



Ronald J. Hills

October 18, 1956 - October 31, 2018

Ronald J. Hills, 62, of Havana, passed away at 8:20 a.m. on Wednesday, October 31, 2018 at Mason District Hospital in Havana. He was born October 18, 1956 in Peoria, IL to Jack J. and Barbara (McNutt) Hills. He married Dianne Dufelmeier on February 6, 1997 in Havana. She survives.

Mr. Hills is survived by his wife, Dianne, of Havana, daughter, Chelsea (Paul) Durre and grandsons, Kash and Gentry, all of Flanagan, IL. Also surviving are one brother, Michael (Jill) Hills of Normal, IL and two sisters, Francie Bonnett of Collierville, TN and Rebecca Woolsey of Dunlap. He was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

Mr. Hills was a member of 1st United Methodist Church in Havana, where he served as a Lay Leader. He was the Economic Developer for the City of Havana, owner of RJH Enterprises and former owner of The Rocket Tap. He was a member of the Havana Chamber of Commerce, Ducks Unlimited and was a Paul Harris Member of the Havana Rotary Club. He was a graduate of Havana High School and Monmouth College, where he was active in the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity.

Visitation will be held at Hurley Funeral Home in Havana on Friday, November 2, 2018 from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. A memorial service will be held at 1st United Methodist Church at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 3, 2018. Burial will

follow at Laurel Hill Cemetery in Havana at a later date. Rev. Jame Hahs will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mason District Hospital - Medical/Surgical Unit or 1st United Methodist Church. Online memorial messages may be left for the family at www.hurleyfh.com.

Hurley Funeral Home in Havana is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 2. 4:00 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 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church - Havana
101 S. Broadway
Havana, IL 62644
(309) 543-4725

Tribute Wall



“ Hurley Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ronald J. Hills



Hurley Funeral Home - November 02, 2018 at 09:13 AM

MB

This is truly a lovely tribute to a wonderful man. Godspeed RJ.

Michele Borzeka - November 04, 2018 at 02:28 PM

LM

What a wonderful tribute. I shall always treasure this video.

Linda Moss - November 07, 2018 at 10:53 PM



“ Ronald J. Hills

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM

SP

“ Steve Perbix lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills



Steve Perbix - March 20, 2019 at 08:34 AM

BW

“ *Worked with Ron on a grant project for the Havana industrial park. A class act and a great guy! RIP.*

Bill Warren - November 28, 2018 at 02:21 PM

DL

“ *We have many fond memories of Ron--especially his support for the Havana High School golf team and his golfing years at Lakewood Golf Course. He was a kind and generous man who touched many lives during the years. Ron always had a smile and a way of making us feel good. His commitment to Havana has been very evident and he will be greatly missed. Our prayers and thoughts go out to Diane and all of Ron's family and extended family. Rest in peace Ron!!!
Dick and Shirley Lounsberry*

Dick and Shirley Lounsberry - November 06, 2018 at 12:50 PM

CS

“ *Craig Schaeffer lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Craig Schaeffer - November 05, 2018 at 10:04 AM

RC

“ *We're so sorry to hear of Ron's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.*

Rhonda and Joe Coleman - November 04, 2018 at 04:13 AM

RC

“ Rhonda Coleman lit a candle in memory of
Ronald J. Hills



Rhonda Coleman - November 04, 2018 at 04:09 AM

JC

“ Joe Coleman lit a candle in memory of
Ronald J. Hills



Joe Coleman - November 04, 2018 at 03:07 AM

M@

“ Mike Noble @family lit a candle in memory of
Ronald J. Hills



Mike Noble @family - November 03, 2018 at 05:39 PM

MM

“ We our so sorry for your loss. In this time of grief we focus on are loss ,but we should remember all of our blessings of each day Ron was with use. Be thankful that he was here to be a son ,brother, husband, father, friend and a type of person anyone would of been proud to have known. Our hearts go out to Diane and all of the family. May the good LORD be with you and confront you in the day ahead. Mike Noble , Deb Miller & the Noble Family.



Mike Noble , Deb Miller - November 03, 2018 at 04:57 PM

CA

“ Ron was a good person and will be missed. He was a friend to all he met.



