



Ralph Edward Milford

January 13, 1941 - February 2, 2024

Ralph E. Milford was born January 13, 1941 to Elmer L. and Mary (Harting) Milford. He died on February 2, 2024 at his home with family, friends and his much-loved cats by his side. He graduated from Marquette Catholic High School and SIU Edwardsville. He spent 3 years in the Army Reserves. Ralph worked for over 40 years at St. Joseph's, St. Clare's, and St. Anthony's hospital. He was very proud of his service there.

He married Peggy J. Ursch on April 10, 1976. She passed away June 14, 2019. He is survived by his three step daughters; Karen Fitzgerald, Ann (Bill) Rowan, and Sally (Mollie Fedor) Ursch, seven step grandchildren; Patrick, Jeanne, Thomas, Michael, David Fitzgerald, and Scott and Chad Monroe and nine step-great grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Helen (Bob Riecker) Elliott and brother David (Claudia) Milford. Six nephews and one niece. Tye, Hedy, Brian, and Brett Elliott and Eric, Vincent, and David Milford 24 great nieces and nephews and 2 great great nieces. In addition to his wife and parents he was preceded in death by his 2 brothers Ronnie and Michael.

Ralph had a wide variety of interests in his younger years he played soccer and tennis. He owned a speed boat and drove a red convertible Thunderbird. He played Guitar. He had a remarkable knowledge of classical music. He

propagated native grasses and grew milkweed for butterflies. Had hives of bees for many years and had a beautiful garden. Ralph loved all animals.

Above all else, Ralph was a very humble and gentle soul. His goal everyday was to “be better and do better” than he’d done the day before. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Dr. John Hoelscher. Special friends Marci Wendel, Goldie Clarke, and Homer Davis. And all of Ralph’s wonderful neighbors.

A Mass of celebration will be held at St. Mary’s Catholic Church. Visitation from 10:00 am until services at 11:00 on Saturday April 13, 2024 at the church.

Ralph would appreciate donations to The Nature Institutes, The Catholic Medical Missions Board or Masses.

The family is being served by Gent Funeral Home 2409 State Street, Alton, Illinois 62002.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
4th and Henry Street
Alton, IL 62002

Memorial Service

APR 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
4th and Henry Street
Alton, IL 62002

Tribute Wall

KK

“ *Sympathy and prayers to Ralph's family. He was a very nice guy who will be missed.*

Karen Krueger - May 06, 2024 at 11:53 PM

RL

“ *I remember Ralph from St. Clares always nice and friendly, sorry for your loss.*

Rosemary Lando - April 13, 2024 at 07:09 PM

RT

“ *Ralf was one of the kindest. I enjoyed working with him at St. Clair's and St Anthony's. We had many talks and he was the only person that called me Regina Celeste. My first and middle name. I never heard him say nothing but kind things about everyone. And he was a perfectionist with his painting. Prayers to all of his family.*

Regina Talbert - April 12, 2024 at 11:03 AM

JT

“ *Heartfelt condolences... □*

Rick & Jill Trudell



Jill Trudell - April 09, 2024 at 08:43 PM

PE

“ I worked with Ralph at St. Joseph's Hospital for many years. He was always willing to help and any project he undertook was done to perfection. Ralph was always kind and polite, and never had a bad thing to say about anyone.

Paula Eccles-Raymond - February 16, 2024 at 01:50 PM

BH

“ Ralph was a very kind and delightful person. I enjoyed growing up in the neighborhood and truly appreciated the warm welcome I always received when visiting the Ursch/Milford family. He was a very talented furniture restorer and I was so inspired. My sympathies to the Ursch/ Milford/Fitzgerald families.

Bonnie Hindelang - February 15, 2024 at 01:32 PM

EG

“ Ralph and I worked at St. Joseph's and St. Clare's hospital for many years together. I admired his perfectionism as a painter. I truly enjoyed our friendship together and will always think of him as one of my best friends
Eugene Gotway

Eugene Gotway - February 10, 2024 at 04:08 PM

MM

“ So sorry to hear about Ralph's passing. He was such a gentle soul. Would pass him during my walks with the grandkids when he walked his dog and enjoyed our little chats. He always took the time to stop. My sincere condolences to the Ursch and Milford families.
Mary Ann Morris

Mary Ann Morris - February 10, 2024 at 12:04 PM