

**BIOGRAPHY OF
RONALD L. HICKS
GRAND EXALTED RULER
2015 – 2016**

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the U.S.A.

Ronald L. (Ron) Hicks was born, and continues to live, in Fredericksburg, Virginia. The son of M. Emory Hicks and the late Annie Mae Hicks, he has one sister, Carole Anne Hicks. He graduated from Spotsylvania High School in 1964. Also a graduate of Chowan Junior College (now Chowan University) in North Carolina and Lynchburg College in Virginia, he received his law degree from the University of Richmond Law School, Richmond, VA, in 1972.

Ron has practiced law in the Fredericksburg Area for over 40 years, currently serving Of Counsel to the law firm of Jarrell Hicks & Waldman. He is retired from the active practice of law, devoting most of his time to other business interests, including Jarrell Properties, LLC, a residential and commercial development and management company. Throughout his legal career, he maintained a general practice, with emphasis on criminal and civil litigation, corporate and real estate law. Ron's law office, built circa 1790 and located at Spotsylvania Courthouse, was the headquarters for Confederate General Jubal Early during nearby battles of the Civil War. Fredericksburg is proudly known as "America's Most Historic City" and the Fredericksburg Area is filled with history of the Colonial, Revolutionary and Civil War periods.

Ron served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for Union Bank & Trust Company and Union Bankshares Corporation for 25 years, and currently serves as Vice-Chairman of the Bankshares Board and is serving on its Executive and Compensation Committees. Ron is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Riverside Center for the Performing Arts and serves on the Board of Trustees of Chowan University. In addition, Ron has served, or is serving, on numerous other community, civic and business Boards and Committees. He is a former member of the Virginia Army Air National Guard.

An avid golfer and sports fan, Ron played baseball throughout his college years, and has coached many youth sports teams in baseball, softball, basketball, and soccer, including select or travel teams. A former President of the Battlefield Basketball Officials Association, he has refereed youth, high school, and adult basketball, and umpired youth baseball and softball.

Ron was initiated into Fredericksburg, Virginia, Lodge #875 in February, 1972. He has served on numerous Committees, including the House Committee and Board of Trustees, advanced through the Officer Chairs, and served as Exalted Ruler in 2002-03. He served as Chairman or Co-Chairman for a number of Lodge construction projects, including the construction a new Lodge facility in 1997, and as Co-Chairman of the Lodge's 100-year Celebration in 2003. A former Elk of the Year, he is an Honorary Life Member, and remains very active in the Lodge. He is also an Associate Member of Orlando, Florida, Lodge #1079.

At the State Level, Ron became active with the Virginia Elks Association with his appointment as Association Inner Guard. He has served as State Legal Advisor and on numerous Committees, Vice-President of the Central District, and was elected Virginia State President in 2009. He has been recognized by the Association as Officer of the Year and Elk of the Year, won the Eleven O'clock Toast Contest, and currently serves as Chairman of the VEA Board of Trustees and as General Chairman of the State Orientation Committee.

At the Grand Lodge Level, Ron has served as District Deputy for the Central District of Virginia and as a Certified Ritual Judge. In 2005, he was appointed to the Committee On Judiciary, representing Area 3, an experience that introduced him to, and allowed him to work with, many Lodges and Elk members throughout the Southeastern United States, as well as other areas of the Country.

In 2010, Ron was elected to a four-year term on the Board of Grand Trustees, serving as Chairman of the Board in 2013-2014. While on the Board, he was appointed to serve as Building Applications – East Member, Investment and Pension Member, and Home Member prior to his election as Chairman. During his time on the Board, he worked diligently with other Board Members to resolve significant issues at the Elks National Home in Bedford, VA. This effort resulted in the Home being opened to the public in 2012 to help increase the number of residents, and led to its eventual sale in August 2014.

Ron married his high school sweetheart, Nancy Jeanne Camper, on April 12, 1969, and they are now celebrating 46 wonderful and eventful years together. Ron and Nancy have three children, Joseph, Jason and Anne Kathryn, and they have been further blessed with eight grandchildren. Nancy, Joseph and Jason are also members of the Fredericksburg Elks Lodge, and Joseph and Jason are both Past Exalted Rulers of the Lodge. Ron and Nancy are life-long members of Fairview Baptist Church.

“ELKS PRIDE – COMMUNITY FOCUS”

GER-RLH Biography