

Gift (\$1,000) In Memory of Beverly G. and Ronald C. Hatcher
Parents of Kurt M. Petersen
Parents In-Law of Tipparat (Joy) S. Petersen
Grandparents of Hockey Mentors Star and Participant Russell M. Petersen

Beverly G. and Ronald C. Hatcher were (are) the proud parents of Kurt M. Petersen, and the grandparents of Russell M. Petersen, one of today's 2024 Hockey Mentors participants. Russell has a developmental disability, and although Beverly (Mom) passed during Joy's pregnancy period with Russell, Mom would have loved Russell and his younger sibling equally, as she did Russell's older sibling. Yes, Russell has two siblings, and today it's all about Russell, and, for that matter, Grandpa Ron and Grandma Bev Hatcher.

Beverly (Grandma) was a reporter for The Royal Oak Daily Tribune (Dad's hometown, as well as Russell's) for a number of years, having numerous articles written and published on the Front and succeeding pages of the periodical throughout her many years there. Grandma went on, professionally, to work for The Detroit News, as a restaurant reporter, and the entire Metropolitan area knew who Bev was (smile), and, of course, always prepared the BEST dishes for Bev and Ron to share, and for Bev to write about subsequently in the newspaper. Grandma graduated with a Bachelor's in Journalism from a major Ohio university.

Ron (Grandpa) was a mechanical engineer, having graduated from Lawrence Technological University. He was dedicated to his mechanical engineering profession, and he and Grandma enjoyed, among other things, hunting, fishing, archery, and the like. In fact, the two of them met at MJR Archery on Rochester Road, just south of 13 Mile Road, in nearby Royal Oak.

Both Bev and Ron, who were the mother and stepdad of Kurt (father of Russell) welcomed Kurt back from the Great War known as Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield (Gulf War), where the United States Armed Forces (The USA and its Allied Forces) decisively won the strategic War. Kurt is also an Overseas Wartime Veteran of The Cold War...along with The Gulf War. In fact, his first day of U.S. Air Force Basic Training was the day the Berlin Wall began to fall...November 9th, 1989. Kurt received all Honorable discharges from the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Air Force Reserves. He earned the Basic Military Training ribbon, Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, Outstanding Unit Ribbon With Two Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Medal, and Good Conduct Medal, while serving Active Duty Air Force. He also obtained Officer status. Bev and Ron were rightfully concerned about Kurt's welfare during the Gulf War, as he humbly cross trained and volunteered (in a paid Military payroll position) as Security Police Augmentee, out of his usual Civil Engineering work. Kurt later went on to USAFR and served as a Mental Health Service Apprentice (Medic).

Kurt and Joy are the proud parents of Russell, and will be joining Russell today, along with the blessed Christian memory of Bev and Ron Hatcher. May they Rest In Peace in Heaven with The Lord.