



## Ronald Lee Hickman

May 8, 1943 - July 11, 2016

Ronald Lee Hickman, age 73, passed away July 11, 2016 at Hospice Franciscan Communities in Crown Point, Indiana. Ron was born in Rensselaer, Indiana on May 8, 1943, the son of Lois Juanita (Bowman) and John Riley Hickman. He was a lifetime resident, graduating with the Class of 1961 from Rensselaer High School. On November 22, 1964, in Remington, Indiana, Ron married his sweetheart, Nita Rochelle Thurston who survives. He was a member of the Indiana National Guard and was discharged from the United States Army in 1969. Ron was employed as a regional sales manager with Jay's Foods from where he retired after 30 years of employment. For seven years, Ron & Nita owned and operated the former Hickman's Ice Cream Parlor in Rensselaer. He most recently worked as a deliveryman for the Rensselaer NAPA Auto Parts store.

He was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church in Rensselaer where he was a member of the Good News Puppet's puppeteer team and served as the church custodian.

Ron loved sports and enjoyed serving as the longtime scoreboard operator for the Rensselaer Middle School and Rensselaer High School football teams. He had been instrumental in establishing the first youth basketball program in Rensselaer, which continues for local boys and girls. Ron was a member of the Prairie Lodge #125 F. & AM.

Ron is survived by his loving wife Nita, their four children, Daniel Lee (Alicia) Hickman of Rensselaer, Sherry Kay (Chris) Schmidt of Crown Point, Ind.,

Kenneth Riley (Jodi) Hickman of Rensselaer and Chad (Leanne) Hickman of Indianapolis, Ind., twelve grandchildren, Andrew, Lucas, Amanda, Hunter, Tobey, Cole, Rachel, Molly, Riley, Jonathon, Eli and Shane and his pet parakeet, Tony. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Friends will be received at the Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer on Friday, July 15, 2016 from 2:00 - 8:00 P.M. CDT with Masonic Lodge services at 7:30 P.M. Funeral services will be held at the Trinity United Methodist Church of Rensselaer on Saturday, July 16, 2016, at 10:30 A.M. CDT with Pastor John Hostetter officiating. Burial will follow at Weston Cemetery in Rensselaer. Memorials may be given to the Trinity United Methodist Church, Rensselaer, 107 E. Angelica Street, Rensselaer, IN 47978.

# Cemetery Details

## Weston Cemetery

Weston Cemetery  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5626

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 15. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
info@jacksonfuneral.com  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

## Masonic Service

JUL 15. 7:30 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
info@jacksonfuneral.com  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

## Service

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JUL 16. 10:30 AM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
107 E. Angelica Street  
Rensselaer, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman



Jackson Funeral Chapels - July 15, 2016 at 10:05 AM

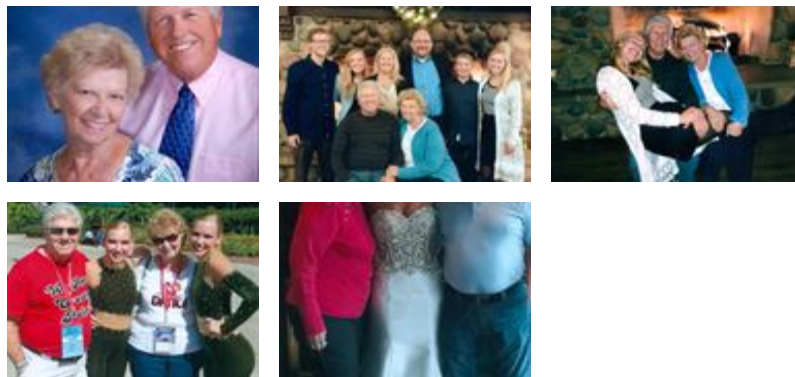
WF

“ Condolences to the Hickman family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to your whole family. Psalms 147:3 says God, "heals the broken hearted, and binds up their wounds." May God bring you comfort and peace.

Williams Family - July 29, 2016 at 07:17 AM



“ 61 files added to the album Life Tributes



Jackson Funeral Chapels - July 15, 2016 at 09:49 AM

DB

“ *Deric And Mindy Beier lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**Deric and Mindy Beier** - July 14, 2016 at 08:19 PM

LK

“ *Nita and family, so sorry about Ron's passing. He was a great person. You have our sympathy. Larry and Judy Koebcke*

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**larry and judy koebcke** - July 14, 2016 at 06:06 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald Lee Hickman.*



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July 14, 2016 at 06:01 PM

TF

“ *Tim Moore And Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ronald Lee Hickman.*



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**Tim Moore And Family** - July 14, 2016 at 05:32 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ronald Lee Hickman.*



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July 14, 2016 at 04:11 PM



“ *Marilyn Chapman lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**Marilyn Chapman** - July 14, 2016 at 01:39 PM



“ *Bea, Ann-Kathrin, Dagmar and H W Wehling Germany purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Ronald Lee Hickman.*