Connie Atchison - November 03, 2018 at 04:44 PM

MM

“ Mike Noble & Deb Miller lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills



Mike Noble & Deb Miller - November 03, 2018 at 04:34 PM

HR

“ *HARVEY & CINDY RIGGINS lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



HARVEY & CINDY RIGGINS - November 03, 2018 at 08:25 AM

SB

“ *My deepest sympathy for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*
Scott Budke

Scott Budke - November 03, 2018 at 07:52 AM

CD

“ *Ron loved his family, his friends, and his community. Working with him on economic development issues for Havana was always a pure joy. He was ever hopeful and always kind. I last saw Ron about two months ago and immediately received a hug. He has left a beautiful, lasting impression and a true example of how to live a life of service. My thoughts are with everyone he touched.* *Carol Davis*

Carol Davis - November 03, 2018 at 05:57 AM

RS

“ *Our sincere sympathy for your loss. Our thoughts are with you.*
Darell and Rosanne

Rosanne Sarff - November 02, 2018 at 08:35 PM

CW

“ So sorry for your loss. He will be deeply missed. When you seen RJ he always had a smile and always waved. RIP RJ OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR YOUR FAMILY DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.

THE CURTIS L. WILKEY FAMILY

Curt wilkey - November 02, 2018 at 07:25 PM

DE

“ David and Laura Van Etten purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Ronald J. Hills.



David and Laura Van Etten - November 02, 2018 at 03:25 PM

BS

“ Bob And Kris Simmers lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills



Bob and Kris Simmers - November 02, 2018 at 12:53 PM

RO

“ My sincere condolences to the the family of RJ. We have truly lost someone special. Though I didn't know RJ as well, he is someone I respected and enjoyed hanging out with.

I first met RJ at the ATO house when I was a senior at Monmouth College. He just showed up during the middle of what was an ordinary week and not some special event like Homecoming. RJ was having an ordinary day that day, but while driving in his car somewhere, the Eddie Money song, "I Wanna Go Back," came on the radio. RJ said as he listed to the lyrics, it reminded him of his days in college at the ATO House. He decided right then he'd cancel everything he had going that day and drove strait to Monmouth right then and there.

All of us in the house that time were very impressed and felt somewhat flattered that he thought of us. As I got to know RJ better over those next few years, I realized what kind of guy he was; fun and full of life. He knew what was important and that life shouldn't be going to business meetings every day. But instead, make time to spend time with those you love. That's a huge lesson I learned from RJ, and one I still try to practice every day.

RJ graduated roughly 10 years before I, but as ATO brothers, our fraternal bond knows know passage of time. I regret I didn't stay in touch with RJ over the years. But I trust he's in a better place, without pain, probably looking down upon us with a smile on his face from all the stories being recounted.

*Rick Owens
Class of '87
Monmouth College*

Rick Owens - November 02, 2018 at 11:14 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Hills.*



November 02, 2018 at 10:46 AM



“ *Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Hills.*



November 02, 2018 at 07:32 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Ron's passing. He was a very kind person and so nice to my folks! My sincere sympathy to all the family.*

Ann (Hurley) Bacon

Ann Bacon - November 01, 2018 at 10:39 PM



“ *I remember Ronnie from high school days and then college days at Monmouth. We send our deepest sympathy to his family at this difficult time. He will always have a special place in our hearts.*

Terry Brooks Campbell and the Brooks family

Terry Brooks Campbell - November 01, 2018 at 09:50 PM

DB

“ *Denise Bailey lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Denise Bailey - November 01, 2018 at 09:26 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Hills.*



November 01, 2018 at 09:01 PM

PM

“ *Our deepest sympathy to Diane and all of Ron's family. He is free.*

Paul and Becky Morgan

Paul Morgan - November 01, 2018 at 08:55 PM

RF

“ *Rebecca France lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Rebecca France - November 01, 2018 at 08:52 PM

FT

“ *Finish Line Transportation purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ronald J. Hills.*



Finish Line Transportation - November 01, 2018 at 07:26 PM

RK

“ *Rick Kahn lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Rick Kahn - November 01, 2018 at 07:13 PM

MH

“ *The loss of a wonderful man who will be missed but will remain in our hearts. Prayers to all the family, loved ones & friends.*

Marla Hance - November 01, 2018 at 06:08 PM

DH

“ *Dan And Julie Hine lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Dan and Julie Hine - November 01, 2018 at 04:42 PM



“ So sorry to learn of Ron’s passing. Our hearts and prayers go out to Dianne and the whole extended family. Marilyn and Joe Cusick

Joe & Marilyn Cusick - November 01, 2018 at 04:26 PM



“ I will never forget you my friend.



