



## Ronald Rioux

September 10, 1950 - October 31, 2014

Retired Senior Master Sargent Ronald Vernon Rioux “Top” has received his final Air Force wings and is no longer fighting his illness. He was born in Chicago, IL on September 10, 1950 to Ronald and Bernice Rioux, who preceded him in death, along with in-laws Pete and Darrleene Fuller, and daughter Cori Huddleston Scheppe. He is survived by his loving wife Pamala; one son, Ronald V. (Trey) Rioux III and his significant other Vicky Silva; a daughter, Kimberly Moreno, and her husband Javier; and his grandchildren, Jazimine Rioux, Izabella Rioux, Taylor Huddleston, and Dylan Scheppe; his sister Denise Mikula, and her husband Michael; his brother in-law Rodger Fuller, and his wife Debra; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. Ron retired from the Air Force in 1995 after serving his country for 26 years. He served 2 tours during the Vietnam War and was stationed in 6 states. Ron received many awards and commendations and was honored as the NCO of the year for the Air Force in 1986. He recently retired after 19 years from Albuquerque Public Schools. He served 6 years as a JROTC instructor at Del Norte High School and 13 years as the Director of Energy Conservation. Ron enjoyed playing golf, taking trips with his wife, hunting, and spending time with his family and numerous friends. He initiated and annually coordinated the Hydrogen Races for the state involving numerous community members, teachers, and middle school students. A viewing will be held on Sunday, November 9, 2014 at 4 p.m. at FRENCH – Lomas, 10500 Lomas Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 871102. A memorial service will be held on Monday,

November 10, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. at FRENCH – Lomas. Interment will follow at the National Cemetery in Santa Fe, New Mexico at 3 p.m. Memorial contributions can be made to the NM Veterans Integration Center, 13032 Central Ave SE Albuquerque, NM 87123, Rotary Foundation Polio Plus in honor of ABQ Metro Rotary, One Rotary Center, 1560 Sherman Ave Evanston, Illinois 60201, or the APS Foundation, <http://www.aps.edu/education-foundation>.

# Cemetery Details

## Santa Fe National Cemetery

Santa Fe, NM

# Previous Events

## Viewing

NOV **9**. 4:00 PM (MT)

FRENCH Funerals - Cremations (Lomas)

10500 Lomas Blvd NE

Albuquerque, NM 87112

(505) 275-3500

<https://www.FrenchFunerals.com>

## Memorial Service

NOV **10**. 10:30 AM (MT)

FRENCH Funerals - Cremations (Lomas)

10500 Lomas Blvd NE

Albuquerque, NM 87112

(505) 275-3500

<https://www.FrenchFunerals.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *French Funerals created a Tribute Video in memory of Ronald Rioux*



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**FRENCH Funerals & Cremations** - November 06, 2014 at 04:38 PM

JF

“ *Jones And Moore Family lit a candle in memory of Ronald Rioux*



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**Jones and Moore family** - December 01, 2014 at 10:20 AM

KG

“ *I was sorry to hear of his passing. He was my First Sergeant when I was enlisted at the AFRL (Phillips Lab). I was always treated with respect, which was sometimes lacking in those days for women airmen. My deepest sympathies.*

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**Karen George** - November 12, 2014 at 12:18 PM

KM

“ I am so sorry to hear of Ron's passing. He has been a mentor to many of us who teach in APS. Ron supported us in so many ways, encouraging us to guide our students in energy and recycling challenges. He was already missed on his retirement, but we pray that you all keep his good memories with you. My condolences to the family. Kathy D. Melendez, Grant Middle School.

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**Kathy Melendez** - November 10, 2014 at 05:57 PM

DV

“ I worked with Ron for the past 15 years and wanted to let you know he had a heart of an angel. He had a sense of humor that would come up when you least expected it. He always managed to put on a happy face even in the times he was not doing well. He and I had several conversations regarding his illness as my sister worked for a governmental program for the veterans taking care of people just like Ron.

*I wish and prayer for comfort for you at this time of loss.*

*Dona Valdes  
APS/M & O*

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**Dona Valdes** - November 10, 2014 at 04:13 PM

MO

“ Pam, You and your family have been in my thoughts and prayers. The photos you have shared are beautiful and the loves shines through. We miss you...Love, Monika Ortiz (Bandelier Elem.)

