



Ronald R. Dejaeghere

June 13, 1932 - June 26, 2018

(Age 86) Sterling Heights, MI., died June 26th at 12pm of cardiovascular failure. Born June 13, 1932 in Detroit Michigan, the son of Belgian immigrants Jeanne and Ivo Dejaeghere who came to Detroit after World War I. After graduating from South Lake High School in St. Clair Shores Michigan in 1949 he began his career as janitor/stock boy for the S.S.Kresge Co. in Grosse Pointe Michigan where he met his wife of 63 years, Marguerite Anne Mckillop. The Kresge Co. later changed its name to Kmart Corporation. Ron joined the Kresge management training program in 1951 and worked in several stores in the Detroit area as assistant manager. In 1958 he relocated to Chicago where he worked as assistant to the Mid-Western Region Merchandise manager. He was promoted to store manager in 1959 and managed three Kresge stores in the Chicago market. In 1964 was promoted to the Kmart division in Casper Wyoming as the youngest Kmart manager, opening the 77th Kmart, the first in the Rocky Mountains. He managed four Kmart stores in the Rocky Mountains. In 1969 he was promoted to District Manager for the 18 store Rocky Mountain District which stretched from El Paso Texas to Billings Montana. While in that position he revised the form on which the stores reported their dollar investment in merchandise each month by department, simplifying the format, it was accepted and implemented in all stores by corporate management.

In 1971 he was promoted in to the Western Regional office in Los Angeles which supervised the 11 western states where he served as Regional

Merchandise manager. In 1973 he was promoted to Assistant Regional Manager for the Western Region handling store operations and expense control. While in that position he developed a more efficient way to handle the filling of counters, which was incorporated nation wide. He also rewrote the operational efficiency sheet simplifying its use in stores. In 1978 he was promoted to Kmart Headquarters in Troy Michigan as Director of Corporate Training. While in this position he was asked to develop the Kmart Video Network. After getting that up and running he also developed a system for receiving, storing, and moving merchandise more efficiently from the stockroom to the Kmart sales floor. This ultimately was implemented in all stores. In 1979 he was promoted to Director of Advertising and Sales Promotion. While handling this position he also supervised the "Look of the 80's" remodeling of Kmart stores. In 1982 he was promoted to Vice President of Marketing. In 1985 he was made Vice President of Store Planning and Design. In this position along with other duties he accepted the challenge to redesign the checkout counters to improve the cashiers efficiency and speed by simplifying their tasks; when this was completed it was also implemented in all stores. His last assignment was Vice President of Community Relations at Kmart Headquarters in Troy Michigan working with various segments of the Detroit Chamber of Commerce. He retired in 1990 after 41 years of service.

He served in the US Army in Korea during the war and was awarded The Commendation Medal for Meritorious Service.

He is survived by his wife Marguerite, four children: Pam (John) Martin, Sue Dejaeghere, Janet (James) Loidas, and Margaux (Steve) Drake and thirteen grandchildren: Kathryn, Elizabeth, Stephanie, Nicholas, Katie, Christopher, Tyler, Zoe, Atticus, Aristotle, Stevie, Ellie, and Teddy, also one great grandchild, Riley.

Predeceased by his two sons Ronald Dejaeghere Jr. and Doug Dejaeghere

The various moves in his career over the years required the Dejaegheres to live in Detroit, Chicago, Casper Wyoming, Denver Colorado, Palos Verdes California, Bloomfield Hills/Sterling Heights Michigan, and Melbourne Beach Florida. Ron Attended Stanford University (Business Executive Program) and Harvard University (Marketing Program).

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Harvard University (Marketing Program).

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **29**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - Sterling Heights
3801 18 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
(586) 997-3838

Instate

JUN **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Michael Catholic Community
40501 Hayes
Sterling Heights, MI

Mass of the Christian Burial

JUN **30**. 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Michael Catholic Community
40501 Hayes
Sterling Heights, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Ronald R. Dejaeghere

October 23, 2023 at 04:00 AM



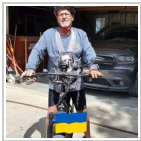
I met Ron and his wife Marj, in Melbourne Florida, actually in Vero Beach Florida while employed at Bottalico Gallery on Ocean Drive this was in the early 2000s, maybe even a year or so earlier..we hit it off became great friends all 3 of us. Ron was never without his wife, what a great friendly couple. WE aldo stated a live fir the old model mustangs, Ron had a baby blue mustang that I loved. They use to come by the gallery to visit quite often..in my 7 years with the Gallery. I csme across their address looking thru my address book of many years..my fav couple from my retail years which was another thing Ron and I had in common..Great person, great couple, loved them both. 2025/ June..Donna Burnett Jones

Donna Burnett Jones - June 11, 2025 at 03:10 PM



“ Ronald R. Dejaeghere

January 06, 2023 at 05:24 AM



“ Margarite, so sorry for your loss. You both were very good neighbors. God bless.

George Rubio-Boitel - February 19, 2021 at 11:29 AM

DM

“ Cheers from Wales, So sorry for your loss Dejaeghere family. I will always s remember Uncle Ron giving us rides today n his kit car, amazing times! May the blessing of light be on you, Light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine upon you
And warm your heart.

Dan McKillop - July 03, 2018 at 08:47 AM

RE

“ Margarite & Family,

I am truly sorry to hear of the loss of Uncle Ronnie. I will never forget his kindness and warm smile. May the Lord bless you

Margarite and your family during this time. (Big hug)

I am sorry I could not be there. Please accept my sincere condolences. Rene Fresard



Rene - June 29, 2018 at 06:46 PM

Anne
Wilson

“ Pam I am so sorry for the loss of your father. Please know that you and your family our in my thoughts. Hugs to you , my friend, during this time

Anne Wilson - June 29, 2018 at 12:20 PM

IC

“ My condolences to the fam. Prayers and thoughts. Ivan callebaut

Ivan Callebaut - June 29, 2018 at 10:58 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald R. Dejaeghere.*



June 28, 2018 at 07:21 PM



“ *Ron and Marguerite were two of the most wonderful neighbors we have ever had. Our days in Melbourne Beach were brightened by their love and friendship. Ron is an amazing and caring man. Sending prayers and love to Marguerite and family. We love you dearly.*



Rosemary & Michael Orner - June 28, 2018 at 05:12 PM



“ *Diederich, Lockhart, Korte, Russo, Jasser, Saxton purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Ronald R. Dejaeghere.*



Diederich, Lockhart, Korte, Russo, Jasser, Saxton - June 28, 2018 at 03:23 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald R. Dejaeghere.*



June 28, 2018 at 11:14 AM