



Ron Krajewski

April 23, 1960 - August 23, 2024

Ron Krajewski passed away peacefully on Aug 23rd at the age of 64, after a valiant battle with lung disease and Cirrhosis. Ron is survived by his wife Wendy Krajewski whom he lived, loved and laughed with for 33 years.

Born into a fishing family in Seattle WA, Ron's fishing career started at the young age of 14 years old when he began when he spent his summers working on Commercial Salmon Fishing boats in Alaska.

Ron enlisted in the Air Force in 1985 and would serve his country for 10 years. He was deployed to Saudi Arabia where he would participate on Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and be awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal and Outstanding Unit Award.

Upon separating from the Air Force in 1995, Ron found his true passion in Art. Ron built a successful online art business specializing in custom pet portraits. His life and passion would soon change when he and Wendy adopted a crippled racehorse named Metro off the track. Knowing that Metro's life would be short due to his injuries, Ron looked for ways to keep him comfortable and active by teaching Metro to hold a paintbrush in his mouth and make brushstrokes. The art they created together was special and Ron and Metro were soon the bestselling artists at their gallery.

Ron and Metro turned their eyes to raising awareness to Retired Racehorse Adoption. They were featured in news media all over the world including the Today Show, Good Morning America, People Magazine just to name a few. In the 5 years they painted together they were able to raise over \$80,000 for

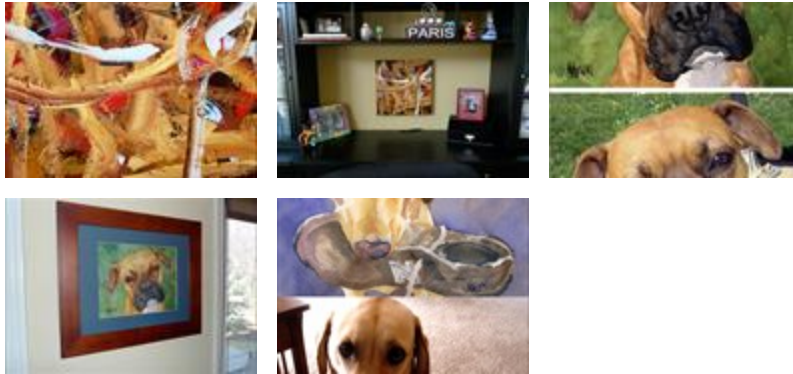
Retired Racehorse Adoption and the media attention increased adoption applications for retired racehorse by over 50%.

Ron is author of the book "Painting with Metro" and Ron, Wendy and Metro were the subjects of the Award Winning Documentary "My Paintbrush Bites". Ron has asked not to have a service but asks that a small donation be made to New Vocations Racehorse Adoption Program.

Tribute Wall

KS

“ I was back to see if Ron could do another pet portrait for me when I learned of his passing and just could not help but shed a tear. He had a presence in my life for so long and his work with Metro and his pet portraits have meant so much to me. I'm so sorry disease took him way too young but his art and his heart left lifetimes of impact. My sincere condolences to all that know and love him. Rest easy Ron. (Attached are my early Metro painting “Caramel Sundae”, the portrait of my boxer Bailey and of my parents yellow lab Buck)



Kelli Smith - May 12 at 08:13 PM

TK

“ I just stumbled upon a painting by Ron of horse racers head on. It is a stunning painting so I looked up Ron and to my delight found he was a horse lover. Loved the story of Ron and Metro. Sounded like such a good man. So sorry for his early death. I wonder how Metro is doing without him. Thank you for your gift and spirt Ron. I know you truly live on

Therese Kastelic - December 21, 2024 at 10:28 AM

KS

Therese, I don't know if you'll see this a year later but Metro passed before Ron... so hopefully they are reunited.

Kelli Smith - May 12 at 08:05 PM

SU

“ I knew Ron for years - his family was part of our “group”. His parents, Darrel & Kathy, are gone too. Very sad. Happy I had Ron paint my “boys” a few years ago. I knew he was ill and cutting back on his work. Rest in peace Ron. 💔

susan - December 03, 2024 at 07:48 PM

KA

“ We art lovers will always remember Ron’s wonderful talent and I’m thankful our paths crossed. Such a great loss and my heart goes out to you Wendy.



karen - September 07, 2024 at 04:20 PM



“ Thank you Ron for being a beautiful part of our lives.



Rebecca Hopkins - September 07, 2024 at 11:08 AM

BP

“ Ron did a great portrait of my two boys earlier this year and every time I look at it, I'll think of Ron. He was a really good pool player, fun to play with and he will be sorely missed in our Billiards club. My condolences to Wendy.



Bill Peck - September 04, 2024 at 11:39 AM

MP

“ I very much enjoyed shooting pool with Ron. A very good pool shooter and a quiet man with a great sense of humor. I will miss his company in the billiards room at Sun River Saint George.

Michael Pfanenstiel - September 03, 2024 at 07:24 PM

CH

“ I am so sad to hear about Ron's passing, I enjoyed his art and Facebook posts so very much. I wish much peace to Ron's family.

Charlotte - September 01, 2024 at 02:35 PM

MM

“ I have loved following Ron and Metro on FB. He and Wendy truly gave Metro a second chance as well as a good life. May they meet again and make heaven a more colorful place. Marilou Metcalf

Marilou Metcalf - August 30, 2024 at 12:03 AM

CE

“ I spent many years with Ron in the 70's and 80's. We were concert junkies, photography nerds but cool nerds, he got me into his family's commercial fishery in Alaska and so much more. Ron was a gentle soul with a witty sense of humor. He was loved by everyone who knew him. Rest in Peace Ron.

