



## Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse

August 7, 1953 - October 28, 2019

Ronald L. Kruse, 66, of Wapakoneta, died 5:08 p.m., Mon. Oct. 28, 2019, at Lima Memorial Health System Emergency Room, following a sudden illness. He was born Aug. 7, 1953, in Lima, the son of Adrian & Dorothy (Thuman) Kruse, who preceded him in death. On Oct. 24, 2005, he married Dorothy I. "Dottie" Bielak, and she survives.

Other survivors include,

3 children, Brian A. (Kristen) Kruse, Beavercreek, OH;

Lisa K. (Ericka Henderson) Kruse, Clearwater, FL;

& Douglas E. (Laura) Kruse, Sylvania, OH;

3 step-children, Ericka (Joel) McIntyre, New Orleans, LA;

Michael (Maegan) Hampton, Vicenza, Italy;

& Daniel (Ashley) Ruck, Wapakoneta;

9 grandchildren, Gibson, Josephine "Josie", & Paige Kruse;

Caroline & Molly Kruse; Madeline & Mila McIntyre;

Bentley Gehle & Dexter Ruck,

a brother, Larry (Karen) Kruse, New Knoxville,

and a sister, Carol Paul, new Bremen.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother-in-law, Kenneth Paul.

Ron was a 1971 graduate of New Knoxville High School, and a 1975 graduate of Bowling Green State University. He retired in 2005 as Branch President of

Fifth Third Bank, New Knoxville.

Ron was an avid fan of the Cleveland Browns, Cincinnati Reds, Ohio State Buckeyes and Bowling Green State University Falcons. He never met a golf course that he didn't enjoy. He never saw a grandkid who he didn't try to make smile. He dedicated his life to coaching kids the fundamentals of basketball, which earned him over 300 wins and an honor from the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered by those who were lucky enough to know and love him.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m., Sat. Nov. 2, 2019, at the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, 1102 Lincoln Ave. (St. Rt. 501) Wapakoneta, with Pastor Dennis Gaertner officiating. Burial is to follow in the Pilger Rhue Cemetery, New Knoxville. The family will receive family and friends 2-8 p.m., Fri., and 1 hour prior to the service, Sat. at the funeral Home. Memorial may be directed to the American Diabetes Association. Condolences may be expressed at [www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com](http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Pilger Ruhe

New Knoxville, OH

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 1. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory  
1102 Lincoln Ave.  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895  
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com  
<http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com>

## Visitation

NOV 2. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory  
1102 Lincoln Hwy  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895  
(419) 738-7676  
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com  
<https://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com/>

## Service

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NOV 2. 10:30 AM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory

1102 Lincoln Hwy

Wapakoneta, OH 45895

(419) 738-7676

[eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com](mailto:eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com)

<https://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ I grew up working with Ron in the Bank. He always was quick with a joke and then that smile! It was a fun time and I cherish those memories. Of course the week went better for him if the Browns beat the Bengals! Condolences from South Dakota: Paul Kuhlman

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**Paul Kuhlman** - November 04, 2019 at 08:51 AM



“ It was tough hearing about Coach Kruse's death this week. It was such a privilege to get to play for him in 7th grade. He was the first coach I ever had that really pushed me and that made me a better player and a better person. So thankful for the impact he made on my life. #RIP

*Derek Jay--MHS Class of '17*

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**Mike Jay** - November 02, 2019 at 11:49 AM

KK

“ For the past 6 years, as a camera operator for NK Telco Sports, I had the wonderful opportunity to get to know Ron, whether it be listening to his voice through my headset as he worked in the press box, courtside of a basketball game, or as we traveled to and from game venues. Without a doubt, as a sports announcer, Ron took that responsibility seriously and felt he owed the folks watching the broadcast his best effort at all times. It was always interesting listening to him and I learned something new every broadcast. It was apparent that he enjoyed researching statistics and was an asset to the broadcast as he provided expert analysis and background information; information on the teams, athletes, coaches, and occasionally some light humor. I can say without hesitation that every game I had the honor to work with Ron, I certainly enjoyed the opportunity and I have many great memories now to last a lifetime.

To Ron's family, please accept Donna and my sincere sympathy. He was a good man.

Kurt Kuffner

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Kurt S. Kuffner - November 01, 2019 at 03:16 PM

RH

“ I met Ron last spring during our softball tournament run while he worked for NKTELCO - it was always a pleasure to speak with him - he will be missed by many.

