



Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese

September 1, 1943 - June 5, 2015

Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese, age 71, of Glendive, Montana passed away on Friday, June 5, 2015 at his home of forty-eight years with his wife by his side after a year long battle with Leukemia. A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at the Our Savior Lutheran Church in Glendive with Pastor Greg Lucido officiating. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Ronnie was born on September 1, 1943 in Glendive, the son of Harry and Marion (Wester) Colbrese. He was raised and educated in Glendive where he graduated from Dawson County High School with the class of 1962. During high school he met and later married Jane Buxbaum on September 11, 1965 in Glendive at Our Savior Lutheran Church. As a couple they made Glendive their home where they raised their two children; Leslie and Victor. Ronnie always said, "Glendive has been very good to us." In 1966, Ronnie became a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church by rite of Baptism and Confirmation. Ronnie worked for John's Conoco, JcPenney, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Bob Nielsen Insurance Agency. He was a volunteer firefighter and ambulance driver. His childhood dream came true when he was hired as a full-time firefighter at the Glendive Fire Department in 1977. He furthered his education and received a degree as an EMT in 1979. Ronnie retired in 1998. Post retirement he owned and operated RC's Extinguisher Service. Ronnie was a member of the MT National Guard from 1962 - 1968, the Demolay, Glendive Jaycees, Glendive Breakfast Lions Club, Glendive Elks

Club, Moose Lodge and Sports Booster Club. He was also on the Board of the Glendive Clothing Company. Ronnie coached Babe Ruth Baseball for many years.

Ronnie was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Jane Colbrese of Glendive; daughter, Leslie Colbrese of Berkley Springs, West Virginia; son, Victor (Nancy) Colbrese of Maple Grove, Minnesota; two grandchildren, Savannah and Wyatt Colbrese; two sisters, Noreen (Art) Stern and Sharon (Stan) Bidleman both of Billings, Montana; one brother, Todd (Christy) Colbrese of Gillette, Wyoming; uncle John Colbrese and aunt Janet Bjelland both of Billings and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials in Ronnie's name may be made to the GMC Hospice, whose wonderful staff took such good care of Ronnie and Jane.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN **10**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Our Savior Lutheran Church
322 North River Avenue
Glendive, MT 59330

Tribute Wall



“ *Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *We thank you all for the kind words, support, prayers and thoughts. While we have an empty hole without Dad and miss him tremendously, his wonderful friends and family will help us cherish the wonderful memories. God bless you all!*

leslie - June 26, 2015 at 11:29 PM



“ *Janette Legato lit a candle in memory of Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese*



Janette Legato - June 13, 2015 at 07:06 PM



“ *Jane, Leslie and Victor,
I'm so very sorry to hear of Ron passing. I have such great memories, working with him on the ambulance crew. Not only was he a compassionate and caring EMT, but he had such a great gift of humor to keep us all laughing! What a great man he was.*

Rick Krohn

Rick Krohn - June 12, 2015 at 02:48 PM

MA

“ Leslie, thinking of you and your family during this difficult time.

Monica Shepard Amundson - June 11, 2015 at 01:53 PM

HA

“ I'm deeply saddened by this. Ron was a good friend. Herb Aldinger

Herb Aldinger - June 10, 2015 at 04:49 PM

DC

“ Dear Jane, Leslie & Victor- I am so sorry for your loss! I will always remember Ronnie with great fondness. He always made me feel like I belonged in the family, even when I didn't anymore. I remember he was always such a fun character at the Christmas gatherings at the bank and KC Hall. What a loss for all of us left behind. Hold all the many good memories close and let them be of comfort to you in the days ahead. You're in our thoughts and prayers. Deb Chouinard, Brandon & Dayton Buxbaum

deb chouinard - June 10, 2015 at 04:05 PM

RD

“ Victor, Leslie, and families,

I'm so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. He will be dearly misses by all of Glendive and who knew him. My thoughts and prayers are with you on this day.

