

Dr. Ronald A. Parise WA4SIR - *1951-2008* It is with pleasure to add Ron to our VIP's because of his local connection and Western Reserve Pride. Born in 1951, Warren, Ohio, to Mr. & Mrs. Henry Parise. Mom & dad both licensed hams and local Warren Amateur Radio Association members.

Ronald a 1969 grad of Western Reserve High, Warren, Oh., received his bachelor of science degree in physics, with minors in mathematics, astronomy and geology, Youngstown State Univ in 1973; then a master of science and doctor of philosophy degree in astronomy, Univ of Florida 1977 and 1979 respectively.

Upon graduation, Dr. Parise accepted a position at Operations Research Inc. Where he was involved in developing avionics requirements definitions and performing failure mode analyses for several NASA missions. In 1980 he began work at Computer Sciences Corp. In the International Ultraviolet Explorer operations center as a data management scientist and in 1981 became the section manager of IUE hardcopy facility. In 1981 he began work on the development of a new Spacelab experiment called the Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope. His responsibilities, flight hardware and software development, electronic system design and mission planning activities for the UIT project. In 1984 a selection by NASA as a payload specialist in support of the newly formed Astro mission series.

At the completion of the Astro program Dr. Parise assumed an advanced planning and communications engineering support role for a variety of human space flight projects including MIR, International Space Station and X-38. He then was engaged in a number of astronomical research projects.

A veteran of two space flights, Dr. Parise has logged more than 614 hours and 10.6 million miles in space. He served as a payload specialist aboard STS-35 and STS-67 in 1990 and 1995 respectively.



Ron is married to the former Cecila M. Sokol of Youngstown, Ohio. They have two children.

He enjoys amateur radio, flying, scuba diving, sailing, hiking and camping. His special honors and awards are many. Partially scripted from NASA biographical data.

Added; We are sad to report our subject after a 3 year fight with cancer expired at age 56 in 2008. He rests at Union Cemetery Burtonsville, MD.

W8SU 2007 added 2017