



## Ronald Lyle Friend

November 7, 1935 - November 21, 2015

Ronald Lyle Friend, 80, of Havana, passed away at his home at 2:14 a.m. on Saturday, November 21, 2015. He was born November 7, 1935 in Springfield, IL to Paul and Freda Doris (Ingram) Friend. He married Bonnie Barker on March 23, 1957 in Normal, IL.

Mr. Friend is survived by his wife, Bonnie, of Havana, three children, Pam Holtmeyer of Havana, John Friend of Kilbourne, Lori (Jason) Beck of Havana, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister, Donna Sisson and son-in-law, Rick Holtmeyer.

Mr. Friend was a member of the New Hope Baptist Church at Oakford. He was the Valedictorian of the 1953 graduating class at Kilbourne High School. He went on to graduate with honors from the University of Illinois in 1957. He owned and operated Friend's Fabulous Fruits for many years. He was the largest melon producer in Illinois, harvesting 300-400 acres of melons each year.

Visitation will be held at Hurley Funeral Home in Havana on Monday, November 23, 2015 from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at New Hope Baptist Church in Oakford at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Delbert Penrod will officiate. Burial will follow the services at Laurel Hill Cemetery in Havana.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Kilbourne Fire Department. Online memorial messages may be left for the family at [www.hurleyfh.com](http://www.hurleyfh.com)

Hurley Funeral Home in Havana is in charge of arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **23**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Hurley Funeral Home - Havana  
217 North Plum Street  
P.O. Box #648  
Havana, IL 62644  
(309) 543-2244  
<https://www.hurleyfh.com/>

## Funeral

NOV **24**. 10:00 AM (CT)

New Hope Baptist Church  
15777 E. Oakford Ave.  
Petersburg, IL 62675

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ronald Lyle Friend*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Brenda Craig lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lyle Friend*



**Brenda Craig** - November 24, 2015 at 09:42 PM



*Sorry for your loss.*

**Brenda Craig** - November 24, 2015 at 09:43 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss ronnie was a great guy prayer's to the family*

**Steve lovell jr** - November 24, 2015 at 04:33 PM



“ *My family worked with Ronnie for many years as I was growing up. I remember hanging out at the melon stands in the summer. My dad though highly of him and Mr. Friend treated my family well. He will be missed... Debbie Waldo Adkins*

**Debbie Waldo Adkins** - November 24, 2015 at 01:44 PM

CW

“ I am very sorry to hear of Ron's passing, I myself didn't really know him, but my late husband, Charles Waldo had worked for Ron for many years, God bless you all,

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**Carol Waldo** - November 24, 2015 at 12:58 PM

MB

“ Lori & family,  
Was so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. I can still remember his stand down there on 97! He was a worker!! Hope the good memories will see you through this difficult time. My prayers will be with you. Love, Mary(Fletcher) Bares.

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**Mary Bares** - November 23, 2015 at 10:11 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ronald Lyle Friend.



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November 23, 2015 at 09:38 AM

LT

“ Sincere sympathy sent to your family during this difficult time..... Roger and Lisa Thompson



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**Lisa J. Thompson** - November 22, 2015 at 06:04 AM

EL

“ *Ed And Diana Lind lit a candle in memory of Ronald Lyle Friend*



Ed and Diana Lind - November 21, 2015 at 08:57 PM

EL

*So sorry for your loss. I like most kids from Kilbourne worked for Ronnie in the melon fields. My brother, Kenny, worked for Ronnie also. Our first summer jobs! Ronnie supported many families in Mason County..*

Ed and Diana Lind - November 21, 2015 at 09:01 PM



“ *Garden of Serenity Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald Lyle Friend.*



November 21, 2015 at 08:22 PM

GS

“ *Gino, Sherri and Shiloh Santanna purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ronald Lyle Friend.*



Gino, Sherri and Shiloh Santanna - November 21, 2015 at 06:34 PM

SS

“ We will remember Ronnie...

*He lived his life to the fullest. He was always willing to share with others. I remember when he drove up in our driveway in full hunting gear and proudly showing a pheasant. When retiring from farming he did some wonderful woodwork in his shop. His cedar chests were amazing. Gino will miss his friend. They always loved to "lock horns" and give each other a hard time. Gino although he wasn't a hardcore football fan enjoyed watching the games with Ronnie. We always gave him a bad time for watching Maverick, but he would just laugh and say he should have lived back in those days.*

*He will live in our hearts with many fond memories of a very unique and special man, friend and neighbor.*

*Gino and Sherri Santanna*

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**Sherri Santanna** - November 21, 2015 at 05:56 PM