



Ronald Myer Small

May 11, 1946 - July 17, 2015

Ronald Myer Small, 69, of Benton Harbor and formerly of Gary, IN, died at his residence on Friday, July 17, 2015.

Services celebrating his life will be held at 12 PM on Friday, July 24, at the Highland Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church. Burial will follow at North Shore Memory Gardens where military rites will be held. The visitation will be on Thursday from 6 PM to 8 PM at the Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service and from 11 AM to 12 PM at the Highland Ave SDA Church. Memorials may be made to Christian Education at the Highland Ave SDA Church. Please share memories, messages or photos at www.florin.net.

Ron was born on May 11, 1946 to Sarah and William Small in Brooklyn, NY. He was a veteran of the US Army who served during the Vietnam Conflict. Ron was employed at LECO Corporation for 27 years as a purchasing agent before his retirement in 2009. He married his wife, Cynthia, in 1971 and together they have celebrated 44 years of marriage. Ron was a First Elder at the Highland Ave SDA Church. He enjoyed golf and was active in the First Tee Group which taught young people to play golf. Ron had a passion for music and for his ministry to others. He was a dedicated, supportive, loving individual and was a warm happy person.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Dr. Cynthia Small; his children, Heather

(Lamont) Thomas of Naperville, IL, Lamar Small of New York, NY, and Holly Small of Atlanta, GA; his granddaughter, Eva Lynne Thomas of Naperville, IL; his uncles, Roscoe Small of NC and Peter Small of NC; his brother-in-law Gilbert (Sylvia) Cooper of Madison, AL; his nephew, Gilbert Cooper II of Frederick, MD, his niece Felicia (Ernest) Dailey of Madison, AL; his grand-niece, Mariah Dailey of Madison, AL and a host of cousins and friends.

Cemetery Details

North Shore Memory Gardens

5027 M 63 N
Coloma, MI 49038

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 23. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service
1053 East Napier Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
(269) 926-7222
staff@florin.net

Visitation

JUL 24. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Highland Avenue Seventh Day Adventist Church
2075 Highland Ave.
Benton Harbor, MI

Service

JUL 24. 12:00 PM (ET)

Highland Avenue Seventh Day Adventist Church
2075 Highland Ave.
Benton Harbor, MI

Tribute Wall

BS

“ Ronald and I go way back (1950s): worshiping at Mizpah 7th-day Adventist Church, interrelationships with his parents, sharing of musical talents, etc.

I recall that prior to joining the Army, I gave him a Going Away Party. My prayers are for the family. //Barbara Gayle Williams Stroder, Gary IN

Barbara Gayle Williams Stroder - July 26, 2015 at 05:11 AM

SM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Our families share a great loss from the same Highland Avenue SDA Church. My sister Jacqueline Allen's service was there, just last week; now Mr. Small joins her. Christ - is coming very soon! He has promised to wipe away the tears from our eyes, and death shall/will be no more. Although time passes in their absence, their spirit' is still with us. Their memories, are forever. Then when the trumpets' sound, on that great gettin' up morning; we shall see them again, and we will trade our tears of sorrow, sadness, and pain; into everlasting tears of Joy! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah - praise his name! Prayerfully.



Sheila Moses-Noel - July 24, 2015 at 11:57 PM

SM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Our families share a great loss from the same Highland Avenue SDA Church. My sister Jacqueline Allen's service was there, just last week; now Mr. Small joins her. Chris - is coming very soon! He has promised to wipe away the tears from our eyes, and death shall/will be no more. Although time passes in their absence, their spirit' is still with us. Their memories, are forever. Then when the trumpets' sound, on that great gettin' up morning; we shall see them again, and we will trade our tears of sorrow, sadness, and pain; into everlasting tears of Joy! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah - praise his name! Prayerfully, Sheila Moses-Noel.



