

## **Organic Bytes** • Weekly Newsletter of the Organic Consumers Association

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## Remembering Ronnie Cummins

## A Note About the Life of Ronnie Cummins

Think Regeneration writes:

"In the two minute clip above, you will get an intimate picture of Ronnie Cummins, and the unique way he could teach others about the mindset of a regenerative leader.

In this clip, the co-founder of the Organic Consumers Association and Regeneration International sat on stage in 2017 with Acres USA's long-time owner, Fred Walters, who asked Vandana Shiva, and André Leu, a question about "How, in the face of all you see, do you stay positive and happy?" at the end of the keynote presentation at the Eco-Ag Conference & Trade Show. I was leaning against the wall in awe of the conversation on stage, and Ronnie truly brought it home with his answer. Like he was prone to do, Ronnie made us think, and then made us laugh. And then he gave us hope.

Here's what he said in 2017:

"I don't feel the least bit tired you, know. But I think there's a I think there's an inner planetary force out there that when you get opened up to it, you get this strength, and it makes you smile all the time. And I believe that we can tap into this force and that will make us invincible. You know, it's hard to always feel that force—that solidarity that compassion that whatever it is—I don't know exactly what it is—but most of the time it's there. And this is a big universe—we don't understand what's going on totally, we don't understand where it came from or where it's going or everything in it, but I think it's worthwhile trying to cultivate personal health. You know, mental and physical, and getting out in nature, and being in contact with beauty and the sacredness of it all, and maybe the sacred herbs, too, I mean I've always been a believer in the sacred herbs, but that's why I'm a happy guy.

"I mean, I'm going to die at some point, but hopefully not before we won. But I actually think I'm going to come back in some form. I'm not sure what it is, but I'm going to come back to enjoy the fruits of my labor and all of our labor, so I look forward to seeing you in any of those forms."

While he died last week of cancer, his legacy should be known through the regenerative movement. We can thank him for helping create healthier foods for millions of people and teaching thousands of farmers how to grow organically. His impact was generational, {and} enormous.

Ronnie was a fierce believer in individual freedom. He was controversial in his beliefs about the Covid vaccine, and was not afraid to call out the large corporate polluters for their lack of care for humanity. Yet, through all his writings and teaching, the thread of kindness and the connectedness of life, was consistent."

Read: Ronnie's Official Obituary: https://bit.ly/3Mfgamd

## **Tributes**

"Ronnie was a pioneer in highlighting the necessity of organic regenerative farming and foods to counter the negative impact on human health from shortsighted agricultural practices driven by chemical industry greed.

"Ronnie and I worked side-by-side as allies for most of the last 40 years. He had a clear vision about the links between environmental degradation, the subversion of democracy and the dangerous rise of corporate power.

"His buoyant optimism about human nature and the resilience of our planet always energized me, even in the face of the most disheartening defeats. His indefatigable spirit, humor and his merciless work ethic enabled him to educate and inspire multiple generations of environmental warriors to pursue a healthy lifestyle and to demonstrate the courage to speak out against growing industrial ravages to our environment."

- Robert F Kennedy Jr.

"A true friend and partner, Ronnie Cummins is a legend."

- Dr. Joesph Mercola

"Warrior, Visionary, Leader, Amigo, World changer, Elder Brother, Collaborator, Dutch farmer, Hippie, Radical Idealist, Oracle.... Just a few words to describe the legendary Ronnie Cummins, International Director of the Organic Consumers Association who sadly left us this week. Ronnie, amigo, soar with the eagles and we will listen out for your guidance."

- Alliance for Natural Health International

"I'm still in shock and deeply saddened by his passing. Ronnie was a genius, a brilliant mind, an inspirational leader, and a strongly principled change agent who promoted regenerative organic agriculture and fought against corruption and corporate greed. He was a wonderful and very close friend. I'll miss him."

- Andre Leu

"Ronnie was a mentor, teacher, and friend. Two summers ago. while he was visiting western North Carolina, I was lucky enough to be asked to be Ronnie's "driver" for a couple of days as he met with colleagues, friends & OCA supporters. Not only did Ronnie teach me about regenerative farming and his agave project but he shared tips on the best ways to grow & raise funds for our 501(c) 3. I was like a student at the feet of a master soaking up all his advice and wisdom, True to his nature, we also had some good laughs and in the evening we toasted the blessings of this life with a wee bit of a very nice tequila.

I consider Ronnie to be one of the greatest leaders of the health, freedom & awakened activists Movement. He stood for freedom. He fought for justice, and he lived each day appreciating the gifts of Mother Nature. I feel blessed I had that time with Ronnie . I will never forget him."

- Maura McDonnell - MAMM