



## Ronald Witkowski

December 29, 2020

Age 79, of Sloan, NY. Ron passed peacefully at home on December 29, 2020 surrounded by his daughters and favorite canine partner Shadow, after battling COVID-19 in late spring. Son of the late Stanley and late Eleanor (Drzewiecki) Witkowski; husband of the late Lorraine (nee Kapron); he is survived by three daughters, Kathy (John) Lubkowski of VA, Lynn, and Janet; loving grandfather to Marissa (James) Hancock of VA; cousin of Bob (Barb) Binda of TN and Lori (Chuck) Muscato of FL; brother-in-law to Diana (late Richard) Relinski, Stanley (Arlene) Kapron, Robert (Anita) Kapron; also survived by nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and godchildren. Growing up in Sloan, NY, he was a 1958 Graduate of Sloan High School, playing varsity baseball and basketball. He retired in 1994 from General Motors East Delevan Plant as an inspector. Ron was renamed 'Bogga' by his granddaughter when she was a toddler, and the name stuck. As a sports and music enthusiast, casual gardener, and weather event watcher – he acted as official informant for all major weather events in the northeast region. Sports was always in the forefront, from his school days, to professional baseball, to his recent service as our family baseball pool commissioner. Throughout his lifetime he was a coach and mentor to many, with his daughters following in his footsteps --coaching softball and bowling, and sharing his love of sports. Due to the inherent danger of gathering during a pandemic, there will be no public services. If you are able, please donate to your local food bank, community support organization, or Hospice. Thank you to our family and

friends for the many well wishes, support, deliveries and love throughout this past year.

Please stay safe and wear your mask!

# Tribute Wall

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“ Ron and I met on the basketball court in the 8th grade. He was playing for Woodrow Wilson Grammar School - my school was Theodore Roosevelt. Both were in the Sloan School District.

*They wiped the floor with us.*

*The next several years were filled with sports - we played together on several baseball and basketball teams - in Cheektowaga, Buffalo, Erie County and in between.*

*Everything Ron did, he did well. He could go both ways to the hoop; I could only go right. His fastball was 10mph faster; he could hit. He was a star in both sports at Sloan High.*

*One Sunday, we were scheduled to play at 4pm in the city baseball league - so we decided to go to the beach in the morning. We got to the game with our girlfriends (I married mine) 30 minutes late but before game time. Killer our coach was apoplectic - kicked the girls off the field, wondered about our sanity. We won 2-1, but...*

*We spent a lotta time together, on and off the field and the court - and in the Village Restaurant in Sloan. We played a lotta euchre - funny, we could never beat the oldtimers - I still believe they were doing something unethical.*

*Ron was a heckuva bowler - had the biggest hook I've ever seen. It wouldn't have surprised me if his ball would go in the right hand gutter, but it never did. Thruway Lanes had a deal - bowl all night for \$2. We did it - once.*

*We celebrated the end of our freshman year(s) at Canisius and UB with a trip to a bunch of bars. We came back to the Village - my tongue was very loose, filled with 4-letter words, which, unbeknownst to me, were anathema to my father who heard them all, and sent me straight to bed.*

*Ron interrupted his college career and signed a baseball contract with the Dodgers; played a year or two on the west coast in their organization.*

*We were a trio - Ron; Norm Galenski, and me. They both stood up for our wedding - Ron was best man.*

*Ron the athlete became the father of 3 girls; Norm G, the non-athlete became the father of 3 boys; Norm A had 3 of each – go figure.*

*We kinda lost touch after college - got together every 5 years or so. He came to our 50th anniversary party - the last time i saw him.*

*Condolences and kind regards to the family.*

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**Norm Andrzejewski** - March 01, 2021 at 12:19 PM