



J Ronald Fischer

July 27, 1933 - April 16, 2026

J Ronald Fischer, 92, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri died Thursday, April 16, 2026 at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.

He was born July 27, 1933 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri to Arthur Martin and Alberta Meystedt Fischer.

He and Edna Ruth Gwaltney were married in Charleston, Missouri in 1953. They were married for 72 years.

J Ronald graduated from Central High School in 1951, he then received a baseball scholarship to SIU Carbondale. In 1953 he joined the Navy and served in the Blimp Squadron.

He was owner and operator of Fischer's Market, a family owned company for 52 years.

J Ronald was elected to the City Council before becoming mayor of Cape Girardeau in 1966. During his term as mayor, Cape Girardeau was selected as an All American City . He was elected to serve as Cape County Commissioner for over 20 years. He was on the S.E. Missouri Port Authority Board, the Southeast Hospital Board of Trustees for over forty years, serving a term as president. He was a member of Boatman's Bank Board, Elks Club,

past president of Cape Jaycee's and was honored to receive the Cape Girardeau Chamber Rush Limbaugh Award.

Survivors include wife, Edna Ruth Fischer of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; two sons, Ronnie (Karen) Fischer of Farmersville, Texas and Tom (Diane) Fischer of St. Louis, Missouri; daughter, Beth (Alan) Chapman of Acworth, Georgia; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Saturday, May 9, 2026 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

Memorial service will follow Saturday at 3:00 pm, with full military honors.

Memorial contributions may be given to the charity of your choice.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Ford & Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 9. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Memorial Service

MAY 9. 3:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

JH

“ Janet and Kevin Hogan purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of J Ronald Fischer.



Janet and Kevin Hogan - May 08 at 08:30 PM

FS

“ From Dan & Sue purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of J Ronald Fischer.



From Dan & Sue - May 07 at 04:14 PM

FS

“ From Dan & Sue planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of J Ronald Fischer.

From Dan & Sue - May 07 at 04:14 PM

CC

“ Chad&Mandy, Grant&Chelsea, Charlie&Lyss purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of J Ronald Fischer.



Chad&Mandy, Grant&Chelsea, Charlie&Lyss - May 07 at 04:08 PM

CC

“ Chad&Mandy, Grant&Chelsea, Charlie&Lyss planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of J Ronald Fischer.

Chad&Mandy, Grant&Chelsea, Charlie&Lyss - May 07 at 04:08 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of J Ronald Fischer.



May 05 at 02:01 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of J Ronald Fischer.



May 04 at 09:02 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of J Ronald Fischer.

May 04 at 09:02 PM

TT

“ *The Prices and The Tacketts purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of J Ronald Fischer.*



The Prices and The Tacketts - May 04 at 12:51 PM

CC

“ *Mr. Fischer was a kind and generous man! My deepest condolences to the family.*
Cathy (Freeze) Chandler

Cathy Chandler - May 02 at 07:39 AM

JB

“ *Edna Ruth and family, when I read of Ronnie's passing, I called my brother Don, and as much as we would both like to be there to pay our respects, due to health issues and distance it just isn't possible. Please accept our deepest and most sincere sympathies!*
Jeff and Don Buschmann

Jeff Buschmann - May 01 at 01:34 PM

AE

“ *Sending deepest sympathy to Edna Ruth and the family. We have such fond memories of him from our time at Abbey Road Christian Church. What a nice person he was. Amelia Essman and Don Gentle*

Amelia Essman - April 30 at 11:00 AM

KH

“ Mr Fischer gave me my first job in 1972 at Fischers Market on NW End Blvd. He always made me feel welcome and needed and would make a point to say hello first when we saw each other. Little did either of us know that that would lead to a 38 year career in the grocery/meat industry.
Thank You Mr Fischer. You will be missed.

