

Silent key– Ron Speirs K7RLS

Ron Speirs K7RLS, friend, teacher, and mentor, became a silent key on 22 September 2024.

Ron graduated from the University of Utah in Electrical Engineering and worked as an engineer at OEC Medical Systems with their fluoroscopic X-ray systems. He was an avid photographer who had his own dark room, and often developed his own photographs. Ron was a member of the Salt Lake Symphonic Choir, for which he played both piano and organ.

Although he was interested in amateur radio as a teenager, Ron didn't have any experienced friends or adults who could answer his questions or help him get started. Eventually, he got licensed in 1995 after a prodding from his son. Ron was perhaps best known as the *Microvolt* photographer, most recently as UARC Historian, and served occasionally as Net Control for the UARC Information Net. He was the local Extra Course instructor for many years, and was featured in the [Microvolt April 1999 issue](#). To many, he was the kind, helpful mentor everybody wanted to talk with.

Ron has been an institution at UARC. He has taught and elmered countless hams through formal classes and one-on-one mentoring. There is not much in the ham technologies with which Ron hadn't experimented and mastered. It was just a joy to spend time talking to Ron...he will be missed.

– Jeri Brummett WJ3RI

For many years, Ron was the photographer for the Microvolt. He used to always take pictures with his Minolta at Field Day, developed the slides at Field Day, Mount them, and then have a slideshow after the pot luck. He also took the photos for Member of the Month. He taught many hams and was just a delightful fellow.

– Brett Sutherland N7KG

Ron leaves behind his wife Judy and son Daland, along with a long legacy of friendship. You can read his obituary here : <https://starksfuneral.com/obituary/ronald-ron-leon-speirs/>

73, Ron. You'll be missed by so many.

