



## Ronald H. Thornton

June 16, 1946 - August 12, 2022

Ronald H. Thornton, 76, died August 12, 2022, at the Select Specialty Hospital (Tennova-North). He was born June 16, 1946, in Harriman, TN, the son of Joe and Helen (Cofer) Thornton.

Ron graduated from Harriman High School, Class of 1964. He graduated from the University of Tennessee with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 1969.

Ron served for 32 years in the RHHT/278th Armored Cavalry Regiment retiring as a MSG. He married his wife, Sheila (Glenn) Thornton in 1976. They celebrated 46 years of marriage in May. Ron was a loyal member of Big Emory Baptist Church in Harriman. He was a member of the 278th Retirees Association and a founding member of the Ducks Unlimited Watts Bar Chapter. Ron was an avid outdoorsman that loved to spend time in the woods hunting for turkey and deer and especially in the duck blind with his friends and family. Ron loved all U.T. sports, and he and his wife and grandson loved going to U.T. baseball games together and watching the L.A. Dodgers baseball games.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by a sister, Jo Ann (Thornton) Gibson. Surviving in addition to his wife, Sheila (Glenn) Thornton, are his son, Ronald Kevin Thornton and his wife Jill, of Knoxville, and his daughter, Lisa Jane Boles and her husband, Charles "Buddy", of Harriman; five wonderful grandchildren, Audrey Boles, Shelby Thornton, Naomi Boles, Charlie Boles, and Avery Thornton; sister Patsy Houser; sister-in-law, Jan Hickman; and many nieces, nephews, cousins.

The family will receive friends at Kyker Funeral Home in Harriman on Tuesday, August 16, from 5 to 7 p.m., with the funeral service following at 7 p.m., Pastor Neil Crass officiating. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. at Roane Memorial Gardens on Wednesday, August 17th. In lieu of flowers, those who wish to remember Ron in a special way may make contributions in his memory to Big Emory Baptist Church, PO Box 227, Harriman, TN 37748. Kyker Funeral Home of Harriman is serving the Thornton Family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **16**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kyker Funeral Homes  
OUR HARRIMAN CHAPEL  
PO Box 232, 430 Morgan St  
Harriman, TN 37748  
(865) 882-1515  
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com/>

## Funeral Service

AUG **16**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Kyker Funeral Homes  
OUR HARRIMAN CHAPEL  
PO Box 232, 430 Morgan St  
Harriman, TN 37748  
(865) 882-1515  
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com/>

## Graveside Service

AUG **17**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Roane Memorial Gardens  
1400 N Gateway Ave  
Rockwood, TN 37854

# Tribute Wall

JS

“ Sheila--Please know that you and your family are in my prayers. May the Holy Spirit comfort your feelings of incredible loss and stir within your remembrances the joys of loving moments throughout your life.

*John Sheppard*

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**John Sheppard** - August 17, 2022 at 08:47 PM

JR

“ Sheila, both Sonia and I want you to know how sorry we are to hear of Ron's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your beautiful family during these difficult times.

*Jim & Sonia Rogers*

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**Jim & Sonia Rogers** - August 17, 2022 at 11:27 AM

CE

“ Sheila, June and I are praying for you and your family. God's speed to Ron and may he rest in peace.

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**charles emery** - August 17, 2022 at 10:47 AM

JJ

“ Jim Jenkins ( JHarley) purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Ronald H. Thornton.



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**Jim Jenkins ( JHarley)** - August 16, 2022 at 10:03 PM

JJ

“ Sheila, I cannot say how much this special guy will be missed. My memories go to our younger days when it was JHarley, Shaker and Ronnie. Even though time and distance separated us, we never missed beat when we had time to get together those very few times as years passed. He was always and will always be my friend. My heart and prayers are with you today. Jim Jenkins

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**Jim Jenkins** - August 16, 2022 at 09:49 PM

NO

“ So sorry about your loss, Sheila. Here's wishing peace for you and all Ron's many loved ones.

