

OBITUARY

Ralph D. Pace of Augusta, Maine, is at peace, after a long illness. Ralph was born in Far Hills, N.J., on June 17, 1939, to Howard and Ruth Pace. He grew up in Hackettstown, N.J., graduating Hackettstown High School as a star tackle in 1957.

He married his love, Ramona E. Kirby from rival school Washing High School in Washington, N.J. on June 20, 1959.

He made his home in Port Murray N.J., raising his two children and working at M&M Mars, construction and roofing jobs until his family's relocation to Mount Vernon, in 1978, to open and run the Featherbed Inn. He was known as "The BS of PR at the F.B.I.," greeting all with open arms, smiles and great stories. Ralph retired in June 2011 after 17 years as a toll collector for the Maine Turnpike.

He loved coaching football at Maranacook in the 1980s, reading, fishing, and sharing time with friends and family. He was a kind, gentle man, who will be missed by everyone who had the privilege to know him.

He is survived by his wife Ramona; son Kevin and his wife Nancy, daughter Iona and her husband John; sister Ruthie Piancone and her husband Arthur, brother David Pace and his wife Patricia; grandchildren Christopher, Carli, Jason, Rachelle, Johnny and Reilly; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his mother and father; his dog Spike; and several good friends.

Special thanks to the staff at Maine General Hospital in Augusta and the staff and hospice caretakers at Windward Gardens in Camden.

Private services to be held later.

Miss Me - But let me go... When I come to the end of the road, and the sun has set for me, I want no rites in a gloom-filled room, why cry for a soul set free? Miss me a little, but not too long, and not with your head bowed low, remember the love that we once shared, Miss Me, But let me go. For this is a journey that we all must take, and each must go alone. All part of the Master's plan, a step on the road to home.

When you are lonely and sick of heart, go to the friends we know and bury your sorrows in doing good deeds, Miss me but let me go. (Unknown)

In Celebration of Ralph's life, please support your local cancer or Alzheimer Care Centers.

The Central Maine: July 10, 2015

NAME: Pace, Ralph D.

DATE OF DEATH: