



Terence Ronald (Ron) Chapman

June 23, 1943 - October 13, 2019

A Catholic Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church for Terence Ronald (Ron) Chapman, 76, who passed away on Sunday, Oct 13, the feast day of Our Lady of Fatima. He died at home with his wife at his side after a long, courageous battle with cancer. The Reverend Michael J. Russo will be the Celebrant of the Mass.

The family requests that visiting hours be observed at Our Lady of Fatima Church on Wednesday, October 23 from 9:00 a.m until the time of service.

A private inurnment will take place at a later date.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Ryan Jones, Robert Chapman, Reese Chapman, Stephen Kramer, Stephen Gremillion, Don Gillam, Greg Broussard, Curtis Willingham.

Ron was preceded in death by his mother, Roberta Sides Chapman, his father, Leon Curtis Chapman, one brother, Fred Chapman, as well as Hootie, Cody and Ollie and first wife Carolyn Chapman. He is survived by his wife, Andrea Bertinot Chapman, daughter and son-in-law, Sara and Ryan Jones, and two grandchildren, Ava and Harrison Jones. He is also survived by two brothers, Robert Chapman and Reese Chapman.

Ron was born in Lineville, Alabama on June 23, 1943. He was a graduate of Auburn University in pre-veterinarian studies (PVET). Before proceeding with his studies for Doctor of Veterinarian Medicine, he was inspired by the conflict in Vietnam to enlist in the MarCad Flight training program as a Marine Cadet. He was awarded his flight wings and was commissioned upon completion of flight training in 1964.

As a fixed-wing and rotor-wing aviator, he flew a Bronco OV-10 and Bell UH-1 helicopters with Special Marine Forces. Captain Chapman became a highly decorated Marine aviator. His many medals included the Distinguished Flying Cross of which he was most proud. At the time of Ron's death, his VMO-6 squadron was celebrating a reunion and the 244th

birthday of the US Navy. Ron had many close friends of a lifetime from his military years including fellow pilots and “hooch” mates.

Ron transitioned from military aviation to commercial aviation in 1969. As a pilot returning from service in Vietnam, he was employed by Petroleum Helicopters International (PHI) until retirement in 2016. He served for many years as manager of the largest civilian helicopter base in the world located in Morgan City, La.

Ron married Andrea Bertinot of Sunset, La, in 1991 and they had 29 wonderful years together. They enjoyed their careers, gourmet cooking, gardening, photography and travel, especially through the vineyards and back roads of France.

Ron’s Christian faith was in the fiber of his being. It provided the calm in his soul, the peace in his heart and the love he had for every human being and every living creature. During the last years of his life he studied Catholicism and converted to the Holy Catholic Faith. His spiritual advisors were Father Michael J. Russo, Deacon Tim Marigos, and Darrell Hicks.

The family would like to express their appreciation to Hospice of Acadiana, Dr. Eugene Brierre and staff at Lourdes Oncology, and MD Anderson, Houston.

The family would also like to thank special angels Ava and Harrison Jones who brought much joy and many smiles to Ron, Virginia Stuller, Linda Gremillion, Britany Ramirez, Rosie, Vivi and Jules Ramirez, Gay Chalpin Chance, Karen Hale, Dr. Peggy Alciatore, Erin Ryan, Janice Gillam, Laura Schaub, Mona Stephan, Delorus Hopkins, Vivian St. Julian and the nurses and staff at Hospice of Acadiana for providing unending love, comfort and support.

In lieu of flowers the family request that donations be made to Hospice of Acadiana, 2600 Johnston St., Lafayette, La, 70503, or to Wounded Warrior Project, support.woundedwarriorproject.org <<http://support.woundedwarriorproject.org>> or to Acadiana Animal Aid (No-Kill animal welfare organization) or to Friends of the Lafayette Animal Shelter.

Martin and Castille Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

“High Flight” by John Gillespie McGee, Jr.

Oh! I have slipped the surly bone of earth,

And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of - Wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hovering there
I've chased the silent wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footloose halls of air...
Up, up the long delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where neither lark or even eagle flew -
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untresspassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.

“Semper Fi to a great Marine.”

