



Ronald 'Ron' Dale Granger

September 9, 1947 - February 3, 2020

Ronald "Ron" Dale Granger, an adventurous, straight forward and strong husband, father, grandfather, brother and son, died Monday, February 3, 2020. Ron, 72, of Charlotte, was born September 9, 1947, in Charlotte, the son of Robert and Margaret (Townsend) Strang. He was a graduate of Charlotte High School in 1965. Ron later joined the Air Force and served during Vietnam. On April 16, 1971 Ron married Deborah "Debbie" Dunham. Ron was a man that as mentioned was adventurous, after his service in Vietnam he joined the Air National Guard. He worked in Battle Creek as a Weapons and Munition Specialist. He retired as a Master Sergeant in 2001. Ron was referred to by his squad as the Zoo Keeper of the "Party Animals." He was extremely proud of his years serving his country. A passion for blowing things up has always stuck with Ron. He had a term called "backyard ballistics." Ron was an active member of the Eagles, American Legion and VFW, he enjoyed his time being able to socialize with fellow veterans. Ron had a very strong love for panning for gold. He was a member of the GPAA and LDMA. Ron would pan for gold when he would be stationed at different bases around the country, from California, Denver, Georgia and Alaska. He loved finding gemstones, gold and other valuable items. Ron was a very generous man who would collect something valuable and then give it away even if it was extremely valuable. He was always willing to help others. Ron enjoyed hunting, he turkey hunted until he said that it became too easy. He also enjoyed the annual trip to deer camp in the UP with his buddies. Above

all Ron loved his family. He was always telling others about them.

Ron is survived by his wife, Debbie; children, Jeffrey (Jenny) Granger, Kathryn (Steve) Miller, and Karla (Willie Conroy) Lilly; grandchildren, Kevin Miller, Brooke Miller, Kayla Bruce, and Kyle Lilly; brothers, Patrick (Jody) Strang, Robert Granger, and Dennis (Janice) Strang; mother-in-law, Esther Dunham; brother-in-laws, Frank (Sue) Dunham, Michael Dunham, John (Rita) Dunham, and Richard (Leslie) Dunham. He was predeceased by his parents; and brothers, Robert Strang and Russell Granger.

Friends are encouraged to support Ron's family. Funeral services are Friday, February 7, 2020 at 11:00 AM at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte with Pastor Charles Jenson officiating. Visitation is Thursday, February 6, 2020 from 5 to 8:00 PM. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to Eaton Community Palliative Care or Eagles Community Dinners (FOE Aerie 3552). Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Ron on his Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Cemetery Details

Perry Cemetery

2688 Stevens Hwy.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 6. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral Ceremony

FEB 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Ronald 'Ron' Dale Granger*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - February 05, 2020 at 07:30 PM

RM

“ *Debbie & family,
I am so sorry to hear of Ron's passing. When he would stop by the gas station, he always had a joke or something funny to say to make me laugh. Ron was unique and special in his own way. Keeping the family in my thoughts and prayers.
Robin Musselman*

Robin Musselman - February 14, 2020 at 09:49 AM

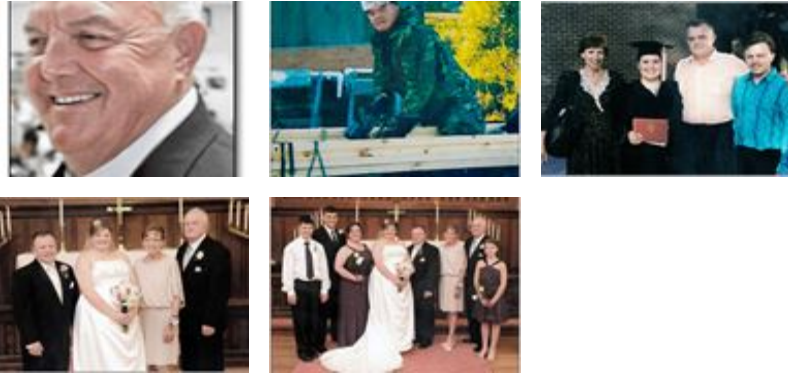
JH

“ *My condolences to Ron's family.I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Ron for many years .He was the self appointed animal zoo keeper, a position he did really well, under Ron's leadership the animals, munitions load crews, worked hard and supported our guard missions for many years. I also watched Ron be a mentor for many Guard men's and go above and beyond to help people.He will be missed.*

Jerry Hendrickson - February 06, 2020 at 01:43 PM



“ 41 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - February 05, 2020 at 07:30 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ronald 'Ron' Dale Granger.



