



Ronald Schenk

February 25, 1945 - July 28, 2020

Ronald Schenk of Pawleys Island, SC, passed away after a lengthy illness on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at Waccamaw Hospital. He was 75 years old.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Donna Napoli Schenk, and by his children, Kristen Diamond and her husband Bob, of Atlanta, GA, and Jennifer Sacco and her husband, Michael, of Hamden CT, as well as 7 grandchildren and numerous nephews and nieces. He is preceded in death by his parents, Mary and Albin Schenk, and sisters Barbara and Shirley.

Ron was born in Elizabeth, NJ and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Rutgers University. He pursued a doctorate at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York and went on to careers in college administration and educational publishing.

Ten years before retiring, Ron joined the faculty of Wilmington College, Wilmington, OH where he was Director of the Prison College Program. He considered these last years of his working life to be his most rewarding. We refer to this time as “the Ron Schenk Redemption.”

Ron felt he lived a charmed life and enjoyed extensive world travel, as well as good food and wine. He was an avid fisherman and was delighted to retire near the ocean to Pawleys Island, SC. He had a love of saying words backwards. He was the captain of the “Toy Yot,” and kept his food cold in the rotaregirfer. He also wrote scathing letters to the presidents of many corporations when a commercial injustice had been committed.

Memorial gifts can be sent to EMERGE CONNECTICUT, INC., a social

enterprise that helps the formerly incarcerated make a successful return to their communities. It is located at 830 Grand Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511 (203-562-0171). Donations can be made directly to their Website at emergect.net There is a place where you can “write a note” on the PayPal platform to indicate “in memory of Ron Schenk.” A memorial service will be held at a future date.

Tribute Wall

DG

“ Ron was a great man. He inspired me learn in an environment that I had been trapped in for most of my life. After I finished the college program with a 4.0 gpa, he talked to the warden and created a job as Directors Aid so I could stay close until my release. I took each class several times and learned more each time. He made me believe I could change my life into something I wanted but could never achieve. I wish I could spend a day fishing with him and let him see that it worked. My wife and I have our own business and are raising our three grandchildren, this is the longest I've been free since I was 12 years old and I'm 52 now. Thank you Ron, you were such an inspiration in my life then and still are today. Utmost love and respect.

David Griffith - May 03, 2025 at 08:35 AM

BN

“ He was one of my closest friends in junior high and high school. I valued his friendship most dearly.

*Best
Bernard Natelson*

Bernard Natelson - August 27, 2020 at 11:38 PM

AN

“ Anne Neroni lit a candle in memory of Ronald Schenk



anne neroni - August 03, 2020 at 06:41 PM

AN

*Hello Donna
I've only good memories of Ron
And you since we first met
Although we two had to carry on whilst you luxuriated in the spa. We
had to do our best at trivia onboard ships.
Ron was so smart
I always felt I had a secret professor on our team*

anne neroni - August 03, 2020 at 06:45 PM

CS

“ *Donna, I am so sad to hear about your loss. My favorite memory of
Ron was the time we went fishing on my visit to SC & how he set
me up with all the fishing gear. He was truly a wonderful
man. Please know that you are in my thoughts.*

Carl Sacco - August 01, 2020 at 07:42 PM

SG

*Ron was a true gentleman and scholar. I send my deepest sympathies
to Donna and the rest of Ron's family.*

Susan Bronstein Gruen - November 17, 2024 at 06:16 AM

MP

*I was Ron's classmate at Elmora School #12 in Elizabeth. He was the
smartest boy in our class and friendly as well. My condolences to his
family.*
Mark Poster

Mark Poster - August 31, 2025 at 03:04 PM