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**Monika Ortiz** - November 10, 2014 at 03:37 PM

ML

“ I worked with Ron for four years through my position at PNM. He was a tireless advocate for the kids and the schools, and his enthusiasm will be missed. I consider it an honor to have been blessed with the opportunity to work with him over the years.-  
Melissa Leymon, PNM

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**Melissa Leymon** - November 10, 2014 at 11:07 AM

SG

“ I write for myself and my deceased husband, Bill. Bill and Ron served on the City of Albuquerque Energy Conservation Council. Ron was a real leader in energy conservation. His work in the schools and in the community made a difference. I am thankful for his life. With sympathy, Sharon Gross

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**Sharon Gross** - November 09, 2014 at 10:18 PM

BH

“ Pam and Family, Karin and I are deeply saddened by Ron's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in this time of grief.

*Ron's life of service to his family, his community, and his nation influenced all those around him and define the meaning of "citizenship". I cherished Ron's friendship and I will miss him greatly. I am absolutely certain that his best attributes live on in the thousands he touched during his life.*

*All our love and prayers,  
Bill and Karin Hall*

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**Billy D. Hall** - November 09, 2014 at 07:57 AM



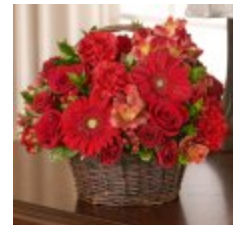
“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald Rioux.*



November 08, 2014 at 08:07 PM



“ *Rudy, Donna and Melody Watkins purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All Red for the family of Ronald Rioux.*



**Rudy, Donna and Melody Watkins** - November 08, 2014 at 11:41 AM



“ *Victoria Davidson lit a candle in memory of Ronald Rioux*



**victoria davidson** - November 07, 2014 at 09:16 PM



“ *Ron was a true warrior and patriot. I always looked up to him and admired him for his unrelenting professionalism and dedication. I will miss him.*

*Charles W. Lowery II, B.S., M.A.  
Msgt USAF, Ret*

**charles lowery** - November 07, 2014 at 10:42 AM

RC

“ Pam & Family,

*Karen and I send our sincere condolences. Ron was a tremendous person, always upbeat and helpful. I have fond memories of playing golf with him, Trey and Fred. We will miss him dearly.*

*Bob & Karen*

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**Robert Clougherty** - November 07, 2014 at 10:21 AM

CM

*Pam and Family*

*Ronnie and I send our condolences. I enjoyed working with Ron and found him to be a caring and generous person with his time and kind words. All of his peers and airmen looked up to him. He will be missed.*

*Chuck and Ronnie Mather*

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**Charles E Mather** - November 09, 2014 at 04:26 PM

MD

“ Pam,

*The boys and I send our heartfelt sympathy on Ron's passing. Our lost is God's gain because I know that Ron will continue to give his best. My fondest memory was at the NCO Academy when we discussed the possibility of a flag pole in front of the facility to teach retreat activities. Two days later there was activities that resulted in a slab being installed and a flag staff erected. He accomplished this through contracts and without getting the necessary approval to erect another flag pole on the installation. If you wanted something accomplished you only needed to make a suggestion to Ron. Rest in peace my friend.*

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**Mike Di** - November 07, 2014 at 09:59 AM

JH

“ I was very sorry to hear of Ron's passing. I've known Ron since the early 1990's when we were both on active duty and played golf with him numerous times at Kirtland. You have my heartfelt condolences on your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

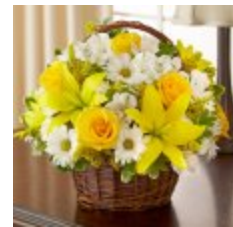
*Jim Haley*

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**Jim Haley** - November 06, 2014 at 01:45 PM

TF

“ The Wiker Family purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Yellow and White for the family of Ronald Rioux.



