



## Ronald J. Rutz

April 23, 1938 - May 6, 2022

Ronald J. "Ronnie" "Chief" Rutz, age 84 of Pocahontas, IL, died Friday, May 06, 2022, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, IL.

He was born on Saturday, April 23, 1938, in Highland, IL, the son of Lawrence and Alice (nee Frisse) Rutz.

On Saturday, January 28, 1961, he married Yvonne M. "Bonnie" Rutz nee Frey at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Pocahontas, who passed away on Friday, April 01, 2016.

He was a member of St. Gertrude Catholic Church, Grantfork, IL, former church council & finance committee; Grantfork Volunteer Fire Department; Woodmen of the World, Lodge 105-Highland; NFO; St. Jacob Livestock Auction (Trustee); KC L of I (former delegate); Highland Historical Society.

Ronnie was born in Highland and grew up east of Grantfork, and was still living on the family farm. He was a dairy, grain, and livestock farmer. Ronnie retired (6) years ago; but remained active with the farm, even in retirement. He loved to smell the dirt. He enjoyed camping, fishing, and county fairs. He was an active Grantfok Fireman, holding the Chief position for (13) years; President of the Fire Protection District; active over (50) years. Ronnie was very active and faithful in his church; St. Gertrude Catholic Church. He loved

watching his family grow. Ronnie was in the U.S. Army with duty in Alaska and served with his twin brother.

Survivors include:

Daughter - Robin M.L. (Jeffrey "Chuckie") Mettler, Highland, IL

Son - Kevin A. "Rookie" (Lori) Rutz, Alhambra, IL

Daughter - Gena M. ( Timothy) Daiber, Vandalia, IL

Son - Bryan L. (Kristine) Rutz, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Rene L. (Dustin) Barr, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Rhonda J. (Senior Airman, Todd Schulte, IL Nat. Guard) Schulte, St. Rose, IL

Grandchild - Jordan D. (fiancee-Victoria Loyet) Mettler, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Petty Officer, Jerritt R. Mettler, US Navy, Guam,

Grandchild - Dylan J. Rutz, Pocahontas, IL

Grandchild - Mallory M. Rutz, Alhambra, IL

Grandchild - Iris A. (1st LT. Jeff Bradley, US Navy) Bradley, Barkley, TN

Grandchild - Ensign, Isaac D. (fiancee-Elizabeth Tarpey) Daiber, US Navy, Florida,

Grandchild - Isaiah A. Daiber, Vandalia, IL

Grandchild - Isabelle F. Daiber, Vandalia, IL

Grandchild - Ivan J. Daiber, Vandalia, IL

Grandchild - Ike N. Daiber, Vandalia, IL

Grandchild - Ivy E. Daiber, Vandalia, IL

Grandchild - Kaitlin R. (Tyler) Korte, Alhambra, IL

Grandchild - Kali R. Rutz, Greenville, IL

Grandchild - Kyle R. (Terrisa) Gehrig, Pocahontas, IL

Grandchild - Emily A.B. (significant other-Josh Giedeman) Gehrig, Collinsville, IL

Great Grandchild - Carlie Mettler

Great Grandchild - Laila Barr

Great Grandchild - Teagan Barr

Great Grandchild - Maris Barr  
Great Grandchild - Aubrey Barr  
Great Grandchild - Will Schulte  
Great Grandchild - Lydia Schulte  
Great Grandchild - Troy Schulte  
Great Grandchild - Jackson Santel  
Great Grandchild - Veronica Bradley  
Great Grandchild - Felicity Bradley  
Great Grandchild - Helena Bradley  
Great Grandchild - Kanon Gehrig  
Great Grandchild - Rory Gehrig  
Great Grandchild - Delayne Gehrig  
Great Grandchild - Derek Giedeman  
Great Grandchild - Gavin Giedeman  
Brother - Donald J. (Lucille "Cookie") Rutz (twin), Pocahontas, IL  
Sister-In-Law - Mary A. Rutz, Pocahontas, IL  
Sister-In-Law - Shirley F. Rutz, Highland, IL  
Brother-In-Law - Homer H. (Sharon) Rusteberg, Highland, IL.

He was preceded in death by:

Wife - Yvonne M. "Bonnie" Rutz

Father - Lawrence C. Rutz

Mother - Alice E. Rutz (nee Frisse)

Great Grandchild - Dayne Gehrig - Died 2/11/2012 @ age 6 months

Brother - Kenneth F. Rutz - Died 1/27/2018

Sister - Nancy A. Rusteberg - Died 2/10/1990

Brother - Carl L. Rutz - Died 4/9/2019.

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Monday, May 16, 2022, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL and from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at Saint Gertrude Catholic Church in Grantfork, IL.

Interment will be at St. Gertrude Catholic Cemetery in Grantfork, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Gertrude Catholic Church or Grantfork Volunteer Fire Department.

# Tribute Wall



“ I attended school with him in a one room school house on the Grandfork-Pokey road.

Marian Hess Nelson - October 20, 2022 at 10:48 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Rutz.



May 16, 2022 at 09:40 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Rutz.



May 16, 2022 at 04:34 PM



“ The Madison County Fairboard purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ronald J. Rutz.



The Madison County Fairboard - May 15, 2022 at 09:51 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Rutz.*



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May 15, 2022 at 07:48 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Rutz.*



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May 11, 2022 at 06:36 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Rutz.*



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May 10, 2022 at 08:06 AM

DT

“ *Ronnie and Bonnie made their way north to Alaska many years ago on a vacation. At the time, we lived in Fairbanks, Alaska and we were honored that some friends of our parents took time out to visit with us. We have corresponded all these years and always looked forward to our annual Christmas card. He continued with the tradition even when Bonnie passed. He will be remembered as a wonderful man! Sending prayers and hugs to his family.*

*Denise and Mike Taylor  
Wasilla, Alaska*

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**Denise Taylor** - May 10, 2022 at 01:37 AM

JB

“ *June Barney lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Rutz*



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**June Barney** - May 09, 2022 at 07:46 PM

CW

“ *Bryan, Kris and family. Prayers for comfort during this sorrowful time.*



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**Cindy & Brian Warden** - May 09, 2022 at 05:08 PM