Calvin Ellis - August 28, 2024 at 02:05 PM

MA

“ Oh I'm so very saddened by Ron's passing but not nearly as much as his family, I'm sure. Ron and Metro brought such joy to me through their art and their relationship. Thank you to Wendy and Ron for sharing so much of their life with Metro with us. God bless you Wendy and all the Krajewski family.

Margaret - August 28, 2024 at 12:36 PM

MB

I met Ron through his Art as he painted a portrait of my Border Terrier Tag. Then I found out about Metro and have a Painting by Metro and would like tote bags also if I can find them. I have really enjoyed the portrait, the book of Metro and the painting by Metro, and it is wonderful to read all the memories! Thank you Ron and Wendy!

Marge Brandel - March 04, 2025 at 07:18 PM

PR

“ I am so so sorry.. I have many of his and Metro's paintings... I am so grateful to have had both of them in my life , even if not but from a distance. They were a blessing to all.. God bless and comfort you.

Priscilla - August 28, 2024 at 12:12 AM

SA

“ Ron, thank you for being a light to so many and for sharing your love and passion of art and horses.

I never got to meet him in person, but when my husband surprised me with a Ron & Metro painting years ago I became a huge fan. I'll look at their work now with a bit more sadness, but also happiness in that I get to enjoy a tiny part of their joy in creating together.



Sara - August 27, 2024 at 08:55 PM

SF

“ Ron and I were in Southwest Airlines Flight Attendant class #174 together in Feb/Mar, 2000. He was a big reason I made it through due to his care for others in helping us understand how to do certain things. We were based together in Oakland. He kept us laughing and was such a treasure to all of our classmates. I'm brokenhearted to hear of his sickness and passing. He will be missed.
Sondra Farrington



Sondra Farrington - August 27, 2024 at 05:13 PM

MR

“ I was fortunate enough to have Ron paint all of my dogs and I treasure them. I think of him every time I look at the paintings. My sympathies to his family. He had a rare talent and died far too young. This is a painting he did of my Golden, Olive.



Mary R - August 27, 2024 at 02:19 PM

PL

“ I was lucky enough to win one of Ron's monthly portraits and it's been hanging in my living room for probably 6 years.



Patsy Lavinia - August 27, 2024 at 01:49 PM

AN

“ I did not know Ron personally but came across his artwork many years ago and commissioned a piece of our first "child", Tucker, which still hangs proudly in our home over 10 years after his passing. I will forever cherish Ron's masterpiece, and I am so grateful he shared his amazing talents with the world. I am praying for Ron's loved ones as they celebrate his life and hope it provides them some joy during this difficult time knowing he impacted so many, including strangers, during his life.

AJ Kelley - Nebraska - August 27, 2024 at 12:09 PM

ES

“ I didn't know Ron, Wendy, and Metro except on Metro's Facebook page. Any rescue draws my attention and loved how Ron and Wendy loved Metro. I still have one of Metro's painting up in our dining room and it will always be loved. Wendy I am so sorry for your loss, and pray for your family.

Elaine Sharp - August 27, 2024 at 11:49 AM

RF

I have a print of Ron and Metro's painting of Secretariat. It is amazing. This news shatters my heart. God bless you and Porkchop, Wendy.

Rhoda Fagan - August 27, 2024 at 12:02 PM

DH

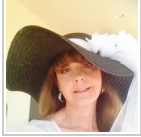
“ Always loved his and Metro posts and paintings very sorry for your loss 🙏

De Hale - August 27, 2024 at 11:47 AM

MA

“ I was lucky to have met Ron, Wendy, Pork Chop, and Metro during a generous meet and greet in Gettysburg in April 2016. I had a wonderful conversation with Ron while browsing Gallery 30 as he signed his work. He was very funny and warm once he started talking. I have several of his pieces in my home, including a large canvas print of Barbaro. My favorite piece, though, is a portrait he did of my sister and her dog, Audrey. It is magnificent. I found Ron through his work with Metro and was honored to be a sponsor of the film. I've read his book twice. When he announced he was ill and would close his online shop, I emailed to let him know that he was special and meant something to me. It was obvious in Gettysburg that Wendy and he were perfectly mated. I wish Wendy my most sincere condolences and peace.

MK Adams - August 27, 2024 at 11:27 AM



“ *The story of Metro and Ron will live on. I was very fortunate to obtain a print he had done. I know they are together now...forever.*

Shari Bens - August 27, 2024 at 11:20 AM

KL

“ *I never met Ron in person but he created many beautiful paintings for me of my own pets and rescues I have helped over the years. His talent was so special, everyone who saw one of his paintings always said that he captured the eyes perfectly. He gave back through his talent and generosity and touched so many lives. He will be missed.*

Kelly Larson - August 26, 2024 at 08:04 PM

JW

“ *Ron was one of those guys that didn't say much but when he did it was dry and funny!! He and Wendy were like a comedy duo together. Wendy would always tell me about things Ron would do to surprise her. He loved her so much and just wanted to make her happy. Such a huge loss for her. Rest in Peace Ron and please show Wendy signs that you are still with her. You are a lovely human being. ❤️*

Julie Witter - August 26, 2024 at 07:27 PM

DM

“ *I will always remember my trip to Gettysburg to meet Ron, Wendy, and Metro for an interview on the Today Show. Ron and Wendy were huge crusaders for racehorse aftercare. And Ron's work with Metro was truly a life changing mission. Thank you Ron and Metro for bringing the importance of racehorse aftercare to the forefront in the eyes of the media.*

dot morgan - August 26, 2024 at 05:03 PM