



*Ronald "Ron" Emmett
Hughes*

Feb. 9, 1947 - Aug. 20, 2026

Ronald "Ron" Emmett Hughes, 79, of Hickory, NC, stepped into the arms of Jesus peacefully after a time of illness on Thursday August 20, 2026. Born to Emmett and Elouise Hughes on February 9, 1947, in Dallas, Texas, he went on to live an extraordinary life of loving and serving people well. Ron was the best of men. He was a loving and devoted husband to his beloved wife Polly and a faithful and caring father to his children Nikki and Nathan, who absolutely had the best dad ever. Ron took incredible pride in his grandchildren Knox, Rose, Parker, Maddox, and Paisley, who all loved their Poppy dearly.

Ron had a particular love for his church family at Christ Alive in Newton, where he served as Elder and worked alongside his pastors Mark and Tiffany Ivey, Barbara Potter, and other pastoral staff, who he loved as family. For many years Ron led the Prayer and Share Bible Fellowship, and he was an active member of the Men's Breakfast Fellowship, both of which brought hope and joy to their members.

Ron lived a life of service and was a Vietnam combat veteran who served his country with honor. He was a US Army Military Intelligence agent in Tampa Florida, and was part of the MACV, Military Assistance Command Vietnam. Ron was a recipient of the Bronze Star Medal.

Ron is survived by his wife of 55 years, Polly Hughes; son, Nathan Hughes (Katie); daughter, Nikki Hughes Koppi (Matthew); grandchildren, Knox and Rose Moussette, and Parker, Maddox, and Paisley Hughes; siblings, Teresa Hughes Emerson and Rocky Hughes; brothers and sisters in law, Linda Love, Vicki Hare, Cary Hare (Linda),

Frank Hare, and Jeannie Love; lifelong friends Jerry and Joyce Sherwood and numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family.

In addition to his parents, Ron was preceded in death by his sister, Carol Littlefield, brothers-in-law, George Littlefield, Vernon Love Jr., David Love, and father and mother-in-law, Robert and Beulah Hare.

A celebration of Ron's life will be held at 6pm, Monday, August 31, 2026, at Christ Alive Church in Newton, NC.

A private graveside service will be held at Western Carolina State Veteran's Cemetery with military honors provided by NC National Guard and Caldwell County Veteran Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Christ Alive Church or Gideon International, memorial Bible program or to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Sossaman Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Tribute Wall



—Rebecca Schwendeman

Ron was a good and great man to talk to cuz I didn't even know that he passed away until my mom told me about it

—Josh Savage

Our hearts go out to Polly and the family. One thing that stood out over the 8 years that we have known Ron and Polly is their love for people. You could always count on their prayers. Our Tues morning prayer and Bible study will never be the same without Ron's guidance. Game night will have an empty chair. Men's breakfast will miss his fellowship. Our world may not be the same but our loss is Heaven's gain. Rest in Peace Brother Ron.

—Ross and Joan Silvestro

DEAR POLLY AND FAMILY AND EXTENDED FAMILY AT CHRIST ALIVE! IT'S WITH GREAT SORRY AND YET GREAT REJOICING I WRITE THIS TO YOU ALL! WHAT AN HONOR AND A PRIVILEGE TO GROW IN CHRIST AND SERVE CHRIST WITH A TRUE SOLDIER OF FAITH! WHAT A HEART FOR JESUS AND OTHERS YOU GUYS HAVE! I'M ETERNALY GRATEFUL FOR DON HUGHES AND HIS BROTHERLY

HAVE! I'M ETERNALLY GRATEFUL FOR RON HUGHES AND HIS BROTHERLY LOVE EXTENDED TOWARDS ME AND I KNOW COUNTLESS OTHER MEN ARE AS WELL!!! THE LOVE AND CARING "GOSPEL HEARTS" YOU GUYS HAVE EXHIBITED OVER TIME HAVE BEEN A TRUE AND STEADFAST WITNESS TO JESUS AND ALL OF US AS WELL! THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH WORDS THAT CAN BE SAID AND OR WRITTEN ABOUT RON AND POLLY HUGHES!!! ALL I CAN SAY IS "WELL DONE, WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITH FILLED SERVANTS OF KING JESUS...YOU WILL BE EXTREMELY MISSED HERE MY BROTHER RON, YOU LOVED WELL THROUGH HIS LOVE; THANK YOU! SOLDIER ON IN FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE POLLY AND FAMILY!!! RON LEFT US A BRIGHT TORCH OF JESUS' LOVE TO CARRY, ALL BECAUSE OF HIS WALK WITH JESUS, THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH! SINCERELY IN CHRIST, STEVE WORKMAN

—Steve Workman

Polly, we are so sad to hear of Ron's passing, but rejoicing to know he is in the arms of Jesus! Holding you in our thoughts and prayers as you navigate this difficult time.

—Jean & Charlie Shankles

Ron was my cousin by marriage but I always thought of him as a 'full family member'. He was one of us. Perhaps a dubious honor, I'd jokingly tell him with a wink.— Ron was an honest man of the highest integrity, a model Christian who said what he meant, and meant what he said, who saw a need and quietly set about filling it, without an expectation of great praise. In fact, if he could do it anonymously he would. Ron was also a good listener, and me being a big talker,... well, I'm always on the lookout for such guys, lol. — I was so impressed that he not only loved Polly, but was still totally In Love with her. He even enjoyed antique-ing with her! She was the envy of every woman around. Guys, take a lesson. So I'll conclude by saying thank you, Ron, for being an inspiration on every level. I loved you for it. Rest in your heavenly reward. No one deserves it more.

