

Ronald W. Erickson

July 20, 1946 - July 15, 2017

Ronald W. Erickson, 70, of Greensboro, NC, passed away peacefully on Saturday, July 15, 2017, surrounded by his family and friends.

Born in Shell Lake, Wisconsin, he was the son of Rudolph and Dorothy Erickson. Ron was married to his best friend, Bernice "Bernie" Tate Erickson, for over 47 years.

He was Principal and Founder of EMM Financial Services, Inc. His primary consulting time was spent with closely held and family owned corporate clients, their employees and advisors with a focus on business succession, estate, retirement, investment and selective executive compensation planning.

Ron served in various leadership roles in his community, religious, industry, fraternal, and charitable organizations locally and nationally. Was a proud graduate of the University of Wisconsin - Superior where he was class President. He served as Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity's 23rd National President. He was the 66th President of NAIFA-NC and was named their Advisor of the Year in 2009. Ron was a devoted member of Christ Lutheran Church in Greensboro for over 40 years and served on their church Council. Ron also served as a mentor to the Kairos Prison Ministry where he was a positive influence to many young men.

Ron helped found the long standing national insurance study group called Butterfly Unlimited which started in 1980.

Ron was a devoted sports fan of the Green Bay Packers, Chicago Cubs, and the University of Wisconsin Badgers.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Karen Erickson, and brothers, Rodger and Rudolph.

Ron is survived by his loving wife, Bernie, son, Tate, and daughters, Tara Erickson and Tori Mocharnuk (Matt). Ron was a self proclaimed obnoxious grandfather to Ocea, Tristan, Tucker, Dylan, Cassidy, Abby and Meadow. He is also survived by his sister Sandy

Rathmann, brother-in-law Bud Tate, mother-in-law Bernice Tate and many beloved nieces, and nephews, and friends.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, July 19 at Forbis & Dick Funeral Home on N. Elm St., from 5-7 PM. The celebration of life service will be held on Ron's birthday, Thursday, July 20 at Christ Lutheran Church, 3600 Lawndale Dr. at 1:30 PM. (Additional parking available at Lawndale Baptist Church) Following the service, a birthday celebration will be held in the fellowship hall at Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church, 2600 Pisgah Church Rd. A private burial will follow at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Christ Lutheran Church, 3600 Lawndale Dr., Greensboro, NC 27408 or "The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro" with "The Ronald W. Erickson Young Leaders Award" in the memo line. 330 S. Greene Street. Suite 100, Greensboro NC 27401 or Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation – The Earl A. Webb Academy of Leadership 101 Ming St., Warrensburg, MD 64093

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

3901 Forest Lawn Drive
Greensboro, NC 27455
<http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/index.aspx?page=1113>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 19. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Forbis & Dick Funeral Service - North Elm Chapel
1118 N. Elm Street
Greensboro, NC 27401
info@forbisanddick.com
<https://forbisanddick.com/>

Funeral Service

JUL 20. 1:30 PM (ET)

Christ Lutheran Church
3600 Lawndale Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27408

Tribute Wall



“ *Forbis & Dick Funeral Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Ronald W. Erickson*



Forbis & Dick Funeral Service - July 18, 2017 at 03:09 PM

KJ

This is touching. I chuckled out loud seeing Grumpy Old Men and the parasailing and Santa costume and Barrel costume, and he looked good as a blonde, and a curly brunette, and a cheesehead. I even saw Bernie Jorn. Thank you for sharing.

Keels S Jorn - July 19, 2017 at 07:21 AM

MM

Such a great man, friend, mentor, and father in law. I think about you everyday Ron.

Matt Mocharnuk - August 28, 2017 at 01:17 PM

JS

“ *Jessica Smith lit a candle in memory of Ronald W. Erickson*



Jessica Smith - July 26, 2017 at 11:39 PM

TS

“ *We are also past Presidents of NCAIFA and had the pleasure of Rons wisdom, insight, and business skills for many years. Ron was a man of conviction and principles. He exemplified leadership and was a shining example to all around him. His love for Bernie was beautiful to see, as was his family values and dealings with anyone in his life. A mentor to many, trusted advisor, and friend to all. We could always count on his birthday greetings each year with a personal note to each. He will be missed and remembered with a smile.*

Tom Parker, Ken Sherlin - July 25, 2017 at 04:45 PM

GH

“ My heart is heavy today after learning of Ron' passing. He has been a special friend for 50 plus years to all of my family. He was so kind to my Mother when she worked with him and he was a rock when she became ill many years ago. i cherish all the conversations i have had with him..My love goes out to Bernie, Tate, Tara and Tori and their families. Ron will be missed by all that knew him especilly myself. Rest in peace my friend and your life here was a blessing to all who knew you. You will be missed dearly.
George Hanna



george hanna - July 20, 2017 at 12:39 PM



“ To a fellow July 20'th birthday pal..you will be missed by so many...thanks for all the birthday luncheon memories. Patti Nicholes

Patti Nicholes - July 20, 2017 at 09:45 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ronald W. Erickson.