Robert Specketer - November 01, 2018 at 04:08 PM



“ Rob Pierson lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills



Rob Pierson - November 01, 2018 at 04:08 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Hills.



November 01, 2018 at 03:04 PM

CC

“ I hope that you can find a smile. That is how I will always remember RJ. While I did not know him well, I do know he was a great guy. Do you best to relive the wonderful times that you got to spend with him and try not to focus on the loss. RIP RJ. - Charley Case ATO - EN

Charles Case - November 01, 2018 at 02:55 PM

DH

“ Diane we are so sorry to hear of Ron's passing. We both have so many fond memories that we will cherish forever. Our thoughts and prayers to you all.
Dan and Julie Hine

Dan Hine - November 01, 2018 at 02:40 PM

CP

“ My condolences to Diane and the entire family. I do have a memory to share from New Central School. I was in 6th grade and Ronnie (as we knew him then) was in 8th grade. There was a couple who came to the school, The Cunningham's, who taught us how to dance. They worked with us to learn, the Cha-Cha, Lindy Hop, and Waltz to name a few. At the end of our classes, they had an opportunity for our families to come and see what we had learned. It was held in the Old New Central gym and the boys had to ask the girls to dance. We were sitting there on the bleachers waiting and Ronnie came up to me and asked me to dance. I could not believe it! The eighth grade boys were like the ultimate guys to the 6th grade girls. I was scared to death. We went onto the floor and performed our dance perfectly, even though my knees were shaking. It was one of the highlights of my middle school years as you can tell from the fact that I still remember it. That day Ronnie made me feel very special and I will always be grateful to him for that.

Cheryl (Wilson) Plunkett

Cheryl Plunkett - November 01, 2018 at 02:34 PM

BS

“ Sorry for your loss. Ronnie will be missed by so many. Berniesarff

bernie sarff. - November 01, 2018 at 02:16 PM

DW

“ Sorry for your loss Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Ron was a very kind and generous man . He will be very missed



Dan and Chris Wilson - November 01, 2018 at 12:39 PM

JT

“ *Jennifer Trimpe lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Jennifer Trimpe - November 01, 2018 at 12:15 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Hills.*



November 01, 2018 at 11:02 AM

KR

“ *KIM RUSSELL lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



KIM RUSSELL - November 01, 2018 at 10:30 AM

ML

“ *Melody Lynn lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Melody Lynn - November 01, 2018 at 09:25 AM

SA

“ *It was a great pleasure to get to know and work with Ron. He was very passionate about Havana. I will miss his smile and kind words.*
Sally GPEDC

sally - November 01, 2018 at 09:19 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Hills.*



November 01, 2018 at 08:58 AM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald J. Hills.*



November 01, 2018 at 08:49 AM

DS

“ *I'm very sorry to hear about Ron's passing. Sincere condolences to the Hills family.*

Dennis Siltman - November 01, 2018 at 08:49 AM

RP

Will always remember the day that Ronnie and myself and bred and my family went sky diving a memory i will always cherish

Randy phelps - November 01, 2018 at 09:41 AM

BS

“ We're so sorry to hear of Ron's passing. He stood out as a man with a passion for his community and a loyal friend to many. Our sincere condolences to Diane, Mike and all the family members. Ron will be missed by many.



Beth and Jon Smith - November 01, 2018 at 08:29 AM

TG

“ Tim Griffin lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills



tim griffin - November 01, 2018 at 08:19 AM

BC

“ Becky Chaney lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills



Becky Chaney - November 01, 2018 at 08:08 AM



“ Ruth Lippert lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills



Ruth Lippert - November 01, 2018 at 06:27 AM

KY

“ *Kathy A Yackley lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Kathy A Yackley - November 01, 2018 at 06:23 AM

AM

“ *So sorry for your loss. He will be missed.*

andrea mann - November 01, 2018 at 05:20 AM

PS

“ *Patti Specketer lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Patti Specketer - November 01, 2018 at 01:59 AM

SJ

“ *Sorry for your loss Ron was a great guy and will be missed by many sending prayer's to his family!!!!*



steve Lovell jr - November 01, 2018 at 12:48 AM

LM

“ Since he was 18 playing the pin ball in the back Room of the Havana Bowl we have been friends. Many good trips to Atlantic City with the Weeklys and Bonnets and Scaggs. Many memories throughout time i shall always treasure. I luvd Ronnie like a son THROUGH OUT THE YEARS. You will always be in my heart RON!



