



Roger Wilson Ford Sr.

July 8, 1943 - May 9, 2026

Portsmouth – Roger Wilson Ford Sr., of Portsmouth, passed away at Portsmouth Regional Hospital on Saturday, May 9, 2026 surrounded by his family. He was the loving husband of Donna Ford. The two enjoyed 65 years of marriage together.

Born in Portsmouth on July 8, 1943, Roger was the son of the late Guile and Irene Ford.

His wife, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were the center of his world, and he poured his heart into each generation with unwavering devotion.

Known for his creative humor, he had a gift for making people smile. Whether through a playful joke, or a silly gesture, he brought joy wherever he went.

He was a man of practical wisdom – the kind learned through a lifetime of doing, fixing, building, and caring. He taught not with lectures, but with patience and hands-on guidance, always ready to say, “Come here, let me show you.” His lessons live on in the skills he passed down and the confidence he instilled in those he loved.

He leaves behind a family shaped by his humor, strengthened by his example,

and forever grateful for the love he gave so freely. His legacy is found in every smile he inspired and every life he touched

He will be deeply missed, lovingly remembered, and carried forward in the hearts of all who knew him.

In addition to his wife, Roger is survived by his children, Wendy Ford of Portsmouth and Roger Ford Jr of Portsmouth. He is also survived by his brother Ronald Ford of Portsmouth as well as eight grandchildren, Daniel, Jason, Adam, Joshua, Chelsea, Morgan, Megan, and Sarah, and eight great grandchildren, Riley, Makayla, Nicholas, Jesse, Evan, Natalie, Cooper, and Kaia. In addition to his parents, Roger is predeceased by his daughter Melissa Ford Abdallah and son Wayne Ryan Ford, and his brother, Richard Ford.

In keeping with Roger's wishes, services will be private and he will be laid to rest at Calvary Cemetery in Portsmouth. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Roger's memory to the NHSPCA, PO Box 196, Stratham, NH 03885.

Tribute Wall



“ *Loved Roger and Donna. Many many memories of adventures with them. Roger was the greatest person. RIP my friend.* ”

Sharon Christiansen - May 20 at 02:40 PM

“ Over the past few days I have been writing and re-writing this...I have so many memories and it is hard to choose or summarize...but here goes: Roger and Donna. Donna and Roger. We rarely say one name without the other. Family mattered most to Roger. Donna was the love of his life. He was proud of his kids and even prouder of his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Losing Melissa in 2019 was heartbreaking. He and Donna bravely stood together through that brutal time and showed their family and friends a quiet strength. I know I am only 1 of the many people who have special memories of the Ford family. I can't share just one story about Roger, there are just too many to choose from. I could go on and on but instead I will list some like going to Benson's Animal Farm and stopping at McDonald's for breakfast when I was little. Or maybe the times we piled into the old Ford station wagon with the jumpseat in the back headed to the fireworks or for a ride down the beach on a warm summer night with all the windows down. How about the countless summer BBQs, birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, trips to Lagos and Dairy Queen in Kittery, Super Bowl parties, Car Shows, you and my mom making a bet to quit smoking, visits with my dad to your garage in North Hampton, swimming in your pool, fried seafood dinners, handmade crafts out of wood that you made...So many, many memories flood back. I am so lucky to have those memories and to have known you. I hope that somehow you knew the special place I have for you and Donna.

Thank you, Roger. Thank you for sharing a friendship with my mom and especially my dad that lasted a lifetime. Thank you for being an example of a real and true friend. Friends since grade school, Roger and my dad were a prime example of life long friends. Roger told me, not so long ago when I was visiting, that he loved to make my dad uncomfortable because it was so easy. He loved to make my dad laugh. You see, my dad was somewhat quiet and if you knew Roger...you know he liked to get people going. My dad thought very highly of Roger and his entire family. I will miss that twinkle in Roger's blue eyes and the mischief behind them.

I spent many Saturday nights for as long as I can remember, falling asleep on Roger and Donna's couch while the adults chatted,

played cards, enjoyed some adult beverages and listened to 50s and 60s music. Thank you for being more like family and for showing up for my dad. When dad had his stroke, you came to the hospital with Donna. When he was in the nursing home, you showed up...even though it was hard. Thank you.

I was looking forward to visiting you this month and I am sad I won't get that chance but I know you are in a place able to breathe freely and be free of pain... you always greeted us with a hug and a smile. You had a story about my dad or a joke. Being around you always felt comforting, because that was you, welcoming people into your home and talking to them like you have known them forever, in my case that was literally true. Roger filled a room with his smile, his laugh and humor. I am so thankful I was able to know him. He was simply the best.



Lee Anne(Neil and Emily's daughter) - May 13 at 02:06 PM

LA

It is supposed to say, Lee Anne, Neil and Emily's daughter.

Lee Anne - May 13 at 02:16 PM

LT

My love to Rogers family. What a HOT TICKET, always caring for and helping my with car stuff, forever a smile and a hug with my Dad and a fine and gentile soul every time we crossed paths. RIP dear man.

Laura Tourtellot - May 21 at 01:28 PM