



## Ronald VanWinkle

August 31, 1947 - January 23, 2020

Ronald Steven Van Winkle ascended to his new heavenly home on January 23rd, 2020. He was born in Exeter, California on August 31st, 1947. He graduated from Redwood High School in 1965, worked for the County of Tulare, after which he received training and worked as the police dispatch department head. An assortment of jobs followed, utilizing his varied knowledge and talents. His most recent passion was volunteering at the Visalia Farmer's Market for a number of vendors that he considered to be friends and family.

Ronald was a gardener, fisherman, artist, chef, builder and inventor. He enjoyed sharing his knowledge and teaching others to learn his skills as well. Friends and family continue to use some of his gardening tools and display his artwork.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul Wilford and Ruby Ora Van Winkle, as well as his siblings Robert Van Winkle, Vivian Lambert, and Ellen Henson. He is survived by his sister Beverly Windham, his children Paul Van Winkle and Alana Unger, and his grandchildren Derrick, Jocelyn and Alexis Unger.

Ronald's family appreciates all of his family and friends for the love and laughter they shared with him. Special thanks to the 2 South medical team at Kaweah Delta for the compassionate and skilled care he received in his final days. He did not wish to have services. The family invites you to honor his memory by sharing a story or passing on some knowledge that he shared with

you. A memorial tribute may be offered by logging onto [www.salseranddillard.com](http://www.salseranddillard.com).

# Tribute Wall

LB

“ I have been looking for this obit for over a year as I sensed Ron had passed when his emails quit suddenly. His emails stopped several months before he actually died so I assume he had become too sick to keep up with the emails. We shared many great recipes! I made the tamales he told me about & they are a lot of work but SO GOOD. His relative up in Lakeport, CA connected me to him when I was doing some genealogy. I sure miss corresponding with him & getting all the recipes & other trivial stuff. Most people only text now so his emails are greatly missed. Very glad to have found out why the emails stopped. He hinted that he had some health problems & also told me how much he enjoyed the Farmer's Market.

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**Linda Bruce** - January 03, 2021 at 03:23 PM

AJ

“ Hi. I just found out Ron has passed on to be with the Lord. He was a patient when I was working and became a friend. He was enthusiastic and full of kindness. He wanted me to have a garden and spent an entire day coaxing my impossible soil to accept 2 tomato plants and 2 squash plants. He encouraged me during my hard times and I am so sorry I will not see his smiling face again. I am honored to have known him. I am sorry for your loss.

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**Anna Joy** - August 24, 2020 at 01:43 AM

BB

“ I am a niece to Ronnie's sister, Vivian Lambert. I've observed over the years that Ronnie was very close to his sisters. A very caring and loving brother. Every time I would visit my Aunt Vivian he was calling to check in to find out who was doing what. Tee Hee - I always admired the closeness of their family. Ronnie and I had several conversations about music. He was quite the collector. Rest in piece my friend.

*Barbara Benefield-Peck*

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**Barbara Benefield-Peck** - February 04, 2020 at 01:56 PM

JG

“ My deepest sympathy to Ronnie's family. We had remained in contact throughout our many years of friendship, discussing and debating many subjects and solving many world problem 😊..he was a good friend, if you were involved in a project or needed any help, Ronnie was always ready to roll up his sleeves..we would see each other regularly at the farmers market, where Ronnie was always helping various venders..I will miss you my friend, RIP.

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**Joe B Garcia** - February 01, 2020 at 01:48 PM

LT

“ I met him through facebook. I was shocked when he had the same exact name as my father. Ronnie Van Winkle. He explained to me how we were related, and family history. We engaged in many conversations, and became very close friends. I called him Pal. Because he was. He gave me much advice on life's lessons that he learned, and taught me a lot about gardening. Recipes, his BBQ sauce and how to make Tamales and jams. He was more than a Pal. He was like a mentor and Father to me. One of the funniest men I ever have known. Always making me smile and laugh, and checking up on how I was doing. Such a thoughtful friend. He loved life, his Lord Jesus his family his cat JR and his friends very much. He told me on 12/16/19 he wasn't well, and he thought soon he was going to see "the ghost". I didn't realize he meant the Holy ghost-Jesus until he was hospitalized. Truly will miss him. See you when I see you Pal. We shall meet again. You won't be forgotten. Thanks for everything. I love you, more.

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**Lori VW Temple** - January 31, 2020 at 11:35 AM



“ Condolences to the Van Winkle family. Ronald & I first got acquainted at Crowley Elementary School and attended the same schools through graduation at Redwood High School. Even though we didn't stay in close touch, he was considered a dear friend. The Ronald I knew was a happy and kind person with a big smile on his face. He will be missed.

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**Daniel Serna** - January 29, 2020 at 12:25 PM