



Vance Dwight Skowronski

August 19, 1943 - December 22, 2021

Vance passed away peacefully at Morrison House in Zanesville, OH on December 22, 2021. He was born Thursday, August 19, 1943 in Niagara Falls, NY the son of Walter Skowronski and Stella B. (Czechowski) Skowronski. He is survived by the love of his life Lynne (Butler), whom he married on Saturday, February 2, 1974.

Vance was adventurous and curious to learn new things. In college, he participated in sports and recreational activities. He was a graduate of the University of Dayton and retired from Wright -Patterson AFB as an Electrical Engineer after 37 years. As a young man, he obtained his pilot license to travel and was an avid reader in history and science. A father, Vance was active in the Boy Scouts of America, serving as Scout Master for many years. His pastime was spent researching and enjoying trains, specifically the N Gage model, and combining this interest with photography. He always had a camera in his hand. As a point of pride, Vance purported to remember every meal he had ever eaten in his 78 years of life. With his Boy Scout training, he was always prepared and if asked, could offer any tool from his car, camping equipment from the barn, or his two cents on any subject. Vance also took fashion cues from no one and seemed to always have a lottery ticket in his pocket. He was a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather and loved spending time with his family.

Vance was one of the four original members of the Great Lakes Exploration Group LLC. He was a vital part of the group's successful forty-year search in

the discovery of the Great Lakes first shipwreck, "Le Griffon," the flagship of French explorer Robert La Salle lost in 1679. Their story of discovery is chronicled in the recently published book, *Le Griffon and the Huron Islands, 1679*.

He had extreme pride in his surviving sons Michael (Carrie) of Zanesville, OH and Ryan (Ashley) of Lima, OH. He is survived in legacy by his six grandchildren: Kameron, Logan, Dylan, Madison, Alivia, Maddox and one brother, Dennis (Nancy) Skowronski of Farmington Hills, MI and a large extended family who will miss his contagious smile and presence dearly. A celebration of life service will be held at 1 PM on January 8, 2022 at the Hillis Combs & Nestor Funeral Home, 935 Forest Avenue in Zanesville. The family would like to thank the medical team at Genesis Hospital in Zanesville and the staff of Morrison House for their loving care and respect for the family. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Genesis Hospice Care, 713 Forest Ave., Zanesville, OH 43701 or St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 925 E Main St., Zanesville, OH 43701.

Previous Events

celebration of life

JAN 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home
935 Forest Avenue
Zanesville, OH 43701
(740) 452-5494
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Hillis Combs Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Vance Dwight Skowronski*



Hillis Combs Funeral Home - January 03, 2022 at 11:51 AM



“ *Vance Dwight Skowronski*

October 06, 2023 at 04:22 AM



“ *A wave of sadness passed through our family when Mike called David to tell him about Vance's passing. He was such a wonderfully joyful person and a big part of our lives in Ohio. We send our deepest condolences. -the Wilkins family*

The Wilkins Family - January 22, 2022 at 01:06 AM

KG

“Lynne, Michael, Ryan and all -- It's hard to imagine the idea of Vance not being around to roll by the house and hang out with Dad, laugh a lot and talk about airplanes and shipwrecks and whatever else came to mind. It's just heartbreaking for our family and so I can only imagine your pain.

I have so many wonderful memories of Vance — the epic Halloween parties I remember as a little girl, the wonderful, cheerful smile always on his face, the time he always had to sit and talk with us, and most of all the fantastic friend Vance was to my Dad for decades and decades. Dad is going to be bereft without him, and my Mom as well.

All of the Gruesbecks have loved y'all as family for so long. Please know that all of us here in Alabama — along with Mom, Dad, Billy and Erin and family — are thinking of you, are with you in spirit, and are sending our love your way.

*With all our love,
Kelly, Curt, Will and George Gwathney*

Kelly Gwathney - January 08, 2022 at 01:03 PM

TS

“ I will never forget visiting Uncle Vance and Aunt Lynn and Mike and Ryan for a Halloween party at their home as a little kid with my family, we laughed and played and caught fireflies at night in the fields around their property. We had jars and were running around like maniacs trying to catch them, and we did! There were so many! I remember some got loose in Mike's room (no comment!) And seeing them glow in the dark, it was Magic!

There was a party in the barn that some "monster" with a mask and dragging his foot came to and I don't remember the details, but I vividly remember being between the house and the barn and coming across this fellow dragging himself away from the party, devoted to the character, but I've always had a sneaking suspicion of who it was.....(my dad).

Thats what I remember of Uncle Vance. My dad's brother, both of them from the same stock, both DEVOTED to their families and willing to be silly to ensure their kids have a fun and great time.

Mike, Ryan, Lynn, words aren't sufficient but I'm sorry for your loss. Vance exuded the positive energy of Grandma, and Grandpa, and Ted, and my last thought is I'm happy my dad got to see yours one last time.

Todd Skowronski - January 08, 2022 at 10:42 AM

AM

Definitely one of my most vivid and lovely family memories as well. I've always loved fireflies since that day. I hope to someday throw Halloween parties for our kiddos in a similar fashion.

I'll always remember hearing the sound of Uncle Vances' barreling laugh and miss hearing our dads greet one another with, "braciszek".

-Amy

Amy - January 08, 2022 at 11:06 AM

MW

“ Dear Lynne and family,
We're so sorry to hear the loss of your husband. We share your grief at this very sad and difficult time.
Death leaves a heartache no one can heal. Love leaves a memory no one can steal.
You and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers.
With Sympathy, Marlene & Gerry Williams

Marlene Williams - January 06, 2022 at 08:49 PM

CC

“ Dear Lynne, Ryan, Michael and family,

Our hearts ache with yours as we lose another member of this great extended family. Although we didn't get together as often as we would have liked, we looked forward to spending time with all of you. Vance was a kind, entertaining and delightful cousin. He was never without a smile on his face and a warm and cheerful greeting. He was the kind of man who never met a stranger.

Vance could engage in any conversation. He clearly loved to learn. His eclectic mix of interests and hobbies made him one of the most interesting men we've known! He brought life to the party! But Vance's first passion was obviously his family!

Vance will be missed. We are praying with you and for you to keep your spirits high, as he would want you to do. We know each of you has sweet, funny and vivid memories of your father's/husband's life well lived. Hold them close to your hearts.

With much love and sympathy,
Carolye and Brett Czechowski

Carolye Czechowski - December 28, 2021 at 12:19 PM



MC

I am very sorry to hear about the death of Dwight. i remember him when my family visited Aunt Stella and Uncle Walt in Niagara Falls. The last time I spoke to him was at the time of Aunt Stella's passing. I learned about his passing from my cousins Patricia and Henry Frederick. My prayers are with his family.

Melvin H. Czechowski

Melvin Czechowski - January 07, 2022 at 01:38 PM