of his life, Josephine Brown Ferguson, and together they embarked on a journey just a month shy of 75 years of devotion, creating a legacy of love, Christianity, compassion, and joy. Their union was a testament to the enduring power of true love, a partnership that stood the test of time. Together they exemplified the sanctity and commitment of marriage.

Ronald was a man of deep faith who made his reservation for heaven 72 years ago, and he peacefully transitioned into the presence of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. His life was a reflection of his unwavering faith, and those who knew him were affected by his testimony and his dedication to his Lord.

In addition to his deep faith and commitment to family, Ronald Jack Ferguson was an accomplished piano player who left an indelible mark on the hearts of those who had the pleasure of experiencing his musical talents. Ron's love for boogie woogie and big band music became one of the defining aspects of his

character. Ronald's musical abilities extended beyond personal enjoyment; he shared his love for music with friends and family, creating cherished memories that will resonate through the generations. Playing the piano was a source of joy for him and for those who had the privilege of listening to him play, especially his family.

Ron answered the call of duty at the tender age of 17 during World War II, joining the United States Navy. His service aboard the USS Cogle took him through the tumultuous waters of three hurricanes as his ship headed across the ocean and into the war. The defining moment of Ronald's military service came when the USS Cogle sailed into Nagasaki just three days after the atomic bomb was dropped. This was a pivotal moment in history, and the sailors, including Ron, disembarked the ship and were driven in open trucks to ground zero as a show of force.

The aftermath of the atomic bombing left an indelible imprint on Ron's young mind. Witnessing the devastation in Nagasaki tested the resilience of both his body and spirit. His service during such a critical period in history not only showcased Ron's bravery, but also highlighted the sacrifices made by the greatest generation. The memories of those challenging times, the camaraderie among his fellow sailors, and the gravity of the events in Nagasaki undoubtedly contributed to the strength of character that defined Ron throughout his life. He shared many stories of his military service with his family, and they will be remembered and passed on to future generations.

May our dad, grandpa, and great grandpa rest in eternal peace, reunited with his heavenly Father, and may we, his family, find solace in the memories of his indisputable love for us, his joy for playing music that will forever echo in our memories, but mostly for the life lessons, rooted in the teachings of Christianity, that will forever serve as a compass for his family.

Ronald is survived by his loving wife, Josephine, his 3 children Sherry Lynn Mikol of Blairsville, GA, Steven Ross Ferguson of Hiawassee, GA, Ronald Mark Ferguson (Missy) of Altamonte Springs, FL, former daughter-in-law, Celia Ferguson of Clermont, FL, and his sister, Kay Sigler (Jim) of Alexandria, IN. He is also survived by his 7 grandchildren, Sean Mikol (Emi), Emily Martucci (Thomas), Michael Ferguson (Kristen), Dana Ferguson, Lindsey Mees (Nicholas), Ashley Ferguson, and Kimberly Lillethorup (Schylar)). He was proud to have 7 great grandchildren, Finn Mikol, Audrey, Ansley Jacob, and Noah Martucci, Luke Ferguson and Brooks Lillethorup.

He was predeceased by his parents, his brother, Ted, his sister, Sylvia Carr, and his son-in-law, Eric Mikol.

Visitation is 6-8 on Thursday evening February 8th at DeGusipe Funeral Home, 9001 North Orlando Ave, Maitland, FL. 32751. A memorial service will be held on Friday morning, February 9th at 9:30 am graveside at the National Veterans Cemetery in Mims, Florida.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to online to Samaritan's Purse or to The Ridge Community Church Building Fund, 960 Mill Holland Rd., Mineral Bluff, GA 30559 in Ronald's memory.

# Cemetery Details

## Cape Canaveral National Cemetery

5525 US-1 North  
Mims, FL 32754  
(321) 383-2638  
<http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/capecanaveral.asp>

# Previous Events

## Graveside Committal Service

FEB 9. 9:30 AM (ET)

Cape Canaveral National Cemetery  
5525 US-1 North  
Mims, FL 32754  
(321) 383-2638  
<http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/capecanaveral.asp>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of *Ronald Jack Ferguson*.



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February 06, 2024 at 01:59 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Ronald Jack Ferguson*.



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February 06, 2024 at 12:25 PM