



## Ronnie K. Bates

August 9, 1946 - April 7, 2020

Ronnie K. Bates, 73, passed away April 7, 2020, in Titusville, Florida. He was born August 9, 1946 to Ross and Millie Bates of Bartlesville and graduated College High School in 1964. He loved working on cars and went to work for Bill Doenges Ford from 1964 to 1971 as a mechanic, they sent him to school to work on Toyota when they came out and he was offered a job in Houston, TX at Southwest Toyota and moved in October of 1971 as their head mechanic. Ronnie loved the space program and moved to Florida in 1977 was still working on cars and his dream came true: he got the job at NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) he made Supervisor over the rocket boosters for the shuttle at Cape Canaveral, Florida. He had loved his job, family and friends. His best friend was Nick Billas, he was always there for him. Dad enjoyed bowling, chess, flea markets, metal detecting and garage sales.

Ronnie is survived by his son Brad Bates of Cocoa, FL, and daughter Ronda Glades and family of Edmond, OK. His sister Lois Stephens and husband Ellis of Bartlesville, OK and a brother Harley Bates and wife Sheri of Bartlesville, OK. His grandchildren Skylar Bates of Rockledge, FL, Gavin Bates of Rockledge, FL, and numerous nieces and nephews. He's preceded in death by his parents, four brothers Terry Bates, Bill Bates, Nick Bates, and Jack Bates.

Dad, you'll be greatly missed by all. Love you, Brad & kids

Visitation for Ronnie will be held on Sunday 12-5 p.m. at the Davis Family Funeral Home – Dewey Chapel, 918-534-3030, 113 S. Osage (Hwy. 75), Dewey.

Graveside services will be held 2 p.m. on Monday at the Spavinaw-Strang Cemetery, with Rev. J.D. Steelman officiating. Services are under the direction of Carter Davis and the Davis Family Funeral Home – Dewey Chapel. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared at [www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com](http://www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Spavinaw-Strang Cemetery

Spavinaw, OK

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

APR 13. 2:00 PM (CT)

Spavinaw-Strang Cemetery  
Spavinaw, OK

# Tribute Wall

KG

“ *I worked with Ronnie at Doenges Ford and remember him being a fun-loving guy. He was a good mechanic and a pleasure to work with and to know. I was sorry to learn of his passing.*  
*Kenneth Gurley*

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**K Gurley** - April 18, 2020 at 06:34 PM

WR

“A few days before Ron passed, I wrote Brad a letter. Once again, I sit in front of my computer with tears in my eyes. This except from that letter, pretty much, sums it up:

*"As a little kid, I did not have a grandfather. They both passed on before I was able to know them. I saw my best friend's grandfather doing stuff with him, helping him out and just being a pal. I felt something was left out of my life. I remember the day I said to myself, "I wish I had a grandfather." Since then, it seems God has placed older, wiser men in my life who have been good friends and role models to me. Your Dad is one of the only two who are left.*

*Ron is one of the most selfless, kind, and calm people that I have known in my whole life. He was always happy to help me, especially with my truck, or anyone else who asked. I have never in the 20 years that I lived next to him heard an angry word, and I certainly enjoyed his company when we had time to share. He has the qualities that I try to emulate."*

*Ron is closer to my father's age, and I never saw him as old or a grandfather. I just saw him as a neighbor and a friend. He will be remembered and missed.*

*My sincerest condolences to Brad, Shelly, Harley, and the rest of your family.*

Wade

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**Wade Ross** - April 14, 2020 at 04:25 PM

BB

*Thank you so much! He was an amazing man! He will be forever missed!*

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**Brad Bates** - April 17, 2020 at 08:45 PM

PR

“ It was a pleasure working with Ron at the RPSF. It has been many years ago but they were good times. Lots of good memories. Sending heartfelt condolences to his family.



Peggy Petersen Ritchie - April 12, 2020 at 11:32 PM

BB

Thank you.

Brad Bates - April 12, 2020 at 11:47 PM

TS

“ I'm so sorry for the family. Ron was someone I could always count on. At the RPSF I would frequently work on the booster pallets. They were usually sitting out in the field. We needed compressed air to work on them and there wasn't any in the field. He was one of my goto guys to get the pallet moved. He would always say "Give me a few minutes and I'll get a crew together and get that moved for you." He always came through for us and was happy to do it. RIP Ron.

