



## Vernon Parker Roan

November 19, 1935 - September 22, 2017

Vernon Parker Roan, Jr

Vernon Roan passed away on September 22, 2017. He was born in Ft. Myers on November 19, 1935. He was preceded in death by his parents Vernon and Evelyn Roan and sister Dot Danley. Vernon is survived by his wife of 62 years Paula, two children, Shannon Roan Cox (Gary) and Ron Roan (Marlene), three grandchildren, four bonus grandchildren and sister Patti Lacy.

Vernon received his BS in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Florida in 1958, MS Mechanical Engineering University of Florida 1959 and PhD Engineering University of Illinois 1966. He was a Senior Design Engineer at Pratt & Whitney from 1959-1964, and a professor of Mechanical Engineering at UF from 1967-2003. He was involved in many professional and honor engineering societies and won numerous research, teaching and alumnus awards. Vernon wrote more than 100 published articles mostly relating to fuels, fuel cells, electric and hybrid vehicles. He remained active in the engineering community until two years prior to his passing, most recently serving on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, National Research Council.

While Vernon and Paula considered Gainesville their home, they also owned and loved their condo, and view, on Juno Beach for 27 years. Forever the Gator fan, he supported the team and UF wherever they were. Vernon was a longtime recreational pilot and plane owner and spoke of flying and engineering as his two primary hobbies, but his greatest love was Paula and

their family.

For those wishing to make a memorial contribution, please send contributions in his name to VITAS Hospice Healthcare, 2201 Lucien Way, # 100, Maitland, FL 32751.

Arrangement entrusted to Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home, Jupiter, FL. For online condolences visit [www.taylorandmodeen.com](http://www.taylorandmodeen.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Vernon Parker Roan*

October 22, 2023 at 10:17 AM



“ *I just leaned of the passing of Dr. Roan some two and a half years following his passing. Like many, Dr. Roan was one of my mechanical engineering professors at the University of Florida. In a faculty of talented professors, none were more open and accessible than Dr. Roan. It was one of our trips to a SCORE (Student Competitions on Relevant Engineering) to Marinette, Wisconsin that I met my wife. 45 years later we are still together. Dr. Roan brought a joy to engineering that many fail to grasp and with him, you generally became acquainted with the whole family. Thank you and God bless you Dr. Roan, and late though sincere condolences to Paula, Shannon and Ronnie. Just wondering Ronnie: do you still have that Gibson Mastertone? Another story for another day.  
Joe Hinson - ME, 1975*

Joe Hinson - May 04, 2020 at 04:39 PM



“ *Dr. Roan was my professor at the University of Florida in 1969 and 1970. He was a great inspiration to me and made me want to be a better student and engineer. He always made the time to help students that needed a little extra help. His experiences at Pratt Whitney were often related to his students and brought the practicality of engineering to the classroom. He will be missed.*

Edgar Allen - West Palm Beach, FL - October 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ Professor Vernon Roan was my mentor and adviser for my PhD at UF. He will be sorely missed. He was a fantastic researcher and he certainly helped shape me and others who benefited from his tutelage and his extensive knowledge. I am a better person because I knew him. My deepest condolences to his loved ones. RIP Prof. Roan

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**Paul Erickson - Davis, CA** - October 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ It was an honor to work with Dr. Roan in the Mechanical Engineering Department many years ago. May God bless you and your family in this time of sorrow.

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**Donna Smith - High Springs, FL** - October 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Dr. Roan was a true engineer's engineer. His personal example and teaching prowess made me want to be an engineer. He personally helped me when I struggled with his class. He agreed to be my Graduate Advisor in 1970. I was a student in 1969-1970 and truly enjoyed his classes and mentoring. Life circumstances (Vietnam) prevented me from attending UF for my graduate studies. I think of him often and know that my life was enriched by knowing this man. My sincere condolences to the family. May he rest in peace.

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**Bob Burgess - Jupiter, FL - Student** - October 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ RIP Vernon, you will be missed. Your warm sense of humanity, your humor, your dignity, your intellect...not to mention some wonderful racquetball games back in the day. A life well lived.

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**Bill Lear - Gainesville, FL** - October 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ I am deeply saddened for the loss of a dear colleague and a very dear friend for many years. In addition to being a great researcher and a wonderful teacher, Dr. Roan was a superb human being in all that those words embody in meaning. I send my very sincere condolences to his wife, children, grandchildren, and all his loved ones. I will miss Vernon sorely.

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**S.A. Sherif - Ocala, FL** - October 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM