

Ronald Neal Madsen

April 2, 1942 ~ May 25, 2025

Ronald Neal Madsen (83) passed away peacefully at home on May 25, 2025, anticipating a reunion with loved ones, especially his beloved wife, Patricia.

He was a sweet, soft-spoken, patient, and humble man who exemplified Christlike love through a lifetime of service and quiet sacrifice. Gifted with a brilliant intellect and an insatiable thirst for knowledge, he generously shared his wisdom with others throughout his life.

Ron was born April 2, 1942, in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Max Gordon and Elaine Hansen Madsen.

A well-worn path appeared between Downington and Sylvan Avenues as Ron and Pat became close friends during their youth, attending church and schools in the Sugar House area of Salt Lake. After Ron's return from a church mission in the East Central States (Kentucky & Tennessee), he married Patricia Nelson on December 20, 1963, in the Salt Lake Temple. She preceded him in death in 2024.

A faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Ron also served his friends and neighbors in multiple church callings. He led youth and adults in many different capacities as a leader in Scouting and was recognized with the Silver Beaver award for his years of service. He enjoyed studying the scriptures and then sharing insights as a Gospel Doctrine teacher. Later, he became a beloved Bishop and then a member of the South Cottonwood Stake Presidency.

In his professional life, he graduated from the University of Utah (Mechanical Engineering, BS '67). After a move to the Pacific Northwest, he earned a Professional Engineer certification from the State of Washington. He later specialized in designing and implementing Material Handling Solutions to increase industrial efficiency. His engineer's mind enjoyed seeing a need and designing a way to make it *better*, in all aspects of his professional and personal life.

A love of classical music flowed in Ron's blood. He and Pat held season tickets to the Utah Symphony for many years with their favorite seats. He was known to bring along music scores so he could follow along with the orchestra. His children all have memories of evenings where Mom and Dad turned on music, dished up ice cream, and read the newspaper together. In his final days, Ron found solace as he returned to evenings of classical music, watching YouTube videos of his favorite classical works.

Ron enjoyed camping and fishing trips and cherished the opportunity to spend time with family members in those settings. Being grandparents was a particular joy for Ron & Pat. As each of the nineteen grandchildren joined their family, Grandpa and Grandma Madsen were eager caregivers of the next generation.

Ron and Pat had a beautiful and bountiful garden. Ron took great pride in the fruit trees, raspberry canes, and the fruits and vegetables produced each year.

He loved the temple and had a passion for the work there, serving in the baptistry of the Salt Lake Temple for many years. He was also dedicated to family history, including writing and publishing a monumental biography of his parents' lives.

For twenty years, Ron battled Parkinson's disease. In recent years he showed remarkable strength as he endured the advanced stages of the disease. He lovingly assisted his family in caring for Pat with her health challenges.

Special thanks to Canyons Home Care & Hospice for their attentive and caring service. Words are not enough to express the difference you have made in our lives during the past several years. Thank you.

Ron is survived by his eight children: Cindy (Shane) Percival, Anne (Cody) Swenson, John (Becky) Madsen, David (Zelmarie) Madsen, Marie (Steve) Smith, Michael (Julie) Madsen, Allison Madsen, and Leslie Madsen. He is also survived by his brothers, Wayne (Donna) Madsen and Bruce (Barbara) Madsen; his sister, Marilyn (Don) Buckholts; and his sister-in-law, Karen Madsen, wife of his late brother Max. Ron and Pat are survived by 19 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at the Chevy Chase Ward, 5235 South Wesley Road, Salt Lake City, Utah. A visitation will be held the evening of Wednesday, June 11, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and again on Thursday prior to the service from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Interment will be at Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 Dimple Dell Rd, Sandy, Utah. The funeral will be livestreamed via Zoom and can be accessed by clicking the "Watch Services" button above.

Condolences may be sent to the family by clicking the "Send a Condolence" button above. In lieu of flowers, donations could be made to the Mountain West Parkinson Initiative on his behalf by clicking the "Family's In Lieu of Flowers" button above.