July 19, 2017 at 09:36 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ronald W. Erickson.



July 19, 2017 at 07:07 PM

AT

“ With grieving hearts today, Cherished memories will stay. Embrace loved ones along the way, To stay strong throughout these days. Sincere condolences, he will be missed, Arlene Taylor

Arlene Taylor - July 19, 2017 at 02:02 PM

DH

“ Prayers for Bernie and all the family. Ron was a great friend and mentor. Will always remember the great discussions and times together. Always had our traditional Buckeyes vs. Badgers bet. He has meant so much to so many peoples lives.

David Hastings - July 19, 2017 at 09:40 AM

BO

“ I of all people will truly miss Ron. When the office door of Clothes Warehouse opened and Ron entered I knew the first thing out of his mouth was "Hi MATCH... That was Ron and my greeting to each other no matter in person or on the phone. I answered " HEY MY FAVORITE MATCH." I will miss that dearly. To you Ron YOU will always be "MY FAVORITE MATCH". Until we meet and greet each other again.
REST IN PEACE. My thoughts and prayers for Bernice and the family.

Becky Outen

Becky Outen - July 19, 2017 at 09:01 AM

BJ

“ I first met Ron when I moved to Greensboro. It was a difficult time in my life, and Ron always seemed to be available when I needed him. We had long late-night walks and talks, and both his friendship and support helped bring me to where I am today. I have long since left Greensboro, but the occasional phone call and birthday letter brought him right back to mind. In each phone call I could count on three things – a corny joke, some comment about me being a Democrat, and a kind word that left me feeling better about myself. It was Ron's way of saying, "I love you". I wish I had a chance to say goodbye, and tell him that I hope they let Norwegian Republicans into heaven. He would probably reply that he'd put in a good word for a special German Democrat.

This world is a better place for having Ron in it and I could not begin to count how many ways. My deepest of love and wishes for all of his family, and a reminder that we can have hope in the day when we will see him again.

Happy travels, my friend. With love and the greatest of appreciation,

Brother Bernie

Bernie Jorn - July 19, 2017 at 07:45 AM

KJ

“ I'm Keels, Bernie Jorn's wife, met Ron and the family through him. Though its been years since we've seen him, I still remember vividly his laugh, and Bernie and his Norweigan-German friendly rivalry. We thought of him whenever we got the birthday letters with all the catchy sayings each year. I wish we could attend the service. He will be missed.

Keels S Jorn - July 19, 2017 at 07:00 AM

BL

“ I will miss Ron at our class of '64 events. He was a good leader. Always full of fun. Blessings to you all. God be with Ron on this final journey. Billie LaBumbard

Billie LaBumbard - July 18, 2017 at 09:10 PM



“ Poppop,

This is so hard to even process. You are my bestfriend, supporter, rolemodel, hero and my #1 fan as you would always tell me.



I have so many memories with you, that will stay with me forever. I will never forget our times we shared together. All the times we traveled together, our long talks, our funny moments, and all the times you were there for me to cry on your shoulder. You showed me life in a whole new perspective. You taught me how to remain humble, treat people with kindness, and that honesty is always the best policy. I know sometimes i was hard headed Ocea, but you remained patient and never gave up on me. When i felt like the whole world was crashing down on me you were always there to pick me up. Your encouraging words and warm hugs would be the reason i made it through.

Im going to miss you picking me up in the mornings and me getting in the car while you would always point to your head for a kiss to make your hair grow. Im going to miss your goodmorning and goodnight texts that i looked forward to daily. Im going to miss everything about you.

You encouraged me to get back in school and to follow all my dreams that we talked about. I promise that i will make my dreams come true, as you continue to guide me.

Your loving, compassionate, determined spirit will forever live inside of me. You truly were the most amazing man i have ever met. You did not judge and treated everyone equal. You opened doors for so many people and the amount of lives you touched is truly remarkable.

This is so hard for me, as i thought you would live forever. My heart is truly broken and i miss you so so so much. I wish i could just hold your hand again and you tell me everything is going to be alright.

You told me i was a survivor, and i promise i will prove this to you.

Thank you for giving me the world and showing me true unconditional love.

You will forever be my hero.

Love your favorite 1st granddaughter.



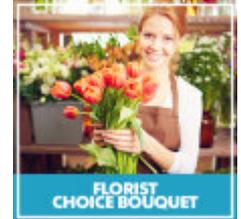
“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Ronald W. Erickson.



July 18, 2017 at 05:54 PM

IS

“ Impact Fulfillment Services purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Ronald W. Erickson.



Impact Fulfillment Services - July 18, 2017 at 04:35 PM

CC

“ I worked with Ron for 11 years and I can truly say he was a remarkable man. He was such a loving and caring father, grandfather and husband. He cared very deeply for his clients as well. I remember all of the times we had together in the office and one of my most special times was when we dressed up for Halloween one year and visited his clients. He was Uncle Sam, I was the Statue of Liberty and Chris Blue was Betsy Ross. We had such a great time doing that and I remember going to Tori's school and all the kids in her class room wanting to get our autographs! There was another time the Ron took my two children, Chris's Blue's two boys and his grandchildren to the City Club for brunch with the Wizard of Oz characters and then to Carolina Theatre to see with Wizard of Oz. My kids talked about that for a long time. He treated my children as though they were his grandchildren and they will always remember him. I will never forget his kindness to others and his love for his family. I am so very sorry for your loss and my thoughts and prayers are with the entire family.

Cindy Coble

Cindy Coble - July 18, 2017 at 03:24 PM

AM

“ I am so saddened of the news of Ron's passing... Came acquainted with him through Clothes Warehouse of Asheboro, as he handled the programs that were offered.

We became " good buddies" because we both had a love for the UNC Tar Heels.... I enjoyed my discussions with him.... The 'ups and downs'! Lol He was extremely intelligent and very witty.. Loved his grand personality.... Rest in peace my special friend❤️

Much love,
Annice McDowell
Asheboro, N.C.

Annice McDowell - July 18, 2017 at 03:19 PM



“ 99 files added to the album LifeTributes



Forbis & Dick Funeral Service - July 18, 2017 at 02:54 PM

CM

“ My family and I were in the clothing business for 35 years, of those years I have known Ron for 30 of them. I personally have had many acquaintances over the years, but few that were true friends. Ron and his family became more than our friends; they were our family. We could always count on him in the good times as well as the tough ones. My husband Larry decided to give Ron an incentive to be on time for their meetings... he said every time Ron was on time he would give him a neck tie. In 30 years he only got 2!!! Larry would always say "I'm gettin you a new watch cause I'm pretty sure yours is broke". I can still see him belly laughing. Ron always had a story from Bernie's pig to his grandchildren's accomplishments. I can honestly say that I LOVED Ron from the bottom of my heart!!! And... I truly am a much better person from knowing him. As the story goes... Rest In Peace my friend, heaven just gained a mountain of a man!!!

Christy McKenzie - July 18, 2017 at 02:08 PM

RE

“ When I was in Christian Women's Club, we had annual auctions and several times we asked Ron to be our auctioneer. He was always willing to fit us into his busy schedule, but I had to hear in front of everyone how I wasn't good enough to make it into Wisconsin and had to settle for Michigan State. It was a ribbing I knew was coming, so I accepted it in the spirit it was given. Ron was a true Christian. He walked the walk. He helped so many people and was generous with his time and finances. We all will miss him so much. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bernie and his family as they adjust to life without his presence. We know he is present with our Lord. Ron & Sally Eastman

Ron & Sally Eastman - July 18, 2017 at 10:10 AM

SJ

“ The entire staff of Steve's Friendly BP sends our condolences to Bernie, and the Erickson family. Ron and his family have been customers here for many years, and he will be missed. I will miss Ron's handshakes, and good conversations. He was a kind and good man. Rest in peace my friend.

Steve Mckoin, Jr.