View the obituary and guestbook online at www.mourning.com

Martin & Castille-DOWNTOWN-330 St. Landry St., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-234-2311

Events

OCT **Visitation** 09:00AM - 11:00AM

23

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
2319 Johnston St., Lafayette, LA, US

OCT **Memorial Mass** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

23

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
2319 Johnston St., Lafayette, LA, US

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Martin & Castille Funeral Home - October 22, 2019 at 02:49 PM



“ Ron was my Uncle, and although as of recent I have not been able to keep in touch, I remember when I was little he took me and my cousins up in his Helicopter over Louisiana. He and his first wife Carolyn gave us my first Dog, Blue. You will be loved remembered forever.

Charm



Charm Chapman - October 27, 2019 at 08:50 AM



“ 186 files added to the album LifeTributes



Martin & Castille Funeral Home - October 22, 2019 at 02:45 PM



“ Ron was my next door neighbor for many years. He was a rock. He was dependable, caring, fun and always there when you needed him. He had a special way about him that caused everyone to really love him.

Carolyn Vernon - October 21, 2019 at 08:22 AM



“ 1 file added to the album tribute wall



Cubic Weatherspoon - October 19, 2019 at 03:33 PM



“ I had honor of working with him as his crew chief for a few years. He was an honorable man and my dear friend. I will miss him greatly .

Cubic Weatherspoon - October 19, 2019 at 08:09 AM



“ Cubic Weatherspoon lit a candle in memory of Terence Ronald (Ron) Chapman



Cubic Weatherspoon - October 19, 2019 at 08:03 AM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Terence Ronald (Ron) Chapman.



October 16, 2019 at 02:32 PM



“ I met Ron in 1980 when I came to PHI. He was one of the nicest people I have come across in my almost 40 years in the industry. I have a couple of funny memories of offshore experiences while he flew as an offshore supervisor that will last with me forever. My father (Carl Dougherty) had nothing but nice things to say about Ron. Truly an exceptional man. He will be truly missed.

Bobby Dougherty

Robert C Dougherty - October 16, 2019 at 11:00 AM



“ Dear Andrea,
What a joy and privilege it has been to know you and Ron. May this wonderful man rest in eternal peace.
With love and Deepest Condolences,
Mona Fitzgerald Stephan

Mona Fitzgerald Stephan - October 16, 2019 at 09:51 AM



“ Whenever I needed a listening ear, Ron was there. He definitely was one of the greatest men I know. To Ron's family, thank you for sharing him with us all these years. My prayers are with you.

Brian Nicholas - October 16, 2019 at 06:53 AM



“ I worked with Ron for many years. His smile was contagious and he always had a positive attitude on all occasions. He will be missed by the multitude that knew him and respected him. My condolences to the family.

Cecil Jackson

Cecil Jackson - October 15, 2019 at 10:55 PM



“ Great pilot, great human being...he will be missed. The quintessential professional. Rest in peace.

Jerry Loviglio - October 15, 2019 at 10:35 PM



“ My Condolences and Prayers to the Chapman Family. I met Ron in 1977 when I came to work for PHI. Ron was a great pilot and a wonderful person to work with. He had a smile every time I saw him. We will all miss him.
John Davis

John Davis - October 15, 2019 at 05:22 PM



“ A great friend, a great pilot, a great coworker, and a great mentor. I learned a lot from you Ron. You will be missed. My prayers are with your family and friends.
Norman Sherman

norman sherman - October 15, 2019 at 04:39 PM



“ Condolences to Ron's entire family. I have known Ron since 1978 and he was a great pilot and wonderful person. I will keep the entire family in our prayers.
Louis Gary

Louis Gary - October 15, 2019 at 04:36 PM



“ Ron was the best pilot I ever had the privilege to work with and one of the best men I know. He never said anything bad about anyone, even when everyone else around him would. I think of him whenever I'm tempted to do something like that and try to emulate him.

Every mechanic that knew him has Ron Chapman stories. We miss him a lot and often start sharing those stories during conversations.

Andy Hicks - October 15, 2019 at 02:13 PM



“ My condolences and prayers to the Chapman family. I met Ron in 1981. He would sometimes fly us out for PHI Mechanic's crew change when there were no seats available on customer aircraft. Also knew him as an Area Manger. All good memories. Rest in peace Ron.

Ed Sangurima - October 15, 2019 at 01:23 PM



“ When I came to PHI and met Ron he became a great mentor and humble friend. My and my family's condolences and prayers go out to Ron's family.
Michael Dickie

Michael R Dickie - October 15, 2019 at 01:16 PM