Sincerely,

*Ross Diede
Scottsdale Fire Dept.
Engine Co. 603*

Ross Diede - June 10, 2015 at 01:42 PM



“ *Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese.*



June 10, 2015 at 12:25 PM



“ *Jim And Donna Stanfill lit a candle in memory of Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese*



Jim and Donna Stanfill - June 10, 2015 at 11:27 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese.*



June 09, 2015 at 03:30 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese.*



June 09, 2015 at 01:49 PM

RW

“ We only met Ronnie one time, upon his visit to New Jersey with Jane and Leslie, but that visit created such a bond that we will never forget. We felt like we had known Ronnie for many years. His jovial attitude, and warm friendly way made for instant friends. We join in the families sadness, and god bless you all.
Love Roger and Carole Wenzek, New Jersey family

Roger Wenzek - June 08, 2015 at 05:10 PM

FS

“ Fred Schmook purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese.



Fred Schmook - June 08, 2015 at 12:10 PM

DH

“ As I write this, my tears are flowing remembering Ronnie. From the age of six he has been one of my best friends. I have so many fond memories of his friendship, shenanigans, craziness, and all the many good times. He will be missed by me for the rest of my life. May God bless Ron with open arms to Heaven.

Dean A. Hendrickson

Dean A. Hendrickson - June 08, 2015 at 11:20 AM

FS

“ Florency,
Cactus was a good friend and we had a lot of fun through the years.
I will miss him. Sending our deepest condolences to you and your
family.
Fred and Melanie

Fred Schmook - June 08, 2015 at 11:16 AM

MM

“ Marsha & Gerald Mickelson lit a candle in
memory of Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese



Marsha & Gerald Mickelson - June 08, 2015 at 09:27 AM

MG

Dear Jane & family, Our hearts are sadden to hear of Ron's passing.
He was such a good man and touch so many lives.
god give you comfort and strength in days ahead,

Marsha & Gerald - June 08, 2015 at 09:32 AM

RK

“ Jane,
We last talked at the 10 years classes reunion and it was so neat to
see both of you after so many years. As usual, Ron said he had
some problems but let it go at that. It was great to be around
someone who was always happy and laughing...that's how I will
always remember him.

Ron and Donna Knapp

Ron Knapp - June 07, 2015 at 10:37 AM

DZ

“ Jane and family, we are so saddened to hear about Ron. Please accept our condolences and warm thoughts and prayers! Hugs to all.

Don and Penny Zimmerman - June 06, 2015 at 11:09 PM

JS

“ Jim And Donna Stanfill lit a candle in memory of Ronald "Ronnie" Colbrese



Jim and Donna Stanfill - June 06, 2015 at 05:11 PM

DK

“ JANE, SO SORRY TO HEAR OF RON'S PASSING. HE AND I HAD MANY GOOD TIMES TOGETHER. OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAIRIES ARE FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

Don knapp - June 06, 2015 at 12:23 PM

LW

Jane, I can't believe my best friend is gone! I will always remember him. We had so many wonderful memories. I will truly miss him! We will pray for your family! Jeanette & Lefty

Lefty Wittman - June 06, 2015 at 08:34 PM

MM

Dear Jane & family, my heart is truly sad to hear of Ron's passing. I remember many MDU gatherings at your home and how much fun was had by all. Hold tight to your memories and always know you "the girls" are here for you. Love Marsh

Masha Mickelson - June 07, 2015 at 09:31 PM

LR

Jane, I am sooo sorry to hear of Ron's passing! He was such a great guy! Always happy go lucky when I saw him! Prayers and hugs go out to you! Hold on to the many memories as they will help you through this difficult time! Tom always liked working with Ron back in the days at the fire department and ambulance service. He will surely be missed by many! Lu and Sean-Daniel

Lu Rathbun - June 08, 2015 at 12:37 AM

 Joy
Tatarka

Ronnie will for sure be missed by anyone who knew him. Ashton and I were so blessed to be a part of your family for many years. So many memories to count, but camping, fishing - hours and hours, and hours of table talking and passing 4 cards. His jig, watching not one, but two Bronco Superbowl wins! Cleaning out the garage, replacing a kitchen sink and building a new fence are all some of my favorites. He always had a smile and a funny story to tell. Our love to the whole family. Joy and Ashton

Joy Tatarka - June 10, 2015 at 11:21 AM

KN

*I was sorry to read of Ron's death. Just last fall I talked and laughed with him at the 1960s reunion and it was as if no time had passed between 1964 and today - he was still happy and vibrant. RIP, Ron.
Kathie Harstad Nygaard*

Katherine Nygaard - June 15, 2015 at 08:31 PM