Sheila m-noel - July 24, 2015 at 11:50 PM

DH

“ Dear Cynde,

I am shocked and saddened to hear of the passing of your beloved husband. Please accept my heartfelt condolences to you and your family. May God's love and grace help get you through this grief, and may you find comfort in the loving memories of him.

*Warmest personal regards,
Debra Hahn*

Debra Hahn - July 24, 2015 at 10:50 AM

CS

“ Cynde, my love and prayers go out to you and your family on the loss of your husband. I know you will find comfort from the love of your friends and family during this difficult time. - Charles

Charles Stohrer - July 24, 2015 at 10:39 AM

SG

“ *My dearest instructor and friend Cynde Small, my sincere condolences to you and your family on the loss of your husband Ron. May God comfort you all during this difficult time. May the beautiful memories shared over the years bring you peace and comfort.*



II Corinthians 5:8

We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

God bless you and your family.

Sandra E. Gillespie

Sandra Gillespie - July 24, 2015 at 08:00 AM

MB

“ *To My dear friend and colleague, Cynde and family, This was truly a loss not just to your family but ours as well. We were very blessed to have you both in our lives while we were in Michigan. The warmth and friendliness you both showed to our family (especially to our daughter, Richelle) made our time in Michigan just that much more special. Ron's passing was a shock but we feel comforted in knowing that we do have the HOPE of Christ's return and seeing Ron again with all of our loved ones who died in Christ! Let's hold onto that hope and keep on!! May God's everlasting peace and comfort be with you and your loving family during these times!!*

Melanie (The Barriffe Family)

Melanie Barriffe - July 24, 2015 at 12:07 AM

RB

Ron's passing is a great loss to us. Although he was my senior, we could sit and talk and make jokes as two friends. When we were relocating, Ron came to help us move in the rain, and left late in the night (he also left his cap). He was very kind and helpful. I can remember both of us texting each other about who will pick up the bulletin. There's a lot that I can say about elder Small without reservations. To Cynde, the children and rest of the family, cry now, weep, holler in this dark night because joy will come to you in That Morning.

You are in our hearts and prayers.

Pastor Ricardo

Ricardo Barriffe - July 24, 2015 at 08:07 AM



“ *Quiet Expressions was purchased for the family of Ronald Myer Small.*



July 23, 2015 at 10:30 PM

EF

“ *Ronald Small has been a spiritual leader, a gracious host at his home, encourager in our different endeavours and many more. We will dearly miss him, both his warm smile and kindness will always be part of his picture on our memory wall. Let's be comforted that we will see him when Jesus comes.*

Edmond, Edna, Adrien Francois (Trinidad)

Edmond, Edna, Adrien Francois - July 23, 2015 at 03:09 PM

TF

“ *Ted & Elsie Jackson & Family purchased the Fruits and Blooms Basket for the family of Ronald Myer Small.*



Ted & Elsie Jackson & Family - July 23, 2015 at 01:40 PM

NR

“ *Natasha Love Rogers purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ronald Myer Small.*



Natasha Love Rogers - July 23, 2015 at 10:16 AM

DM

“ *Cynde, I will always remember my brother in Christ, Ron for his kindness, warmth, and love for others. I feel truly blessed to have known him in this life and look forward to seeing him in the Earth made new.*

Deborah McLea - July 23, 2015 at 04:40 AM

BE

The midnight cry has already been given; the signs of Christ's soon return are everywhere. Be strong and of good courage. It won't be long and along with Ron, we'll be going home. Love you - cousin Beverly

Beverly C. Evans - July 26, 2015 at 07:10 AM

SW

“ *Cynde and family,
I'm so sorry for your loss. Sending faith and strength.
Sheran Wallis*

Sheran Wallis - July 23, 2015 at 12:44 AM

NJ

“ *Natalie Jackson purchased the Sweetest Sunrise
Bouquet for the family of Ronald Myer Small.*



Natalie Jackson - July 22, 2015 at 10:52 PM

BL

“ *Cynthia and family,*

I am so sorry to hear of Ronald's passing. He and I go way back, being raised up in Mizpah Church and at times singing together for Sabbath School. Ronald was a true friend and a fun person to be around. My heart goes out to all of you. May God wrap His loving arms around you and comfort you during your time of sorrow. It won't be long before we all will meet with him again in the earth made new. Until then, cherish the many wonderful memories you had with him. Will keep you in my prayers.

