

MAY THE SOUL OF THE FAITHFULLY DEPARTED

Ronald Joseph Bergen

REST IN PEACE

July 8, 1946—July 11, 2026

Pine Ridge, South Dakota Hot Springs, South Dakota

If Tomorrow Starts Without Me

*When tomorrow starts without me,
and I'm not there to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes
All filled with tears for me,*

*I wish so much you wouldn't cry,
The way you did today,
While thinking of the many things,
We didn't get to say.*

*I know how much you love me,
As much as I love you,
And each time that you think of me,
I know you'll miss me too.*

*So when tomorrow starts without me,
Don't think we're far apart,
For every time you think of me,
I'm right here, in your heart.*

CHRISTIAN FUNERAL VIGIL

7:00 p.m., Friday, July 24, 2026

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
Hot Springs, South Dakota

CHRISTIAN FUNERAL MASS

2:00 p.m., Saturday, July 25, 2026

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
Hot Springs, South Dakota

CELEBRANTS

Fr. Collins Igwilo & Deacon Craig Pearson

SPECIAL MUSIC

St. Anthony's Music Ministry
Victor Gerber & Debra Gerber

LUNCHEON

St. Anthony's Parish Hall

MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS

United States Navy
Sturgis Veterans Honor Guard

CHRISTIAN FUNERAL COMMITTAL

2:30 p.m., Monday, July 27, 2026

Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota

MEMORIALS

State Veterans Home
2500 Minnekahta Ave.
Hot Springs, South Dakota

Ronald Joseph Bergen, 80, of Hot Springs SD was born July 8, 1946, in Pine Ridge, SD. He passed away peacefully on July 11, 2026, at the State Veteran's Home in Hot Springs, SD.

After graduating from Hot Springs High School in 1965 he voluntarily went to Vietnam and served two tours in the U.S. Army and one tour in the U.S.S Navy before returning home. He then got married, started a family and went to college.

In the mid 1980s he started coaching soccer, softball and t-ball. He also started working at the Hot Springs School District, where he helped many students in math, for over 30 years.

He had three daughters that he was very proud of, the youngest one preceding him in death, the middle one becoming a teacher and the eldest serving in the U.S. Army and working in health care. His biggest pride and joy though was his grandson, his only grandchild.

He is preceded in death by his mother (Rita Rasmussen), father (Bert Bergen), step-father (Frank Rasmussen), sister (Karen Hildebrand), brother (Frank Rasmussen JR), wife (Loretta Bergen), daughter (Candice Bergen) and a granddaughter (Elizabeth Wilaby).

He is survived by daughter, Cristina (Bergen) Wilaby of Hot Springs SD, daughter, Carrie (Trent Jones) Bergen of Piedmont SD, grandson Ashton Wilaby of Hot Springs SD, sister Sylvia Ecoffey of Hot Springs SD, Fay Holloway of Hot Springs SD, Floyd Rasmussen of Alliance NE and Filma Jones of Alliance NE.

He was greatly loved and will be missed by his family, friends and his many students.

Arrangements have been placed in the care of
Chamberlain McColleys Funeral Home
Hot Springs, South Dakota



RONALD JOSEPH BERGEN
1946-2026