Steve McKoin Jr. - July 18, 2017 at 09:36 AM

JO

“ Jerri and I have known Ron and Bernie for over 30 years. He was a special person and a wonderful friend. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bernie and the family. We are surely going to miss him. Rest in peace brother.
Johnny and Jerri Ramsey

John - July 18, 2017 at 08:14 AM



“ A very warm and kind man , who created a wonderful family , all of whom i love dearly. You will be in our hearts forever . Sincerely , Brian Holder

Brian Holder - July 18, 2017 at 08:12 AM

JW

“ Being Cassidy and Meadow Winthers mum mum I know the love Ron had for his grandchildren and family. Cassidy and Meadow loved their PopPop deeply and will miss him greatly. rest in peace Ron

jacki winther - July 18, 2017 at 06:05 AM



“ It has been too long since I have been around Ron my best memory is when he knocked me around the Racketball court over and over and over again. I was lucky to get 1 point. He helped me plan for the future in good and bad and was always around for my family...

Our prayers are with his family.
All our love...
The Dickmans

Kory Dickman - July 17, 2017 at 10:25 PM

MF

“ Mavis,Brad/Kelly,Steve/Jodi,Wayne/Kim & Families purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Ronald W. Erickson.



Mavis,Brad/Kelly,Steve/Jodi,Wayne/Kim & Families - July 17, 2017 at 10:19 PM

LM

“ Ron will be greatly missed by many people but most by his family he dearly loved. Friends like him do not come along often. He was quite a character and always had a kind word to share. To Bernie and the entire family you will remain in my thoughts and prayers. I am sorry I can not be there to share in the celebration of Ron's life but my heart will be present.

Larry McKenzie

Larry McKenzie - July 17, 2017 at 09:56 PM

TC

“ Ron was a man who you could trust and take his advice. I first met him in 1995 when my father passed he had always handled his retirement from powers swain chevrolet. Fast forward two years ago he started handing my retirement my wife Nancy and i send our prayers and condolences to his family and coworkers we consider him a friend and part of our family.

Tim capps - July 17, 2017 at 08:53 PM

NC

“ Ron was a wonderful man who knew his business very well. He loved his clients as they were family to him. We considered Ron to be part of our family. Our condolences to his family, co-workers and friends. He will truly be missed. We loved sharing stories with him about his beloved home in Wisconsin. Rest in peace Ron!

Tim and Nancy Capps

Nancy Capps - July 17, 2017 at 08:32 PM

SM

“ Real nice man, I enjoyed speaking to him over the years.
Real in peace Ron
Steven Maschi



steven maschi - July 17, 2017 at 08:12 PM

JC

“ We are so saddened by this news and we send our deepest regrets to his family. Ron meant so much to us, providing wisdom, advice and humor during life's many ups and downs. I will forever be indebted to Ron for his friendship and paternalistic guidance. He was a great man who will be dearly missed and never replaced.

Julie Ann & Scott Cooper - July 17, 2017 at 04:46 PM

VP

“ Oh my goodness, this is such sad news.... I had recently thought about calling him to catch up, as we used to do now and then... So sorry for all the family... He was a really good guide for us about insurance back in the day, and a good friend also...

Vikki Parris... Asheboro North Carolina..

Victoria L Parris - July 17, 2017 at 04:24 PM

CI

“ So blessed that Ron was my very first boss and a great one! I remember so fondly after my high school classes ended heading over to the insurance office to do filing. He was such a loving and caring man who always took the time for others. Ron was a dear brother in Christ at Christ Lutheran and a personal friend. I will always remember his booming voice, joyous laughter and giving spirit. Bernie, Tate, Tara and Tori know that you are surrounded and uplifted by the love of your family and friends at this difficult time. We are holding you in our hearts and prayers!

Cindy Iocona - Pastor Vince Iocona, Katie & Jackie

Cynthia Johansson Iocona - July 17, 2017 at 03:55 PM

DM

“ So sad to hear of Ron's untimely passing. Bernie, Tate, Tara and Tori I am sure you will remember all the fun times we had playing in our common backyard as we were all growing up. And I am sure you will remember the barking dog under Ron's window :-)
Every time we saw any of you, it was like we had just finished a conversation. We love you guys and send our deepest sympathy to all of you
David, Bunny, Stephen and Jason

David Moff - July 17, 2017 at 03:40 PM



“ I knew Ron through our family business. He worked with our family at Powers-Swain Chevrolet for many years. He always sent me a sweet note on my birthday with lots of words of encouragement and thoughts to live by. In fact i just got one 2 weeks ago. I was very shocked because I knew he wasn't doing well. He was a kind soul and will be deeply missed by many. Thoughts and prayers are with you and may God Bless You All!!!

