



Ronald David "Ronnie" Goss

June 14, 1949 - October 6, 2020

Ronald David "Ronnie" Goss, age 71, well-known local bass guitarist, passed away Oct. 6, 2020. He suffered a stroke July 28, 2020, with a second one soon afterwards. He was cared for in his final days by his sister, Linda Goss Jones, of Laurel. He is also survived by a stepson, Kenny Filmer, of New York. He will be missed by cousins, friends, and fans.

Ronnie was born in Laurel, MS on June 14, 1949, to Ernest L. Goss and Syble Bush Goss, both of whom pre-deceased him.

He received his musical gift from both sides. His mother's family was musical, and he was also influenced by his dad's skill with the guitar and mandolin. Ernest used to play live in the "old days" at radio station WLAU. Early in life, Ronnie began playing music and achieved his own following as a bass player. He was highly respected as a 'copy' player and worked hard to authentically play a song's bass line, helping his fellow musicians and listeners to "get in the groove." One of his earliest gigs was with the high school group, The Astrons. He played in countless venues for over 50 years around the Laurel/Meridian area with The Cracker Jacks, Grecian Urn, Dirty Dogs, The Stuntmen, Black Sheep, Fatback, The Blues Messengers, The Slackers, Jagged Edj, The House Rockers, and Classix.

His career path was in music as well, beginning at Clinton-Harrington in the

late 1960's, expanding to Mississippi Music, and retiring from Peavey International.

A brilliant intellect and analytical thinker, he was an innovator and great problem solver. Ronnie was keenly interested in guitars and electronics; immediately understanding complex circuits, projects, and situations which made him an invaluable manufacturing engineer in product development. His admiration for uniquely made American guitars developed into a nice collection of instruments.

In retirement, Ronnie's analytical skill was used in volunteer work for OLMM, the social media page for Old Laurel Mississippi Memories. Ronnie delighted followers with his ability to unfailingly track down the answer to any question about Laurel history, and often found a photo as well! He worked on family genealogy with the same tenacity.

Ronnie married Flora "Jean" Tillman in 1987. They spent happy years together in Meridian. A light was extinguished in Ronnie's life when Jean passed away of cancer in 2012.

Playing music got him through tough times, so he played on, his signature long white hair blowing in the wind, until one day, he just didn't.

Over the years, thousands of people enjoyed his music, but as much as they loved hearing him, Ronnie was heard to say, "I wish everyone could have as much fun as I do while I'm playing!" We did, Ronnie, we did!

Graveside services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Jones County. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, face masks and social distancing is suggested.

To sign the online guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Gardens Cemetery

2151 US-184
Laurel, MS 39443

Previous Events

Graveside Service

OCT **13**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Gardens Cemetery
2151 US-184
Laurel, MS 39443

Tribute Wall

CH

“ *Charlotte lit a candle in memory of Ronald David "Ronnie" Goss*



Charlotte - October 21, 2020 at 08:12 PM

CC

“ *So sorry to hear about Ronnie. So many memories growing up with the family. Love and prayers to Linda and the rest of the family.*

Connie Cantrell - October 13, 2020 at 02:19 PM

JE

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Ronnie's family during this time.*
Steve Ellis

judy Ellis - October 13, 2020 at 08:14 AM

AM

“ *Admins of Old Laurel Mississippi Memories purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ronald David "Ronnie" Goss.*



Admins of Old Laurel Mississippi Memories - October 12, 2020 at 12:44 PM

JE

“ Ronnie was a friend, fellow musician and someone whom I always enjoyed a good conversation with.
Just a good soul. He will be greatly missed.
God Bless.

James Edwards - October 12, 2020 at 12:04 PM

SO

“ I've watched Ronnie jam thru the years, mostly with Fatback. His musical talent and wonderful, different personality always shined on stage. Offstage, Ronnie was always sweet & kind to me. I'll miss seeing him up there, perched, laid back, but jamming, on his stool! RIP, sweet Ronnie. U ARE a legend in Meridian, MS!

Susan Oglesby - October 12, 2020 at 12:16 AM

KR

“ I've known Ronnie most of my life. I considered him one of my best friends. I will miss him!

Kaleel Rahaim - October 10, 2020 at 09:33 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ronald David "Ronnie" Goss.



October 09, 2020 at 09:47 PM

EM

“ *Elaine Bishop Moore lit a candle in memory of Ronald David "Ronnie" Goss*



Elaine Bishop Moore - October 09, 2020 at 08:21 PM

JB

“ *We jammed with Ronnie in the Dirty Dogs around 2003-05, and Lee and I also worked with him for almost 20 years at Peavey. I learned a lot of what I know about designing electronic products from Ronnie, as well as a ton about music and playing in bands. I was happy to see him continuing to play out for many years after that, because I know he loved jamming! We'll miss him a lot, but are thankful for the time we could spend with him and Jean.*

The Dirty Dogs

James Brown, Dave Zettler, Lee Santillano



James Brown - October 09, 2020 at 02:34 PM

 Sandy McKinzie

“ *Will miss you and when I find lost family will always remember you.*



Sandy and Mackey McKinzie

Sandy McKinzie - October 09, 2020 at 11:19 AM

JP

“ *Judy Pitts lit a candle in memory of Ronald David "Ronnie" Goss*



Judy Pitts - October 09, 2020 at 12:48 AM

AC

“ *Ronnie, We will miss you and I will always remember your great music.*
Angie & Luke Corum

Angie Corum - October 08, 2020 at 10:01 PM

TW

“ *My condolences to Linda and the rest of the family. As Linda will remember, Ronnie and I grew up together merely two houses apart. We remained to be close friends throughout the times. I can say that he was the kindest person throughout his life. He never met a stranger and was truly interested in what they had to say. He was our hero for keeping his 1967 GTO rolling in style all those years. Our class of R.H. Watkins class of 1967 is sadden about his departure. "Ronnie has left the building" but awaits us all.*

Thomas Walker - October 08, 2020 at 09:16 PM

AK

May we all remember his talent and kindness. I came to Laurel in May of 2015 for a class lunch and he was so kind to come over and chat-something I'll always remember.

Annelle Knight - October 09, 2020 at 10:58 AM



“ *Joan Elizabeth lit a candle in memory of
Ronald David "Ronnie" Goss*



Joan Elizabeth - October 08, 2020 at 04:19 PM