—Sheri Flowers

It was a definite privilege to have worked with Ron at General Electric for many years, and to know his wonderful wife Polly. They were a classic example of partnership and devotion to God and to each other. We were all blessed for

having known him! May God comfort his family and friends with the knowledge that we will enjoy that companionship again in Heaven! -marje wells



Ron was the kind of guy you wanted as a neighbor. Always ready to lend a hand or a tool! We will miss his smiles and welcoming conversations.

—Adam & Dawn Wilkes



Polly, we just found out Ron is with Jesus. You and Ron were good friends from the first day we met you at Christ Alive. We love you,

—Howard & Sandy



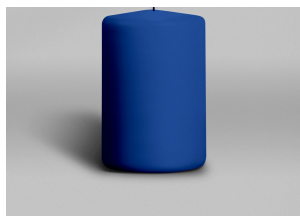
—Jade Rackley

Sorry for your your loss

—Stevehamm



Polly and family, what a blessing Ron was to so many folks.



While with us, he was the kind of Gentleman that Mothers hope their Sons become. He was compassionate, kind, gracious and a respected servant leader. His desire to walk with Christ was evident in his daily life. Many years ago on a Sunday morning, Ron stepped close and softly shared, "It's snowing down south." At the time, I had no idea what that meant. But Ron knew that I would want to know and indeed I did. He paid attention to the little things that mattered to people. What a blessing that Ron's next season of life is eternity with The Father.

—Dolores Cook



So very sorry for your loss, in my prayers

—Brenda Gail Morgan

Ron is a man of GOD a great example to those of us who know him. He is a good friend and will be greatly missed! Always had a kind word and though he liked meeting with us all, and especially at game night where himself and the rest of his brothers would attempt to pull off a win seldomly at farkel like the rest of us, while enjoying a game night buffet dinner as he frequented the desert buffet and great fellowship, we will surely miss his slight of humor as the dice passed from one to the other! You will really be missed brother but Jesus has a special spot at the table for you! Love always your brother and friend !! Sid

—Sid Beauchamp

Polly, I just now found out about Ron! Couldn't sleep and was scanning Facebook when I came across his obituary! Ron was such an amazing man! I did not know he had been sick! My thoughts and prayers are with you! I know he is with Jesus

and I just know Don is with him and giving him a big hug! We all loved Ron so much! I will be thinking of you during service! I take care of my sister on Mondays so will not be able to be at service! Just know I love you bunches!

—Audrey Savage



My condolences go to you and your family. Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

—Kortney Hege

My condolences to Nathan and family on the loss of a dearly loved dad, husband, and Poppy, amongst other relationships where he showed service and love. What a beautiful tribute to a very fine and honorable man! I am sorry for your loss. Pauline

—Pauline Vincent (AKAPfaff)



We always looked forward to seeing Ron at church. His warm smile was always welcoming and kind. He served whole heartedly. He will be greatly missed. Sending love and prayers.

—Karla and Phil Lafferty

Ron was such a great husband, dad, brother in law but really like a brother. His love for God, his family, his church family is a testament to who he was. I will miss game night with him and Polly and all the outings they put on in there back yard. And our trips to Thursday morning breakfast with our veterans groups, church men and brothers in christ. Until we meet together in heaven - happy trails

Ron. Love ya bud. Practice up on Bananas and Racko before we get there.

—Cary Hare

Our love and prayers to you Polly and your family! From your Iowa Family

—Gay Hare Storlie

Polly. Ron was the most kind man that was my pleasure to know. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Love Troy batemsn

—Troy Bateman



My dearest cousin Polly ~ We can only wonder what glory awaited Ron when he was called from us. But we can be comforted to know that the Lord would not have taken him from us if He didn't have a glorious need in His divine plan for his faithful servant Ron. May all the prayers being offered for you, Nikki, Nathan and all my Hare cousins buoy all of you up through this difficult time. Much, much love to each of you, your cousin Debbie

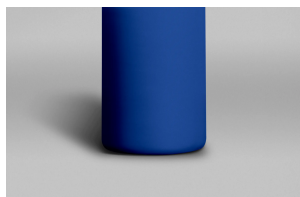
—Deborah Flowers

I have know Ron for several decades and he has always been such a humble, caring and joyful individual who radiated Jesus. He and Polly were always at every service and special events and were always serving where needed! He was a man that loved sharing about his relationship with Jesus. He will be greatly missed! I know I will see him again! Love and prayer to Polly and the children and grandchildren and remaining siblings. Much love! Jeanette Gilbert

—Jeanette Gilbert



Ron was such a sweet person. Always had a smile for everyone. Had a great time getting together for some night



everyone. Had a great time getting together for game night. He will be missed.

—Sharene Devitt

Polly, so sorry to hear that Ron has passed. Jerry and I thought he was a very nice man. Jerry enjoyed ushering with Ron at Hickory Chapel. Your family is in our prayers. May God comfort you with peace and many sweet memories.

—Frances Coffey