Travis Scrogam - April 11, 2020 at 02:55 PM

BB

Thank you.

Brad Bates - April 11, 2020 at 10:07 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ronnie K. Bates.



April 11, 2020 at 11:36 AM

RR

“ We were saddened to hear of Ron’s passing. We worked at the Space Center with Ron. We were blessed by knowing him. We bowled with Ron on a league. Had a lot of laughs and have a lot of good memories. Hold onto your memories they will help you thru the hard times. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the Bates families. God bless !

*Roy and Marlene Roberts*

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**Roy and Marlene Roberts** - April 10, 2020 at 04:37 PM

BB

*Thank you he was a great father.*

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**Brad Bates** - April 10, 2020 at 09:14 PM

CC

“ I met Ronnie during the seventies when he went to work at Kennedy Space Center. I am proud to say that I was blessed to have worked with a true professional who was the most dedicated aerospace worker on the Center. Ronnie was the gold standard. He always had the best attitude and a smile that would win you right over. I never remember him having a bad day. I was a better person because of this special man. He was a leader who lead by example. We will all miss him terribly.



*Chet Cooper*

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**chet cooper** - April 10, 2020 at 12:46 PM

BB

*Thank you, even all he has been through toward the end he had a positive outlook. I wish I could be half the man he is. He will be forever loved and missed.*

**Brad Bates** - April 10, 2020 at 09:23 PM

MV

“ *Worked with Ron for many years could always count on him you will be missed. Ron God bless and we will see you again.*

**mark VIGIL** - April 09, 2020 at 11:16 PM

EV

*Well said Mark Vigil. Prayers for his family's loss.*

**Ed Venable** - April 10, 2020 at 03:50 AM

KW

“ *So sorry for you Brad and you're family. Ron had such a influence on everyone that he came in contact with. I allways considered you're dad to be one of the greatest . I know that you and you're family was his world.*

**Kenny wright** - April 09, 2020 at 08:32 PM

BB

*Thank you Kenny, he was a great man. He will be forever loved and missed.*

**Brad Bates** - April 09, 2020 at 11:27 PM

DV

“ *Such and kind Man. He will be so missed.*

**Debbie Vanorman Vigliano** - April 09, 2020 at 07:33 PM

BB

*Thank you*

**Brad Bates** - April 10, 2020 at 09:12 PM

DV

“ *Debbie Vanorman Vigliano lit a candle in memory of Ronnie K. Bates*



**Debbie Vanorman Vigliano** - April 09, 2020 at 07:32 PM

BB

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



**Brad Bates** - April 09, 2020 at 05:33 PM

DC

*"Remembering Ron"*

*Dave worked with Ron at the Space Center for a number of years. I had the pleasure of meeting Ron when we bowled with him on a league. In later years we would meet him for lunch pretty often at Norman's. He was always kind and such a gentleman. And oh boy, did he love to go to yard sales. He was loved by many. Praying Peace to the family.*

**Dave and Carol Covert** - April 09, 2020 at 10:03 PM

BB

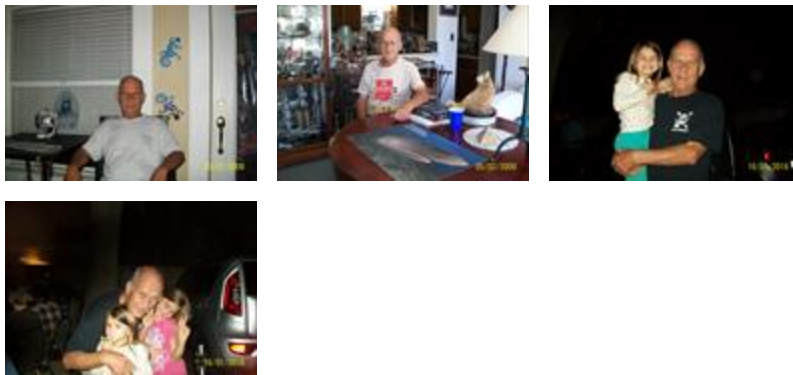
“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Brad G Bates - April 08, 2020 at 04:26 PM

BB

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Brad Bates - April 08, 2020 at 04:11 PM

BB

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Brad Bates - April 08, 2020 at 03:57 PM