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**Bea, Ann-Kathrin, Dagmar and H W Wehling Germany** - July 14, 2016 at 11:35 AM



“ *Janice Hopkins-Malchow lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**Janice Hopkins-Malchow** - July 14, 2016 at 11:23 AM



“ *Gift of Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald Lee Hickman.*



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July 14, 2016 at 10:31 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald Lee Hickman.*



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July 14, 2016 at 09:30 AM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Ronald Lee Hickman.*



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July 14, 2016 at 06:14 AM



“ *Our condolences to you Nita, and your family!  
Bill and Bonnie Gentry!*

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**Wm Gentry** - July 13, 2016 at 11:24 PM

EG

“ *Our condolences to the Hickman Family.  
Thoughts and prayers to you all during this  
time of loss.*  
*Elaine, Holli an Shelby Gembala*



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**elaine Gembala** - July 13, 2016 at 10:34 PM

Jane  
Ann  
Morrical

“ *My deepest sympathies to the entire Hickman  
family.*  
*Jane Ann Morrival*



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**Jane Ann Morrival** - July 13, 2016 at 10:26 PM



“ *Basket of Joy was purchased for the family of  
Ronald Lee Hickman.*



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July 13, 2016 at 08:44 PM

JM

“ *Julie McWhirter lit a candle in memory of  
Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**Julie McWhirter** - July 13, 2016 at 08:24 PM

CS

“ Carol Spall lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman



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**Carol Spall** - July 13, 2016 at 04:54 PM

SE

“ Susan Rishling Emetti lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman



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**Susan Rishling Emetti** - July 13, 2016 at 04:15 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald Lee Hickman.



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July 13, 2016 at 02:17 PM

CS

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



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**Chris Schmidt** - July 13, 2016 at 01:52 PM

JL

“ *Jim & Dorrie Lefler lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**Jim & Dorrie Lefler** - July 13, 2016 at 10:01 AM

SS

“ *I met Mr and Mrs Hickman a few times through his Grandchildren that were dancers with my daughter and I could see the love he had for his family!! Truly a wonderful person and I pray for comfort for your family through these difficult times!! Shannon Stinnett*

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**Shannon Stinnett** - July 13, 2016 at 07:05 AM

AT

“ *I will always remember Uncle Ron all at once singing an Elvis song. I loved Elvis too. Uncle Ron had a beautiful voice. I also remember the story of Uncle Ron walking what seemed forever to see Aunt Nita when they were really young; what love!! Uncle Ron will be with you forever Aunt Nita. Now I imagine him still singing & telling jokes with Dad.*

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**Anita Thurston** - July 13, 2016 at 05:39 AM

JH

“ *Janet Holt lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**janet Holt** - July 12, 2016 at 09:46 PM

MR

“ *My heart aches for the entire Hickman family. Hoping that u find some comfort from the out pouring of love & support from all of those that Ron touched.*



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**margo roberts** - July 12, 2016 at 09:34 PM

BO

“ *Bob Ostrom lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**bob ostrom** - July 12, 2016 at 09:31 PM

JL

“ *Judy K Lanoue lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**Judy K Lanoue** - July 12, 2016 at 09:11 PM

JL

“ *Memories of band and his love or rock and roll music, God Bless to all of your families. He will be missed by his classmates. Judy and Jim Lanoue*

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**Judy K Lanoue** - July 12, 2016 at 09:10 PM

MW

“ *Nita, I'm so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers.* ”



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**Marsha Walker** - July 12, 2016 at 08:19 PM

MB

“ *The world just lost a wonderful man* ”



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**Marlene Bilek** - July 12, 2016 at 07:42 PM

  
Rochelle  
Clark  
Ward

“ *I had the privilege of helping Ron and Anita plan a trip to NYC with one of their grand children last year. I really enjoyed getting to know them in the process. Anita, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.* ”

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**Rochelle Clark Ward** - July 12, 2016 at 07:42 PM

  
Rochelle  
Clark

*I kept calling Nita, Anita. my apologies. Nita I am praying for you.*

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**Rochelle Clark Ward** - July 12, 2016 at 07:55 PM

TK

“ So sorry Anita and family for your loss may God be with you all and give you peace and comfort



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**Tom & Karen Kennedy** - July 12, 2016 at 07:27 PM

RW

“ Nita my prayers are with you and your family. Ron was a joy to work with at church, especially the puppets. I loved being the other puppet because I never knew what was coming out of his mouth. It was such a please to work with him on puppets. I always loved your phone messages on my phone or your answering machine. We often played phone tag. The one I remember the most was when I answered the phone and you were "leaving a message". I shocked you that I answered and you became tongue-tied, which was a rarity. I already miss your ready laugh and smile. Have peace my friend and know that I will always consider you my best puppet friend. I'm sure you will be watching from above.