February 05, 2020 at 04:47 PM



“ Stephens Consulting Services and SCS Systems purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Ronald 'Ron' Dale Granger.



Stephens Consulting Services and SCS Systems - February 05, 2020 at 02:35 PM

GZ

“ I only newRon for about 7 years but he welcomed me to the eagles and we sat together mon,wed,Friday thereafter, I used to go with him outside for a smoke, he furnished me with 2 pipes. I only smoked at the club. He Always bought the first drink all 7 years . We discussed family's and never disagreed. Missing him already last Monday . A great buddy.

gary zimmerman - February 05, 2020 at 02:31 PM

BC

“ I met Ron on my first UTA weekend as a guardsman in the weapons shop at Battle Creek ANG base in January of 1975. Over the years he was a great mentor and friend not only to me but my family as well. From my family to yours our deepest sympathies. You will all have a place in our hearts. -Bill and Candy Cassini

Bill cassini - February 05, 2020 at 01:41 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ronald 'Ron' Dale Granger.



February 05, 2020 at 10:29 AM

EH

“ I knew Ronnie for several years thru the VFW, Eagles, and the American Legion in Charlotte. We sat together sharing jokes or stories many times and he was always fun and a good friend. He even one time brought me and my then wife a couple gold necklaces from his travels and sold to us at I'm sure a loss. He would often get beef jerkey for me at cost from travels up north and I once went along and had a great day. I moved to Iowa in 2012 and have missed him. I know he will be missed by many.
Ed Hanover

Ed Hanover - February 05, 2020 at 09:22 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Ronald 'Ron' Dale Granger.



February 05, 2020 at 09:07 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Ronald 'Ron' Dale Granger.



February 05, 2020 at 07:29 AM

JT

“Sadness fills our hearts at the loss of Ron. I met Ron in 1991 when I was hired with the conversion to A-10 aircraft. I had to relocate my family from The UP to Battle Creek and had to travel to Marquette to load a U-haul truck then drive south. Ron thought to ask me, “how the hell you getting to Marquette?”

I said a bus. He said no. I should spend the night at his house, we’d leave early and arrive before dark.

Now keep in mind I only knew this guy about a month and he’s going wayyyy out of his way for me. Of course Ron insisted on paying for everything- even bought me lunch. And through the years I watched Ron affect so many as he had me. Ron loved his family. He loved his Guard family, and he loved the mission. I think when Ron reached the pearly gates, Saint Peter was there with pursed lips, rubbing his chin. Then after some careful thought, Ron was motioned in. I wish I could have seen the look of surprise on Ron’s face.

*Jim Trainor
110th Fighter Wing
Weapons Family*

Jim Trainor - February 04, 2020 at 06:52 PM



Well said Jim!

Andy Ribbens - February 05, 2020 at 01:17 PM

DF

“ Ron's family, I am so sorry for your loss. It was a privilege talking to him at the Charlotte Eagles. He was a great guy and was always making people laugh with his wit!
Dan Forrester, worthy vice president FOE
3552



Dance Forrester - February 04, 2020 at 06:23 PM

JM

Family, I am so sorry for the loss of Ron. I have know him since We were 15 yrs. Old. I love his family as I was part of it for many yrs. Hugs to all of U.

Judie marlan - February 05, 2020 at 08:53 AM

MW

It seems I have known my whole life. He had a great sense of humor. When he knew I was going to Alaska to visit my son he wrote me and suggested we go panning for gold. He told me lots of stories about his time in Alaska.
I felt very sad to hear he had passed away. Condolences to his family.

Michelle Wilmore - February 05, 2020 at 04:10 PM

KM

I knew Ron at the Guard Base. I came in in '83 and he was there keeping the zoo. I can attest to his generosity. He went to Snowbird once when I didn't go. He came back, came over to my office and gave a beautiful turquoise ring. I objected, said I couldn't accept a gift like that, and he said ***** , just take the damn thing, I know you like turquoise! Debbie, gave him my couch when he was to 'happy' to drive home to Charlotte. Hopefully saved him an accident! Such a good man, he will be sorely missed.

Karen La Macchia - February 07, 2020 at 11:31 AM