



Ronald N. Rice

December 10, 1952 - July 5, 2026

Ronald N. Rice Sr. 73, of rural Fredonia, passed away Sunday, July 5, 2026, at his home. Ronnie was born on December 10, 1952, in Poplar Bluff, MO., the son of Chester Rice Sr., and Ruth Marie (Smiley) Wright.

Ronnie was a graduate of Pacific High School, class of 1971, in Pacific, Mo. On June 10, 1972, in Gray Summit, MO., Ronnie married Maggie Williams, and a 54-year adventure began. Ronnie started working for Layton Oil Company, which he did for 18 years, he then worked for Cessna Aircraft for the next 23 ½ years until his retirement.

Ronnie stayed active with the Fredonia Hospital Auxiliary and the Relay 4 Life, Independence Chapter. He had a immense love for his wife, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, he will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

In Ronnie's honor, the family request on the day of his service to wear bright and colorful clothing, with Hawaiian shirts being his favorite.

Including his wife Maggie, Ronnie is survived by:

Children:

Theresa Faileaso (Samoa) of Fredonia, KS

Stephanee Schiding (Bryan) of Carl Junction, MO
Ronald Rice Jr. (Amber) of Neodesha, KS

Siblings:

Chester Rice Jr. (Shirley) of St. Clair, MO
Betty Cochran (Dartan) of Caseyville, IL
Anita Clonts (Harold) of Leesburg, MO
Patricia Allen (Phil) of Wickliffe, KY

9 Grandchildren and 13 Great Grandchildren: Travis Shay; Dakota (Danya) Shay, Stefan, Daxen, Adeleigh, Tamsyn; Drake (Laikyn) Shay, Emma, Kanyon, Dextyn, Rylynn; Shelby (Wyatt) Robinson, Alice, Alena, Weslee, Braylynn, Skylynn; Lilyan, William Schiding; Camron, Tommy, Luna Rice.

Mother-in-law Carolyn Williams of Fredonia, KS, Sister-in-laws Mary Parker (Steve) of Gardner, KS and Anna Laforte (Alan) of Avant, OK

Ronnie was preceded in death by his parents, stepfather Charles Wright and father-in-law Sgt. Earnest Williams.

The family will receive friends on Friday, July 10, 2026, from 6-8 pm at the funeral home. A Celebration of Life service will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2026, at 2:00 pm at Countryside Funeral Home in Fredonia. Memorials in his memory have been suggested to the Fredonia Hospital Auxiliary and may be left with or mailed to the funeral home. Services entrusted to Countryside Funeral Home 420 S. 20th St., P.O. Box 247, Fredonia, KS 66736

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **10**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Fredonia
420 S. 20th St.
P.O. Box 247
Fredonia, KS 66736
(620) 378-2882

Celebration of Life Service

JUL **11**. 2:00 PM (CT)

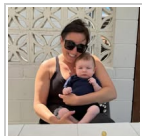
Countryside Funeral Home - Fredonia
420 S. 20th St.
P.O. Box 247
Fredonia, KS 66736
(620) 378-2882

Tribute Wall

CM

“ Cindy M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ronald N. Rice.

Cindy M. - July 11 at 06:38 PM



“ I had the pleasure of going on a 2019 carnival cruise with Maggie and Ronnie, in Mexico. Right before COVID hit. We were so lucky to make it before all that happened. I had a wonderful time with these two and shared many laughs and fun moments together. Their love is really something to witness. Maggie and Ronnie adopted me into their family in 2016 and the love I've felt from them since, has changed me as a person. I will forever have gratitude for these two lovely humans. Geepaw, you're loved endlessly and missed eternally ❤️



Kayla Sheets - July 10 at 12:50 PM

C

“ I loved that Ronnie planned trips to visit his mom/my grandma. We always enjoyed his visits. Sometimes we would have a glass of wine. Cheers to you Ronnie! RIP
You will be missed.



Cindy Messinger - July 10 at 04:33 AM

CS

“ Carla Smith purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Ronald N. Rice.



Carla Smith - July 09 at 10:02 PM

CS

“ Carla Smith planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ronald N. Rice.

Carla Smith - July 09 at 10:02 PM

AR

“ Amber R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ronald N. Rice.

Amber R. - July 09 at 05:48 PM

B

“ Ronnie was fearless. He loved to take risks. He enjoyed life to the fullest. He was loyal and very caring. He loved playing Santa at Christmas time and road in local town parades. He took the train and/or bus on many occasions to come to spend time with his mother (Ruth Marie Wright) who was not in good health. He was with her when she passed. That meant a lot to me (his sister Betty Cochran) and Dartan. He will always be loved and missed.



Betty Cochran - July 09 at 02:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ronald N. Rice.*



July 08 at 12:00 AM



“ *I will always cherish our Louisiana trips, as grandpa always had a love for the swamp life, being the main photographer, & our favorite backseat driver!!! Till we meet again grandpa..*

Love,

Drake, Laikyn, Emma, Kanyon, Dextyn, & Sugar Bears.



Laikyn Anaya - July 07 at 01:57 AM



“ *Sharla Wright and family purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Ronald N. Rice.*



Sharla Wright and family - July 07 at 12:48 AM