Robb Hemmelgarn  
Minster Softball

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Robb Hemmelgarn - November 01, 2019 at 02:20 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



November 01, 2019 at 10:05 AM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



October 31, 2019 at 09:28 PM



“ *Holding you and your family in our hearts and in our prayers... Love, Ron and Eileen Haynes*

**Eileen Haynes** - October 31, 2019 at 01:04 PM



“ *Michael Stricker & family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



**Michael Stricker & family** - October 31, 2019 at 12:59 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



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October 31, 2019 at 10:31 AM

BK

“ I met Ron 10 months on December 29th 2018 doing a basketball game with him for NK Telco. Right away, he made me feel as a 19 year old doing my 1st few games with the company comfortable and always was quick to make jokes that would make me grin. I've done 2 of my favorite games with him, a buzzer beater between Loramie and Botkins, then the D4 girls regional finals this last year between Loramie and Minster. Ron was like a Grandpa to me in the announcing business and treated me like a grandson. He always was quick to make a joke and would always pick on me for being a Bengals fan. When in return I would pick on him for being a Browns fan. I remember the last time I talked to him and the last game I did with him he had the biggest smile on his face because the Browns were 1st place in the AFC North and let me have it all night and made sure I didn't forget it. When my parents asked me who my favorite person to do games with was I would tell them it would be Ron. It breaks my heart that I won't be able to ever call a game with him again. When I heard the news about him I was devastated, but I know he's in a better place. If a family member is reading this, just know that you were lucky to have Ron in your life. In the short time I knew him he made an impact on me. I know to never take anything for granted in life because you never know when your last moment is coming. Ron certainly made a positive impact on my life and will continue to do so and I know he's in Heaven drinking a beer and playing golf... "For God so loved the world he gave his one and only son so that those who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life"- John 3:16

*Rest in peace Buddy- Your friend,  
Brandon Koverman*

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**Brandon Koverman** - October 31, 2019 at 10:20 AM

LF

“ *Luther Thomas and the Metro Toledo FCMs purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



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**Luther Thomas and the Metro Toledo FCMs** - October 31, 2019 at 09:57 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



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October 31, 2019 at 09:43 AM

LH

“ *Thoughts and prayers for your family!*

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**Linda Hix** - October 31, 2019 at 06:19 AM

RK

“ *Ron was one of my best of best friends. We played many rounds of golf at Prairie View Golf Course. I will miss him very much. It will take me a long time to get over not being able to play another round of golf with him. He was a great guy and I enjoyed being around him. Condolences to Dottie (who I never got to meet) and the family of Ron. God Bless.*  
*Robert (Bob) Knoch*

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**Robert J Knoch** - October 31, 2019 at 05:18 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



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October 30, 2019 at 09:24 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



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October 30, 2019 at 07:48 PM



“ *I remember well when Ron broke into the starting line-up as a sophomore. Ron went on to be a three year starter and a very fine basketball player. More important Ron was a very fine person with a great smile. After college Ron did a great job coaching basketball at the Junior High level for many years. God be with you and we will miss you buddy. Your Coach, Gene Fries & Family*

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**Gene Fries** - October 30, 2019 at 05:57 PM



*Brian, Lisa, Doug and family. My thoughts and prayers are with you and you family during this difficult time. May you hold on to those wonderful memories to help you get through all of this. Sending hugs your way. Cindy Manbeck.*

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**Cindy Manbeck** - October 30, 2019 at 09:16 PM

AB

*Dottie & Kruse Family....we would like to extend our deepest sympathy to you...SO very sorry for your loss*

*From the Bush Family  
Beth, Mark, Tim, Todd & Alicia*

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**alicia bush** - October 31, 2019 at 01:06 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



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October 30, 2019 at 04:38 PM

GG

“ *Gregg & Jane (Gerdeman) Giessler lit a candle in memory of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse*



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**Gregg & Jane (Gerdeman) Giessler** - October 30, 2019 at 04:09 PM



“ *I am having a rough time with this. Dang it Ron!!! You were a great boss, friend and you loved coaching. You went doing what you love. My prayers to all of you who knew and loved Ron. Hold tight to the memories that make you smile.*



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**Lisa Thobe** - October 30, 2019 at 04:03 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald L. "Ron" Kruse.*



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October 30, 2019 at 01:25 PM