



Ronald Eugene Frith Sr.

April 14, 1944 - July 4, 2018

Ronald Eugene Frith, Sr., (age 74) of New Castle, passed away Wednesday, July 4, 2018

due to complications from a stroke suffered in 2017.

Ronald was born April 14, 1944 in Martinsburg, WV, to Burrell E. Frith and Goldie

Mae (Wingfield) Frith. Growing up in Martinsburg with his four sisters and two brothers,

Ronald enjoyed swimming, hunting, fishing, shooting the "occasional" groundhog,

picking cherries from Miller's Orchards, and playing Little League Baseball in Leetown.

His love of the outdoors would remain throughout his life and in later years he would

often be found atop his prized possession - his John Deere tractor, as long as it wasn't

raining, of course. Ronald, nicknamed "hammer head" by his father because he was so

stubbornly hard-headed (another trait that would remain throughout his life) graduated

Shepherdstown High School in 1962 and proudly served as a Sergeant in the Air Force from

1964-1968. Anyone who knew Ron would never say he lacked confidence, a trait exemplified when he bet (and subsequently lost) his 1955 Chevy Convertible to his Air Force buddy, Rudy, over drinks and a friendly game of Five-card stud. It was during his time in the Air Force that Ron married the love of his life, Delores Lee Gray, who he affectionately referred to as "Dee" in 1967. In 1979 Ron became an Aviation Maintenance Tech at Federal Express - a career that would span 27 years, until his retirement in 2006. While employed at FedEx, Ronnie (as Delores called him) and Dee lived all over the United States, including Mississippi, North Carolina, and Washington. In 1997 the pair broke ground on their house in New Castle, where they would remain until Delores passed away in 2017. Ronnie and Dee loved each other fiercely for over 50 years and raised two children, Kimberly Miller and Ronald Eugene Frith, Jr., who passed away in 2009. There was nothing Ron loved more than his family. He was a loving husband, amazing father, and doting grandfather. He will be sorely missed by his daughter, three grandchildren, great-grandchild, and all of his extended family.

Ronald was preceded in death by his mother and father, a brother, Edward Allen Frith "Eddie", a sister, Linda Kay Sowder, his son, Ronald Eugene Frith, Jr., and his beloved Dee.

In addition to his grandchildren and great-grandchild Ronald leaves behind his daughter,

Kimberly (Frith) Miller of New Castle, three sisters, Sandra Lee Hartlove and Barbara Ann Penwell

of Martinsburg, WV, and Janet Yvonne Weller of Rio, WV, a brother, Michael Wayne Frith

"Mike", of Martinsburg, WV and numerous other extended family.

The family wishes to thank The Rehab Center at Richfield in Salem for the outstanding care Ronald received throughout the past few months.

A memorial service will be held at Paitzel Funeral Home in New Castle, VA on Saturday, July 14 at 2:00pm.

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Tribute Wall

JE

“ *I still remember jokes he played on me over 20 years ago! He was a wonderful man, I'm thankful to have known him.*

Jen - September 12, 2019 at 11:59 AM

JS

“ *Ron, I'm so sorry I missed your last trip. You (and your two buddies Mario and Rickey) saved me from myself more times than I care to remember. You were the consummate professional, always on top of what ever the pilots or airplanes or even Memphis piled on you. I miss your ability to cut through all that was going on, get everything fixed, and get us out. I wish you a good final flight west, smooth air, and tailwinds. And no maintenance problems! See you on the other side. Farewell, old friend. John Snidow*

John Snidow - July 21, 2018 at 08:31 PM