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**The Wiker Family** - November 06, 2014 at 12:44 PM

NC

“ Ron came to our school to meet with the green team three years ago. He brought fun hands-on equipment and an energy-saving guide. He spoke with the kids on several occasions and motivated them to keep working to make this a better planet. Ron served as a great example. -Noel Chilton

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**Noel Chilton** - November 06, 2014 at 12:19 PM

DM

“ I wish to extend my condolences to the family of Ron Rioux. He was a great inspiration to many of us on the Albu. Energy Council during his tenure as APS "Energy Czar."  
*Hand Salute to an Air Force veteran.*  
*Dave Melton, owner Sacred Power Corp.*

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**David S. Melton** - November 06, 2014 at 10:32 AM



“ *We Share Your Loss Sympathy Gift Basket was purchased for the family of Ronald Rioux.*



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November 05, 2014 at 06:34 PM



“ *My heart is aching. There are so many memories of Gentleman Ron that will always be with me. Wherever good deeds were being done in energy conservation, for two decades Ron was there - helping, offering wise direction, supporting, smiling. It is difficult to express how much I will miss him.*

*Lynne Behnfield Thomas*

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**Lynne Behnfield** - November 05, 2014 at 10:24 AM



“ *I met Ron at work and he was always an inspiration and example of not just a hard worker but excellent friend. He will be missed.*



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**Joseph** - November 05, 2014 at 08:57 AM

MB

*“ I can't remember when I met Ron. It was more than 10 years ago through our mutual work with the New Mexico Solar Energy Association (NMSEA). He was a huge supporter and great volunteer. He was always talking about energy conservation and efficiency. I loved that about Ron. He was so passionate and dedicated. He was a great guy and always had a kind word to say. As I write this I'm looking at my APS Energy Stars Alternative Fuels Challenger 08 necklace he gave me to show his appreciation for my work. He will sorely be missed by many communities. He was a great voice for doing the right thing. We'll miss you Ron.*



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**Marlene Brown** - November 04, 2014 at 02:52 PM

KM

*“ I have known Ron and done business with him since his days in the Air Force, when he was with the NCO Academy. From there to Del Norte and with APS energy program. Ron was , as well, a neighbor. My wife and I served on our neighborhood association board with Ron. He was a true patriot, gentlemen and friend. when asked how he was, it was always. "Marvelous" We will miss Ron. Our thoghths and prayers with his family.*

*Kent and Sara Mathis*

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**Kent Mathis** - November 04, 2014 at 02:33 PM



*“ We met through the administration of the demand response program at the schools. Ron and I would meet at Satellite Coffee to "talk business" but often it was just to talk! I am honored to have known you Ron, and I thank you once again for your service to this Country and to our community.*

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**Richard Law** - November 04, 2014 at 01:26 PM

AT

“ 3 files added to the album NM Hydrogen Fuels Challenge



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**amy tapia** - November 04, 2014 at 11:38 AM

AT

“ *I had the fortune to meet Ron around 10 years ago. He had an idea to start a alternative fuels competition to help middle school students learn about engineering and alternative energy sources - and he thought Sandia Labs could help him get it going. That April, we launched the NM Alternative Fuels Challenge. The competition grew, migrated to Hydrogen Fuels, and now Electric, and successfully engaged hundreds of middle school students. Ron's passion was inspiring. He knew everyone and involved the Metro Rotary, JROTC groups, PNM, LANL and Sandia Labs and recruited friends to serve as judges. Ron is committed to bringing resources to teachers to help them teach students about energy conservation.*

*Ron is a very special person and I really enjoyed working with him. I admire his dedication, commitment and perseverance. He is also pretty stubborn! I admire that quality too. Ron is someone I will always admire, respect, miss and love. My deepest condolences to his family.*

*With love,  
Amy Tapia*

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**Amy Tapia** - November 04, 2014 at 11:10 AM



“ I first met Ron through the APS Alternative Fuels Event when the Metro Rotary Club did our first "burger burn" to support this event. As a fellow USAF retiree, it was great to see someone so dedicated and passionate in service above self!. Thanks Ron, for all you did! My condolences to Pam and family, and everyone else who just lost a bit of the good that makes the world a better place!