*Regina Warfel*

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**Regina Warfel** - July 12, 2016 at 07:27 PM

BH

“ Betty Helm lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman



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**Betty Helm** - July 12, 2016 at 07:11 PM

BH

*Nita and Hickman Family,  
You have been and will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers!  
May God comfort you and give you strength through this sad time.  
Love, Betty & John Helm*

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**Betty Helm** - July 12, 2016 at 07:14 PM

PB

*Prayers to the Hickman Family Rons Humor will be greatly Missed.will  
sure miss our bus trips toCubs ganes!Always lots of fun! from  
Paul+Rosie Bilyeu*

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**paul bilyeu** - July 13, 2016 at 01:24 PM

AB

“ *I am so very sad. Ron was an amazing man. I have so many  
memories. I will never forget all the good times sitting with Ron and  
Nita at Dan's college baseball games. We had so many laughs and  
good times. Ron and Nita raised a wonderful family that I am so  
happy to have grown up with and proud to call family.*

*Love you Nita!*

*Love Adana*

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**Adana Beland** - July 12, 2016 at 06:47 PM

AB

“ *Adana Beland lit a candle in memory of  
Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**Adana Beland** - July 12, 2016 at 06:43 PM

MQ

“ *Our deepest sympathy to the family.* ”



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**Mark and Cheryl Querry** - July 12, 2016 at 06:39 PM

DF

“ *Ron and Nita have been great friends to us. We will cherish our memories of fun times with Ron and especially those hilarious phone answering machine message. Love to Nita and the family* ”

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**Don and Judy Smith and family** - July 12, 2016 at 06:10 PM

DW

“ *Our sincere sympathy to all of you.* ”



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**Don & Gloria Waymouth** - July 12, 2016 at 05:55 PM



“ *Mick & Janice Odom* ”



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**Janice Odom** - July 12, 2016 at 05:20 PM

LP

“ Years ago I worked at the Ice Cream parlor- Ron and Nita were wonderful to work for and are very special to me.  
Kim Louck and I gave them a peek of what they were getting into with all those kids  
Nita and kids Ron was a very great person and will be missed  
Laura Stath Price

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**Laura Price** - July 12, 2016 at 05:12 PM

JH

“ Heaven gained a great angel , I will miss you my friend. Nita and family I will keep you in my prayers

*Janet Holt*

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**Janet Holt** - July 12, 2016 at 05:09 PM



“ Mick & Janice Odom



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**Janice Odom** - July 12, 2016 at 05:08 PM



“ Janice Odom lit a candle in memory of  
Ronald Lee Hickman



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**Janice Odom** - July 12, 2016 at 05:05 PM



“ *Janice Odom lit a candle in memory of  
Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**Janice Odom** - July 12, 2016 at 05:04 PM

CN

“ *Nita and Family,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Dave and Cheri Nowlin*

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**Cheri nowlin** - July 12, 2016 at 04:58 PM

JW

“ *Nita and family,  
We are so sorry to hear this very sad news. Our thoughts and  
prayers are with you during this time.*

*Sincerely  
Jerry and Vickie Wilder.*

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**Jerry Wilder** - July 12, 2016 at 03:59 PM

HM

“ *Hillia Middleton lit a candle in memory of  
Ronald Lee Hickman*



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**Hillia Middleton** - July 12, 2016 at 03:52 PM

DF

“ Dale Cook Family lit a candle in memory of  
Ronald Lee Hickman



Dale Cook Family - July 12, 2016 at 03:52 PM

MC

“ Mary Jo Casey lit a candle in memory of  
Ronald Lee Hickman



Mary Jo Casey - July 12, 2016 at 03:51 PM

BF

“ Braasch And Wilhite Families lit a candle in  
memory of Ronald Lee Hickman



Braasch and Wilhite Families - July 12, 2016 at 03:50 PM

DS

“ Donna Smith lit a candle in memory of Ronald  
Lee Hickman



Donna Smith - July 12, 2016 at 03:42 PM

GM

“ *Gloria McElfresh lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



**Gloria McElfresh** - July 12, 2016 at 03:41 PM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



**Judy Burvan** - July 12, 2016 at 03:32 PM

PW

“ *Phil & Noelle Weishaar lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lee Hickman*



**Phil & Noelle Weishaar** - July 12, 2016 at 03:15 PM

PW

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Ron and his contagious smile will be missed!*

**Phil & Noelle Weishaar** - July 12, 2016 at 03:18 PM

BF

*Ron brought the professionalism to the "Championship Press Box Crew" and we will sorely miss him! The booth will not be the same without him! Thoughts and prayers to Nlta and the whole family. Let God guide you through this difficult time, He is always our Rock!*

**Braasch and Wilhite Families** - July 12, 2016 at 03:53 PM

CL

*We are so sorry to hear about Ron's passing. Craig and I have so many fond memories with Legion baseball. Our thoughts and prayers are with Nita and family.*

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**Craig and Sandy LeBeau** - July 12, 2016 at 07:54 PM