Kevin Hogan - April 28 at 06:18 PM

MW

“ My mother was best buddies with J. Ruth Fischer's wife for many years. She & J.R Fischer were married I believe over 70 years. They threw me a lovely party on top of the Hersch building to celebrate getting my Masters degree. They were the epitome of committment & productivity. They were a big part of my life for many years. .I send prayers & intercession for their family. JR Fischer exemplified integrity & at the same time kindness. He contributed alot to this town & his legacy will not be forgotten . The Talley family I am the daughter of Marcia Mercier Wagner , Michelle

Michelle Wagner-Talley - April 27 at 12:37 PM

JW

“ Rose and I send our sincere condolences to you Edna Ruth and your family. As for me, I can't tell you enough of the respect and deep appreciation I have for Mr. Fisher. Ron and I worked many years together to further the mission and community service of Southeast Missouri Hospital. He was a special person and deserves his place in Heaven. May God Bless you and comfort you at all times. James and Rosalie Wente.

James and Rosalie Wente - April 23 at 04:49 PM

DM

“ I grew up on Whitener St., nearby Fischers Market and well remember frequent visits to the store and meat counter with my parents. I always respected Ronnie for his interest in, and knowledge about local sports, especially baseball. He became a good friend and was indeed a well liked and respected community leader.

Dale Meier - April 23 at 11:36 AM

PB

“ We will always remember meeting Ronnie and his wife what a great couple they were . It was fun to spend time in Marco Island with them and their son Tim. Sounds like he had a very full filled life and the family will have some wonderful memories. Dave and Pam Brink

Pam Brink - April 23 at 10:30 AM

FM

“ J. Ronald Fischer was not only a wonderful Uncle, he was also a great boss. He gave me my first job July 1974 working at Fischer's downtown market. He and his son Ronnie taught me a lot in just 3 weeks time. He and Edna Ruth were always so kind and gracious to my family as they hosted us at Christmas for over 20 years. He was a smart, well read genuine man...and also had a terrific sense of humor. He will be missed and remembered daily, until we are reunited with him. Love you Uncle Ronnie.

Fred Mound - April 22 at 10:17 PM

JA

“ When I was young we lived two houses North of Fischer’s Market on North West End Blvd. When we moved into our new home, it was a hot summer day. All of a sudden Art Fischer was at the back door with a carton of ice cream. We were thrilled. When you walked in the door of Fischer’s Market, Frances was usually at the register, Art and Ronnie would always welcome you and make sure you found exactly what you needed. You felt right at home, they made you feel like family. Mrs. Meystedt who was Mrs Fischer’s Mother lived next door to us. It was a wonderful way to grow up, I treasure those days. Please accept my sincere condolences, the Fischer family has lost a real treasure. Judi Ray Alban

Judi Alban - April 22 at 08:33 PM

NC

“ I’m heartbroken that I will not be able to be there to hug each of you. What a gentleman!!! My love to you all.

Nona Nan Chapman - April 22 at 04:02 PM

TT

“ I remember when going to Franklin School walking home and getting a couple pieces of penny candy at the store on NW End Blvd. Ronnie and his father Art would always greet you as if you had a lot of money. I crossed paths many times thru the years and can only say he was a very fine man. J Ronald will be missed by all who knew him. May he rest in peace.

Terry Taylor - April 22 at 02:40 PM

CC

“ *Edna Ruth and family. Don and I were saddened to hear of the passing of J Ronald. We enjoyed our visits sitting next to you two at the Semo Basketball games. We pray for peace for your family knowing the J Ronald led a full life and had many friends and acquaintances. He was a special person to all who knew him*

Cheryl Cook - April 21 at 09:44 PM

SH

“ *Stuart Hoeller lit a candle in memory of J Ronald Fischer*



Stuart Hoeller - April 21 at 04:56 PM

SH

“ *I grew up on Briarwood Drive with Mr. Fischer and his family. His son Tom and I use to ride bicycles and play baseball in the neighborhood. J Ronnie was a Fantastic Businessman and Community Leader! Mr. Fischer will be Greatly Missed!*

Stuart Hoeller - April 21 at 04:56 PM