Sincerely,
Laura Lea Powers Vooris

Laura Vooris - July 17, 2017 at 03:25 PM



“ I'll never forget the many Thanksgiving days spent at the Erickson's down in the basement watching football. Ron could always be found wearing his beloved cheesehead rooting on his Packers. Ron was family and I am so grateful to know he is in his eternal home with Jesus. We will see you again brother....love you "Uncle Ron"!

Kevin Matznick - July 17, 2017 at 02:33 PM

FR

“ From everyone at Baker's Auto & B&B Truck Repair purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ronald W. Erickson.



From everyone at Baker's Auto & B&B Truck Repair - July 17, 2017 at 02:06 PM

CK

“ Ron was always providing me with words of encouragement and praise. I will miss him dearly.

Chris Kurtz - July 17, 2017 at 02:05 PM

SI

“ When life got hectic or stressful for others, Ron was always there with a calming voice and a spirit of reassurance. Ron took joy in knowing that those around him were taken care of and happy. He will be dearly missed.

Skip Inge - July 17, 2017 at 02:02 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ronald W. Erickson.



July 17, 2017 at 01:56 PM

MM

“ we are so sorry to hear about ron. our paths used to cross with life underwriters and with mutual acquaintances at the conventions. then our path crossed again with sigma tau gamma when he was president. those times were so much fun and we enjoyed the times with the Erickson family so much. now here we are getting old and seeing people pass. ron made a tremendous impact on the life insurance industry and sigma tau gamma and all the people that he came in contact with. he will be missed.

max and Dorothy Conway mcgowan

max mcgowan - July 17, 2017 at 11:51 AM

WV

“ *Bernie, Tate, Tara and Tori, my heart is so broken at this time...I can't even begin to imagine what you are all feeling. Ron was bigger than life and this world just won't be the same without his smiling face in it. Always had a funny story to tell and never failed to put a smile on my face!!! Such a pure pleasure to have gotten to know him...first as a business colleague and then as a close personal friend! My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this sad, sad time...love you dearly and will miss my friend immensely!*



Wanda Vernon - July 17, 2017 at 11:42 AM

Cat Allred

“ *Ron, you were such a dear friend and a wonderful person to work with. You will be missed. Our warmest condolences and prayers to Bernie and all of your family.*

*Sincerely,
Cathy Allred*



Cat Allred - July 17, 2017 at 11:14 AM

CD

Ron was a truly wonderful man who will be missed by so many. He gave so much to many of us and supported so many good causes. A light has gone out. Know that he was loved by many.

cindi dorman - July 17, 2017 at 01:33 PM

PR

“ *Pamela Roop lit a candle in memory of Ronald W. Erickson*



Pamela Roop - July 17, 2017 at 09:47 AM

SD

“ *Stacy Dillard lit a candle in memory of Ronald W. Erickson*



Stacy Dillard - July 17, 2017 at 09:27 AM

TS

“ Tom & Nancy Shearer lit a candle in memory of Ronald W. Erickson



Tom & Nancy Shearer - July 16, 2017 at 01:31 PM

BF

Betty&Dick Franks,
We met Ron & Bernie , who were new neighbors of ours in the Random Woods development in the early 1970's. We had two babies who were close in age (Tate & our Ashleigh) and we became friends who enjoyed playing games and with our kids. Dick worked for Ron in training to sell life insurance and found that he was not suited for sales as a profession.
Our lives took different directions but whenever we happened to meet by chance, the warm feelings of friendship were and are still there.
Our most sincere sympathies go to Bernie , Tate, Tara & Tori and all the grandchildren of this sweet, kind & loving man... eternal life and rest will be yours, Ron, enjoy them in peace and know that you were loved as you loved and cared for others in this life.
Betty&Dick,Ashleigh & Andy Franks

Betty K. Franks - July 20, 2017 at 10:08 AM

BH

So very sad to hear of Rons passing. I worked with him back in the early 2000's and he was always such a pleasant, happy, humble man. I have many fond memories of his sweet demeanor and his acts of kindness. He always had a lovely smile on his face and was very uplifting. He was one of a kind and he will be missed. Rip my friend. God bless his wife and family for I know they miss his presence greatly. 🙏

Brenda Hurst - August 09, 2017 at 08:43 PM