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**Nate Orshan** - August 16, 2022 at 01:38 PM

ST

*Thank you Nate.*

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**Sheila Thornton** - August 16, 2022 at 03:41 PM

MA

“ Sheila,  
I am so sorry for you and your family's loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Let any of us know if you need anything.  
Mark Allen

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**Mark** - August 16, 2022 at 01:37 PM

ST

*Thank you Mark.*

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**Sheila Thornton** - August 16, 2022 at 03:41 PM

LL

“ *Sheila, I am so sorry to hear about Ron. I know that he will be greatly missed. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*  
*Larry Long*

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**Larry Long** - August 16, 2022 at 01:36 PM

ST

*Thank you Larry.*

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**Sheila Thornton** - August 16, 2022 at 03:42 PM

JL

“ *Sheila, I am so sorry for the loss of your husband. You are in my thoughts and prayers and I wish you comfort in your time of loss. -*  
*John Lopez*

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**John Lopez** - August 16, 2022 at 01:22 PM

ST

*Thank you John.*

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**Sheila Thornton** - August 16, 2022 at 03:42 PM

BB

“ *Your family is in our thoughts and prayers Sheila! The Barnhill's*

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**Brandon Barnhill** - August 16, 2022 at 01:04 PM

ST

*Thank you Brandon.*

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**Sheila Thornton** - August 16, 2022 at 03:43 PM



“ 7 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Kyker Funeral Home - August 16, 2022 at 12:21 PM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall

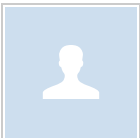


Paul Mashburn - August 16, 2022 at 09:27 AM

ST

*Thank you Paul.*

Sheila Thornton - August 16, 2022 at 03:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ronald H. Thornton.*



August 15, 2022 at 08:00 PM

RM

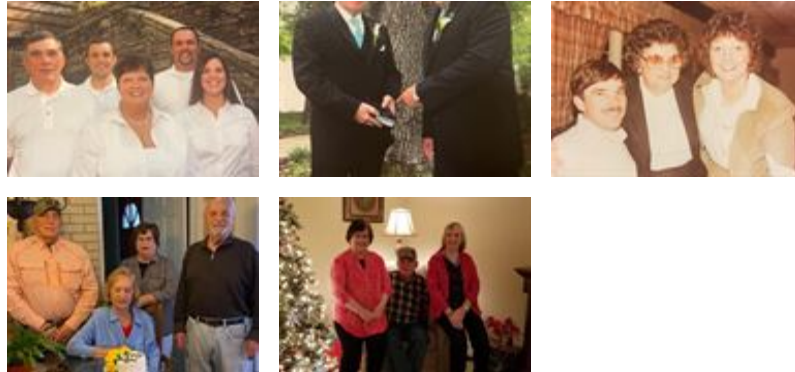
“ Rich, Becky, Justin and Matthew purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Ronald H. Thornton.



Rich, Becky, Justin and Matthew - August 15, 2022 at 03:29 PM



“ 79 files added to the album Life Tributes



Kyker Funeral Home - August 15, 2022 at 02:55 PM

CH

“ Carla Hill lit a candle in memory of Ronald H. Thornton



Carla Hill - August 15, 2022 at 01:11 PM

ST

Thank you.

Sheila Thornton - August 16, 2022 at 03:46 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Ronald H. Thornton.



August 15, 2022 at 10:23 AM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Ronald H. Thornton.



August 14, 2022 at 09:34 AM



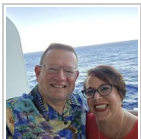
“ Sheila, I'm so very sorry to hear about Ronnie's passing... God be with you and your family, in strength and comfort, during this time, Much Love to you, Ginger Bailey

ginger bailey - August 13, 2022 at 11:36 PM



Thank you Ginger.

Sheila Thornton - August 16, 2022 at 03:46 PM



“ I was in the 278th with him for several years and enjoyed it very much. He was a good man and very good friend.

Gordon Gwathney - August 13, 2022 at 07:48 PM

VB

*Ronnie very special him family parent lived by us years has helped my family my parents he very special man you be sadly missed*

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**Vickie Bryant Burgess Brown** - August 14, 2022 at 10:23 AM

RW

*Went to HS with Ronnie and spent many years with him in the Guard. Remembering the good times.He was well thought of and will be missed.*

*Randy Westmoreland*

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**Randy Westmoreland** - August 15, 2022 at 08:05 PM

ST

*He loved his high school friends.*

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**Sheila Thornton** - August 16, 2022 at 03:48 PM

MJ

“*Sheila and family, so sorry to hear about Ronnie’s passing. He was truly a very nice person and good man. We were friends all thru school and classmates. He was our class president and co- valedictorian. We were in many SS classes together at TSBC. He will be greatly missed.*”

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**mickey jones** - August 13, 2022 at 03:24 PM