



## Ronald Clark Howell

February 23, 1937 - March 24, 2020

Wantage—Ronald “Ronnie” Clark Howell, age 83, of Wantage, passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by his loving wife and family by his side on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 after a long illness. Born at Alexander Linn Hospital in Sussex, New Jersey on February 23, 1937 to the late Mildred Haggerty Howell Rohel and Leon Clark Howell, Ronnie was a lifelong resident of Wantage Township. After the loss of his father, at the young age of 9, he worked with his grandfather on the family farm that taught him a lifelong work ethic. His mother later remarried Roy G. Rohel, owner of Tri-State Supply and Gas, where he made a transition from farm life to a service man. He became familiar with the family business and was well known by all of his customers in the Tri-State region.

At the age of 19, Ronnie met the love of his life, Rayna Price and later married on October 4, 1958. They celebrated their 61st wedding Anniversary with many family and friends this past June. They had four beautiful daughters; Debbie Howell of Wantage, Tammy Kuperus and her husband Thomas of Hampstead, NC, Cheryl Cecchini and her husband Michael of Wantage, and the late Donna Howell Little. He had 14 grandchildren; Kristen(Jim) Carruci, Lauren (Ernie) Conklin, Derek (Renata) Kuperus, Danielle (Joshia) Whitten, Meghan (Paul) Putera, Heather (Patrick) Freeland, Jenna (Kyle) Bruffy, Michael (Alissa) Cecchini Jr., Justin Kuperus, Erin (Matt)Washer, Jesse (Caitlin) Kuperus, Brianna (Dan) Caouette, Hope Kuperus, and Mackenzie Ayers. He was also blessed with 22 great grandchildren with one forth coming

in the Fall. Ronnie was so very proud to be blessed with a large family, and treasured each and every one.

He is also survived by his brother; Wayne Howell and his wife Judy of Wantage; his sister, Elaine Eberhardt and her husband Frank of Hampton; his brother, Roy R. Rohel and his wife Cindy of Frankford; and his sister, Margie Borner and her husband Edward of Cape Coral FL; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Ronald was a graduate of Sussex High School class of 1955. He worked for Tri-State Supply for many years and was later Vice President of Tri-States True Value until his retirement in 2000. He was well known and served on the Wantage Planning Board and Township Committee, serving as Mayor several times. He took this position very seriously and wanted the very best for the people of Wantage. He served as a Board Member of the National Bank of Sussex County and on the Lakeland Bank Advisory Board. He was a member of the Sussex United Methodist Church.

Ronnie was always willing to go the extra mile helping out his customers and family members. He exhibited his love and compassion for those less fortunate by giving to the poor, the elderly and the widowed. Ronnie's outgoing personality and unforgettable sense of humor carried him through much adversity, throughout his life. He fought a valiant battle against Alzheimer's disease. His lifelong motto was to "NEVER EVER GIVE UP" and "GET HER DONE." He had an outgoing personality who always had a joke or two and his laughter was contagious and loved by all. Ronnie had a great love for the outdoors, deer hunting, wood working, ice fishing, snowmobiling and loved playing horseshoes with his neighbor. Ronnie was passionate about spending countless hours planting and pruning trees, flowers, gardening, mowing and landscaping. His yard always exemplified his love for same.

The family would like to extend their deepest gratitude to both Compassionate Care Hospice of Sparta, NJ and From the Heart Elder Care of Vernon, NJ. for the loving care which was given in these past several months to Ronnie.

A private funeral was held on Friday, March 27, 2020 at Clove Cemetery in

Wantage, NJ with Rev. Daniel Gepford, Pastor of the Sussex United Methodist Church. All funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex, NJ. A celebration of life will be held at a date to be determined, which will be announced in the New Jersey Herald and on the funeral home website.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that all memorial donations may be made in Ronald's name to the Sussex United Methodist Church, 15 Bank Street, Sussex, NJ 07461. Online condolences may be offered to the family on [www.pinkelfuneralhome.com](http://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com)

## Cemetery Details

**Due to public health restrictions, a public memorial service will be held in the future**

## Events

**Details are pending.**

# Tribute Wall

LZ

“ Dear Rayna,  
I extend my sincere condolences to you and your family at this difficult time. I know you have been a devoted wife and as a skilled nurse, I am sure you took excellent care of him.  
Peace,  
Linda Vickery Zink

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**Linda Vickery Zink** - April 02, 2020 at 03:59 PM

BW

“ My thought and prayers are with the family. I will always remember my Ronnie and our years together He would always make me laugh I send you my love, Rayna

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**Betty Willis** - March 30, 2020 at 08:57 PM

GL

“ Dear Rayna and family all,  
I was saddened to read of Ronnie's passing . I have good memories of your family's kindnesses to us over our years here in Wantage, and personal memories of Ronnie's devotion to our township when I worked as a nurse here so many years ago. Thanks especially for being such good neighbors to my mother-in-law for so many years following my father-in-law's death.  
I believe he has passed on to that better life which remains our eternal hope. If there is any way I can be of any help to any of you, I sincerely hope you will let me know.

Gael Lawlor

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**Gael Lawlor** - March 30, 2020 at 07:03 AM

KH

“ I worked at Tru Value for the Rohel and Howell family back in the early 80's. Sending thoughts and prayers to you at this sad time.

*Kathleen (Angus) Harriott*

Kathleen Harriottt - March 29, 2020 at 11:09 AM



CC

“ Dear Wayne & Judy and family,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you. May God wrap you in love and strength.  
Cindy (DePue) & Otis Cole

Cindy and Otis Cole - March 29, 2020 at 06:20 AM



KM

“ Mr. Howell was a wonderful man, dad, grandpa, father-in-law, and husband. He always took particular joy in being with his family. Sympathies to all of his extended family and many friends. We hope your fond memories help you through this difficult time. Much love, The Morrissey's

Kristine Morrissey - March 28, 2020 at 01:14 PM



JC

“ Jeannie Crowell lit a candle in memory of Ronald Clark Howell

Jeannie Crowell - March 28, 2020 at 11:58 AM



JC

“ Ronald was a great man and a very nice man could have a great conversation with him and he was a very polite person , He will be missed by all who loved him and knew him. Fly high with the angels Ronnie fly high with the angels. You are in God's arms now. walk the streets of Gold. Gone but not forgotten. My thoughts and prayers are go to his wife Rayna and his Family in this difficult time. God Bless.

*Jean Crowell*

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**Jeannie Crowell** - March 28, 2020 at 11:57 AM

BM

*Our prayers are with you all during this difficult time.  
God Bless  
Betty & George*

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**Betty Martin** - March 29, 2020 at 04:51 PM