Sossoman
Funeral Home & Crematory Center
5th Generation Family Owned & Operated Since 1949.



Ronnie Franklin

July 10, 1941 - May 5, 2024

With profound sorrow, we announce the passing of our dearly beloved Ronnie Gary Franklin. Ronnie's journey ended peacefully at home on May 5th, 2024 surrounded by his loving family. Born on July 10, 1941 to Vernie and Mildred Franklin, Ronnie held a deep appreciation of his family roots and his community. He was a graduate of Drexel High School and Lenoir Rhyne college. Growing up with four younger sisters, Ronnie always had someone looking up to him. His life was anchored in his family. He shared an abiding love for his wife, Diane, and they were married 48 years. Together they had two children: Amanda Mae Adams (Jason) and Kristin Marie Kendrick (Shane).

Ronnie owned and operated F&S Contractors for over forty years. In his later years, he enjoyed his five grandchildren: Sofie Marie, Ruby Mae, Robert Levi, Valerie Ann and Henry Wyatt. Ronnie found joy in being outdoors and always had a project on Smokey Creek Farm. He was accomplished in many different areas and was known for his beautiful singing while he played the guitar. Along with his love of the outdoors, he enjoyed his mules, John Deere tractors and making his land a place his friends and family could enjoy. Many birthday celebrations were held at the pond house that Ronnie built. He had an enormous impact on his family and friends and was loved by so many. Those that have gone before him are his father and mother,

and his sisters Angela Benson and Karen Franklin. Left to cherish his memory are his sisters Dawn Franklin and Kathy Smith (Tom), and his many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m., Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at Sossoman Funeral Home. The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. in the Colonial Chapel of the funeral

home with Chester West officiating. Burial will follow at Burke Memorial Park.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Medi-Home Hospice.

The family would like to sincerely thank the wonderful care given by Medi-Home Hospice and all the prayers and support during this time.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

Today is a sad reminder since losing my friend and singing buddy Ronnie Franklin May 5th 2024. I miss him everyday and keep his family in my prayers. He was such a joyful presence to all who knew him here on earth and I know we'll meet again in Heaven some day. I Loved our friendship, music, black Cherokee tomatoes, and good times in general. John Pons

–John Pons



Ronnie was a joy to know. He was always friendly and made your day with his kindness. I know his loss will leave a big void in his family. Nancy Page

–Nancy Page



Diane, Amanda, Kristin, and Family, I will always remember Ronnie’s kindness and happy smile. He will be greatly missed and my thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May God grant you comfort and peace. With deepest sympathy. Love, Jacqueline

–Jacqueline Mauer



I’m thinking of all of you at this sad time. I met Ronnie at Drexel Discount where I worked. He was a funny and very kind person. A hard worker too! He had a beautiful singing



kind person. A hard worker too! He had a beautiful singing voice! Prayers and Gods bless you. Ronnie blessed many. Love Jane Rock Pope

—Jane Rock Pope

So sorry for the loss of Ronnie payers for family and friends

—Zona Baker Monaghan



For as long as I could remember Mr Franklin was a family friend who was cherished deeply within my family. My grandfather Eric Sherrill thought very deeply about Mr Franklin. He will be missed by our entire family.

—Eli Evans

My deepest condolences to Ronnie's family. I could write a book about all the things Ronnie and my late husband (Danny Cooke) were involved in many years ago. I think Danny looked up to Ronnie as the brother he never had. We were blessed to have Ronnie sing at our wedding in 1973 and he did have a most beautiful voice. I know their is a hole in your hearts that only God can mend. Love & Prayers to each of you.

—Sherry Cooke

—John Pina



—Anonymous



We are deeply saddened at the loss of a good friend an neighbor..you will be greatly missed Ronnie

–Cooks salvage