Benita Smith Lenoir

Benita Lenoir - July 22, 2015 at 08:45 PM



MH

“ To the Small Family and Friends,
We (The Henderson's) are so sorry for your loss. Dr. Small, I was
your nursing student in 1992 at LMC. Our prayers are with you at
this time of grief. God bless all of you.
Wade, Minell Henderson and family.

Minell Henderson - July 22, 2015 at 06:03 PM

MS

“ Maydis S. purchased the Violets And Butterflies
for the family of Ronald Myer Small.



Maydis S. - July 22, 2015 at 04:32 PM

KS

“ Dear Cindy & Family,
May our Lord & Savior grant you peace & comfort at this sad time.
Hugs,
Kathy Schermer

Kathy Schermer - July 22, 2015 at 03:42 PM



“ My first encounter with Elder Ron Small was at my baptism at the Highland Avenue Seventh day Adventist Church. Elder Ron Small had a hand in me transitioning from a pew member to a member that serves. Elder Small was at the table when my name came up to serve as Petfinder director, ays council member, deacon, head Deacon, and elder. And each one of those departments I served in I was able to do it because of his wisdom.



There was much joy and laughter singing in the choir. Elder Small loved to sing. He was there when I married my wife Melody. Later, elder Small and his wife Dr. Cynthia Small was asked by my wife and I to be godparents to our daughter 'Jael'.

Elder Small will be missed we are praying for the family.

Johnathan Fields - July 21, 2015 at 12:12 PM

HM

“ I last saw Elder Small during the last Camp Meeting at Camp Wagner in Cassapolis. He looked well and was in his usual jovial mood. Little did I know that it was the last time I was gonna see him. My heart goes to Dr. Cindy Small and the rest of the family. Be comforted in knowing that there is a resurrection morning coming very soon.

Harrison Musonda - July 21, 2015 at 07:05 AM

PG

“ *As an intern at Highland Ave church, Ron Small was always a man of integrity! He always stood firm on his beliefs, which is a rare trait today. Our prayers are with Cindy and the family. He will be missed.*

Pastor Darron George & Family

Pastor Darron George - July 21, 2015 at 06:29 AM

PR

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Patrick Rumph - July 21, 2015 at 12:35 AM

PR

Mr. Small tracked me down out of hundreds of Oakwood Graduates to simply tell me "Highland sends its regards". Going back home won't ever be the same. He will truly be missed.

Patrick Rumph - July 21, 2015 at 12:43 AM

VW

“ *Vanessa Thames Warren
Trust that our loving Saviour is close to you
and your family during this time of loss.*



Vanessa Warren - July 20, 2015 at 11:38 PM

RO

“ Dear Cindy, Heather, Lamar and Holly.
I was deeply saddened by the news of Ron passing. My heart felt condolences to you and your family. One of my fondest memories of Ron was in his dedication and supportive of Christian Education.

I will keep you in my prayers,
Rosie Thomas

Rosie - July 20, 2015 at 08:17 PM

NL

“ Cynde, Heather, Lamar and Holly,

Please accept our heartfelt sympathy and love. We will always remember Ron for his genuine friendship and contagious smile.

We will keep you in our prayers,
Rom and Norita

Norita Lachica - July 20, 2015 at 01:03 PM

MC

“ Cindy, So sorry to hear the loss of your husband. Prayers to the family.

Mildred Christians - July 20, 2015 at 12:29 PM

WF

“ With love and prayers, Karyn Smith and Family purchased the Fruits and Blooms Basket for the family of Ronald Myer Small.



With love and prayers, Karyn Smith and Family - July 20, 2015 at 11:32 AM