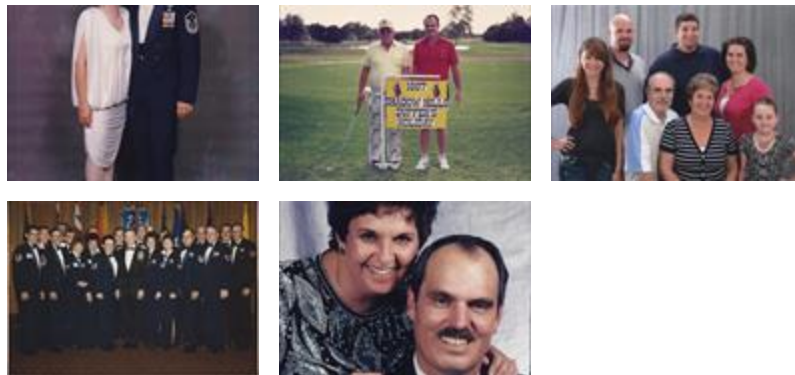
Fred Pugh  
CMSgt (ret) USAF  
Metro Rotary Club of Albuquerque

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Fred Pugh - November 04, 2014 at 11:00 AM

PR

“ 40 files added to the album New Album Name



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Pam Rioux - November 04, 2014 at 10:26 AM

BV

“ Brian Vineyard lit a candle in memory of Ronald Rioux



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Brian Vineyard - November 04, 2014 at 10:04 AM

BV

*I was privileged to have Top as my AFJROTC instructor for my entire high school career, and even luckier to remain friends with him the 15 years since. I remember when I was a freshman in high school and he pointed out to me that I wasn't supposed to salute him, and while I may not have rendered a hand salute to him after that I have never stopped saluting him from within. The level of respect I have for him is equaled by only family members and words cannot ever come close to describing the difference he made not only in my life but with everyone he worked with. The world is a better place because of all he did for it, and those of us who got to see that directly are even more fortunate. The word hero is used far too easily nowadays, but he was one in every sense of the word.*

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**Brian Vineyard** - November 04, 2014 at 10:05 AM

LS

“ I met Ron in 2002 when I began making presentations for NM Solar Energy Assn to APS schools. Until I broke my leg in 2012, I collaborated with Ron every time I made a presentation. He also was kind enough to cover my giant presentation flip chart in his budget.

*At NMSEA, we lovingly nicknamed him the APS “Energy Czar” due to his dedication and passion for saving energy wherever possible to help the environment! He was great with students and they listened to and respected him.*

*He was the most ardent supporter of Girls Gone Green, a group of 5th- 8th grade girls who educated adults about their Carbon Footprints. He provided printed materials for them and also attended their events whenever he could for three years.*

*Ron was one of the most kind, thoughtful and supportive colleagues I have ever had the pleasure of working with. I honestly cannot recall ever speaking with him without him being generous, energetic, positive and encouraging. His commitment and perseverance were absolutely incomparable!*

*I feel honored to have shared so many years as his friend!*

*I send my deepest condolences to Ron’s family in their time of loss.*

*With all my Love, Lisa Silva*

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**Lisa Silva** - November 03, 2014 at 10:38 PM

CP

“ So sorry to learn about Ron's passing. Ron was a great guy and we enjoyed our time with you when we were all stationed at Hickam AFB all those years ago. May the love of family and friends comfort you in your grief and may you find peace through your lifetime of memories. God Bless you all.



*With sympathy and love,  
Pete and Carol Pitman*

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**Carol Pitman** - November 03, 2014 at 07:33 PM

JC

“ On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

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**Joel Chavez** - November 03, 2014 at 05:37 PM

DY

*So sorry to hear about Ron, our hearts are breaking. Sending prayers, hugs and all the family. He will forever be in our hearts and we shall remember all the good times we have had with him. We love you all.*

*The Yelken Family*

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**Dottie Yelken** - November 03, 2014 at 08:09 PM

JJ

*I was sorry to hear about Ron. We had a great time together instructing at the NCO Academy. He was respected by all who came in contact with him. He was one of the best. You have my deepest sympathy.*

*John Jacher*

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**John Jacher** - November 07, 2014 at 10:23 AM

KP

*My deepest sympathy is with the family of Ron Rioux. I got to know him through the eyes of his daughter, Kimberly and through APS. He was an amazing father and dedicated professional. This wonderful person will be greatly missed by all.*

*Kate Pitzen*

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**Kate Pitzen** - November 09, 2014 at 12:55 PM

LL

*Ron was truly "a man among men" who instilled pride and professionalism in many middle managers at our NCO Academy for years. All who knew him will remember Ron as one of the very best instructors on our faculty. We appreciate him dearly as a brother in arms, personal friend and dear neighbor. R.I.P., Ron. Sincere sympathy to Pam, Kim, Trey and his loving family.*

*Larry & Nancy Lane*

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**Larry & Nancy Lane** - November 12, 2014 at 07:52 PM