

In Memory of
Ronald Norman Heckman
August 10, 1943 - June 19, 2017
Obituary

Ronald Norman Heckman, 73, of Denver, died at home on Monday, June 19, 2017.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 AM on Thursday, August 10, 2017 at Notre Dame Catholic Church, 2190 S. Sheridan Blvd., Denver, CO 80227. Private burial will follow at Crown Hill Cemetery in Wheat Ridge.

Ron was born on August 10, 1943 in Sterling, CO to Wilda O'Brien (Heckman) Erickson and Warren Dale Heckman. He was the third of four children. After a brief stint in the US Navy, Ron went on to follow in his father's footsteps and became a commercial airline pilot, flying first for Frontier and later for Continental airlines.

Ron loved flying and would take every opportunity to share that love with family and friends, taking them up for fun adventures in the sky. He also loved his classic cars and his RV. He loved to go to car shows, where he could check out the other beautiful cars, while people admired his '55 Chevy or his '69 GTO. When he wasn't flying or driving one of his cars, he was enjoying trips in his RV with his beloved, Sharon. They shared many adventures together on the road.

Ron had a great sense of humor. Just say the word "shark" at any family gathering and watch everyone erupt into laughter remembering that great joke he pulled. Everyone who met him loved his sweet nature and wonderful smile. He will be greatly missed.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents and his beloved, Sharon.

Ron is survived by his daughter, Becky Heckmann, of Denver, CO; two sisters and one brother, Betty Moore and her husband, Bob, of Polson, MT, Carole Zundel and her husband, Doug, of Phoenix, AZ, and Bill Heckman and his wife, Carolyn, of Polson, MT; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and other family members.

In lieu of flowers, his daughter suggests memorial donations to the American Cancer Society , www.cancer.org/donate

Ronald Norman Heckman
Guest Book

July 05, 2018

I have some wonderful memories of Ron. I had been flying with Ron's father, Warren, at good ol' Frontier Airlines. Warren had learned to fly in my father's Civilian Pilot Training school, Laramie, WY., during WWII. I loved flying with Warren. We'd later work together at America West Airlines in the pilot training program there. Through Warren I came to know Ron. Ron worked for me at a small fixed base operation I owned in Denver. From there Ron went with Frontier as a pilot August 1, 1974. Like his father, Ron proved to be a respected pilot for his demeanor and smoothness. Ron was later injured in a motorcycle accident causing the loss of a leg below the knee. Undaunted, Ron would overcome this and return to the flight deck retiring from Continental in 2002. The irony would be his having Gone West within three months of his father. Warren was 96. Ron just 73. I miss them both!

~ Billy Walker, Phoenix, Arizona

August 09, 2017

I knew Ron for some years when he was married to my sister Nancy, mother of Becky. Nancy is my sister, so Ron was my brother-in-law. We were best friends for a few of those years. He was a very patient and accommodating person. That '55 chevy he loved so much was my car, originally. When I left Denver in June of 1968 to go into VISTA, I couldn't take it with me and I couldn't sell it, so I gave it to Ron. That action made us both very happy. I'm saddened to hear of his passing. I'll always cherish his memory.

~ Paul Christensen

June 23, 2017

I took care of Ronald a few days before he died and found him to be a very gentle and gracious man. I wish I would have had the opportunity to know him when he was well.

~ Laura Roiger,

Denver, Colorado