Linda Moss - November 01, 2018 at 12:08 AM

VF

“ Thoughts and prayers to Dianna and Francis and the rest of the family. May you take comfort in knowing he is at peace. And may your memories carry you though. Velva and Tim Fletcher



Velva Fletcher - October 31, 2018 at 10:31 PM

AM

“ No matter where are what he was doing he always made a point to say Hello. He is missed . Prayers with the family.



Alice Miller - October 31, 2018 at 10:12 PM

DM

“ Prayers and hugs dear lady.. May the memories you and Ron shared comfort you and bring you peace.. Dottie Millar

Dottie Millar - October 31, 2018 at 09:33 PM

CW

“ *Diane so sorry for your families loss. Prayers to all. He is pain free now. A great man. Roger and Clara Walker*

Clara Walker - October 31, 2018 at 08:33 PM

DS

So sorry to hear about Ron. He was a great guy. Prayers for his family.

Debra Savage - November 01, 2018 at 10:02 AM

LM

“ *Ron will always be like a little brother to me. I don't remember a time that I didnt know him. Sending love and prayers to all of you.*

Linda Markee - October 31, 2018 at 07:34 PM

SS

“ *So sorry for your loss. Hugs to Dianne and his family. Ron was alway such a friendly person and worked so hard for his community. May you find strength in the Lord. From Susan and Paul Showalter.*



Susan and Paul Showalter - October 31, 2018 at 07:16 PM

BP

I am so sorry for your loss. Ron was a great guy, He will be missed by many. Much love to you and your family, God will give you strength just ask and He will walk you through. Sending love and prayers Beryl

Beryl Pokorny - October 31, 2018 at 09:39 PM

LT

Diane, We are so sorry to hear of Ron's passing. May the fond memories comfort you knowing you are loved. Ron contributed and loved the Havana community so much ! Our thoughts and Prayers go out to you.

*Sincerely,
Linda and Logan Tracy*

Linda and Logan Tracy - November 01, 2018 at 06:11 AM

LM

“ I can't begin to say how sorry I am. Thinking of all of you with a heavy heart.

linda meyer - October 31, 2018 at 07:03 PM

LW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Danny and Lori Wright

Lori Wright - October 31, 2018 at 06:51 PM

JF

So sorry for your loss Diane an for the family loss.Ron worked for our community he will be missed.prayers for family.

Jeannie Fawcett - October 31, 2018 at 08:29 PM

BS

Fred and I are so sorry to loose Ron from our life. Friends forever -co workers since 2008 I know 2013 started our Moving Havana Forward project. Love you Ron.

Brenda Stadsholt - October 31, 2018 at 08:50 PM

NW

“ *Nancy Wilson lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Nancy Wilson - October 31, 2018 at 06:27 PM

 Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson

“ *Our condolences to Ron's Family. Peace & Comfort & Strength be given to all of you! Respectfully, Roger & Lisa*



Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson - October 31, 2018 at 06:06 PM

NE

“ *Nancy Elliott lit a candle in memory of Ronald J. Hills*



Nancy Elliott - October 31, 2018 at 05:56 PM

AM

“ *Diane, I will be thinking of you and all of Ron's family and friends during this very difficult time. If you need anything at all you know where to find me. He will be missed in good ole Havana. May the good memories help you cope with his loss. I am so very sorry you have to go through this heartache.*

Ron, you are now cancer free and pain free. Havana thanks you for all of your hard work....up until the end. You will truly be missed. Go rest high on that mountain.

Amy - October 31, 2018 at 05:06 PM

LC

“ *Diane and family so sorry for your loss, our prayers are with you all. Richard and Lanette Crum.*



Lanette Ukrich Crum - October 31, 2018 at 04:54 PM