



Ralph W. Swank, Jr

May 13, 1947 - August 3, 2017

Ralph W. Swank, Jr. 70, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, Aug. 3, 2017 at his home in Vernon Hills. He was born May 13, 1947 in Greencastle, IN and has been a Libertyville and Vernon Hills resident since 1973. He was a 1965 graduate of Waukegan Township High School and a 1969 graduate of DePauw University where he was a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity.

Ralph began his professional career with the Swank Insurance Agency in Waukegan and became the president of the Statewide Insurance Agency. He was also a past president of the IL Independent Insurance Agents. He was a US Air Force officer during the Vietnam War, and a member of St. Lawrence Episcopal Church in Libertyville where he was an active member of the men's group. Ralph was also a Libertyville Township Supervisor for 8 years.

Surviving are his wife Betsy Swank; 2 daughters, Lisa (Tom) Bako and Sarah (Brian) Mullen; 5 grandchildren, Matthew, Abby, Libby, Sean and Kate; his siblings, Bryan (Mary), Wayne (Sheila), Jay (Betty), Rod (Alice), Darryl (Kim), Stuart (Annette), Sue (Mark) Pecher, Marianne (Van) Buehler and his uncle Lee Swank, MD.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Mildred Swank, Sr.

Funeral services will be held at 10 am Tues. Aug. 8 at St. Lawrence Episcopal Church, 125 W. Church St. Libertyville. Interment will be in the church columbarium. Visitation will also be at the church from 4 to 7 pm on Monday. Memorial contributions can be made to either St. Lawrence Church or the Anthony Rizzo Pediatric Cancer Foundation. Info: 847-362-3009 or

please sign the guest book at www.burnettdane.com.

Tribute Wall

BD

“ *Cathy and I feel privileged to meet Ralph at his and Betsy's home this year. He is so full of life! The world is a better and happier place because of people like Ralph. Our prayers are with Ralph, Betsy and the extended family.*

Bill & Cathy Dugovich - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

PK

“ *So sorry for your loss. I have only fond memories of working with Ralph so many years ago. He was a great guy and will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Love Patti*

Patti La Parr Keisler - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

MW

“ *As a kid visiting Marianne whenever Ralph was home he would always sing the Beatles song " Michelle ma belle". He was so much older than Marianne and I but he was always nice and fun. Of course he was always nice and welcoming through the years. He and his family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Michelle (Deal) Wilson - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

DG

“ *Our hearts go out to the entire Swank family. Remember the laughter, smiles and all you've shared. May your wonderful memories of Ralph, ease your sorrow. With our sympathy,Dave & Bette*

Dave & Bette Gutantes - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

LH

“ *Betsy- our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family! How sad! Leigh & Jim Hamer*

Leigh Hamer - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

CS

“ *We will miss you!*

Cecelia & David Secor - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

RR

“ *Ralph as a good fiend and we had many good times together along with Betsy when he was President of Independent Agents of Illinois. They took us to our first Cubs game at Wrigley Field and we have been "Cubs" fan since. Our thoughts and Prayers goes out to Betsy and family.*

Roy Robinson - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

BM

“ *Betsy and family,Walt and I are reeling at the news of Ralph's passing. It just doesn't seem possible. Our heartfelt thoughts are with you, the children, and grandchildren. Know you are in our prayers.AX love,Barbara*

Barbara Manning - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

DB

“ *I am so sorry for your loss.*

Debbie Buff - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

SS

“ I went to middle school with Ralph and immediately fell in love. I guess we were about 12-13. I remember he was one of my first boyfriends. He kissed me once at Powell Park. I came home, flung myself on my bed and sobbed. Finally my mother came in and asked what was wrong...I told her I was pregnant. She patiently asked for more details. She was so relieved to learn that we had only kissed on the lips....Ralph was definitely one of the good guys. RIP my friend...

Sherry Simmons - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

JS

“ Betsy, our thoughts, prayers, and sympathy are with you and your family. So sorry for your loss.

Jan and Jerry Seiler - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

MW

“ You have our family's deepest heartfelt sympathies ...I have fond memories of both our high school days as well as our ball playing days on the field ...Best wishes ...

Michael Wade - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

KS

“ We are very sorry for your loss. Our family is keeping your family in our thoughts and prayers.

Kathy Larsen Sivia - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM



“ I am so sorry for our loss of classmate Ralph who at our high school reunions had a smile & laugh that lit up the room, an arm around someone's shoulder, telling stories. I have your family in my thoughts and prayers knowing how much all of you will miss him, such a sparkle - a good and generous man. God Bless. Sue Dietmeyer Nightingale Saint Paul

June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM



“ Betsy. My heartfelt condolences to you and your family. I will forever treasure the great times we had at the race track and Grand Victoria. Ralph was a true friend and dedicated family man and will be missed. Gods peace...Monika Worlin-Meixelsperger

Monika Meixelsperger - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM



“ So many memories of Ralph going back to our grade school days at North School, and up until a couple of years ago, at our last high school reunion. He was the first person to greet me at the yacht club that night, and we talked about old times over drinks. Couldn't believe all the memories we shared, and the things he remembered. He was a special person. My sincere condolences to Ralph's family and friends for your loss. He will be missed.

Vern Naden - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM



“ Had Ralph in homeroom and several classes all through HS. Always had fun with him, he never seemed to be in a down mood. Condolences to his whole family. Great Guy!Dan Swanson

June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

JS

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with tge entire Swank family.*

John and Terry Sivia - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

WM

“ *We are shocked to hear your brother Ralph has passed so unexpectedly. Please accept our deepest sympathy on your loss and that you and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers.*

Wayne/Barbara Mitzel - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

RL

“ *As a child the Swank house was like family. Sleepovers and dinners, Michigan getaways. The adults laughing, carrying on, arguing over politics. My memories of Ralph are a generous man with a great laugh and sense of humor. A grill master wearing his latest apron and flipping some fine steaks. Called me "Reetz" as long as I can remember- that was Ralph. A nickname to make you feel special, a joke at the ready while being a great host. I know he is going to be truly missed by his entire family. My heart goes out to the Swank clan.*

Rita Lillydahl - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

JS

“ *So very sorry to learn of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all the family, wishing you peace at this time of loss. God bless you all. Love, Jo Ann Shonefelt & family*

Jo Ann Shonefelt - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

TC

“ *I'm so my friends..... there are no words that I can say to help your pain. The Radzik family sends their love and prayers.*

Tammy Radzik Castro - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

SM

“ So very sorry for your loss. Many wonderful memories of days in the Sigma Nu House at DePauw. Ralph was one of a kind, will be greatly missed and never forgotten. RIP my friend.

Steve Murray - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

LW

“ I am so sorry to hear the sad news. Ralph was a alright good guy. I considered him a good friend in Waukegan High school East Campus. He was a kind soul with a good heart. I know he will be dearly missed.My Deepest Sympathy,Larry Walker class of 1965

Lawrence Walker - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

RJ

“ A devoted husband, incredible dad, proud grandfather and my very dear friend. Words just can't express how much you mean to so many.Fly low and slow Jr.

Reid Jacobson - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

RR

“ We lived next door to you on Fairlawn and really enjoyed all of the conversations we had with Ralph. He was such a warm and friendly individual. It was so very nice to have known him.Rest in Peace Ralph,Very Sincerely, Robin and Saul

Robin and Saul Rosenberg - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

TG

“ So sorry to hear the news. New him from church and school,altho hadn't seen him for a number of years.

Tom Grutzmacher - June 29, 2018 at 11:43 AM

DS

“ May God keep you in His loving care during your time of sorrow. I know I live far away but if you need to talk to someone who has lost the love of their life I am here for you. Ralph Jr. and Mike can now have a few beers together again and enjoy a ballgame. Again, you are all in my prayers.

Dianne Scavarda - April 27, 2018 at 04:11 AM

TT

“ To Stuart and Susan and the Swank Family,I am so sorry for your loss of Ralph. You and your family are in my prayers. May Heavenly Father bless you with comfort and His love always, but especially at this very sad time. Sincerely,Terri Tiernan-Maguire

Terri Tiernan-Maguire - April 27, 2018 at 04:11 AM

PL

“ My heartfelt condolences and warmest regards to Ralph's family. He was a truly great classmate and a wonderful and really fun Prom date. I will always remember him as one of the nicest and best in our class at WTHS.

Patricia (Niemi) Leinweber - April 27, 2018 at 04:11 AM

SD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Swank family at this time.

Sue Keating and Keith Donovan - April 27, 2018 at 04:11 AM

MZ

“ Dear Swank Family,As we walk and run thorough this temporal plane, (it has become a stroll for some of us), by chance or by divine design we meet some special people along the way. Ralph was one of those people. He had a kind word for me at our last meeting and I shall not forget the genuine person that he was. Sincere condolences to you all.Mike Zupan Class of 65'

Michael Zupan - April 27, 2018 at 04:11 AM

WH

“ Dear Betsy and family,I am so stunned and saddened to learn of Ralph's sudden passing from our midst. His darling personality was 100% hometown, easy to know and genuine. Betsy, your devotion and support of him was always so clearly evident to me; such a grand match. My heart goes out to you and may our Heavenly Father wrap is His arms around you to comfort and protect your heart. And gratitude for your dear grandchildren being near.

Willard Helander - April 27, 2018 at 04:11 AM

BB

“ Betsy ~ I just learned of Ralph's passing. It says "unexpected." As you know, I can unfortunately relate. I look forward to talking with you about the path we're now traveling. Bauerbetty@comcast.net. Sending you and your family sympathy and love... from Meridian, Idaho ~ where I moved this year. Bj

Bj Bauer - April 27, 2018 at 04:11 AM

SC

“ So sorry for your loss...I grew up with Ralph at school and at the First Methodist Church... He was fun to be around.

Sandy (Hibbard) Callaway - September 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ So very sorry to hear of Ralph's passing. I remember Ralph from elementary school...always a really nice guy! He will be missed.

August 11, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Prayers for the family.cdynt

August 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Ralph W. Swank, Jr

August 06, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Ralph, Betsy, Lisa & Sarah were four of the best friends we made along w/many during the process of Larry going through the chairs of the IIAI. Our families did many things together and built a strong tie in our private lives along w/the professional ones. To this day, we talk about the Swank family and reminisce w/joy & laughter in our hearts.Betsy, Lisa, Sarah & family, we are w/you in loving spirit as you go through this very heartbreaking time. Know you are in our thoughts, prayers always.Love,Linda Rollings & FamilyTiffany, James, Riley & Jackson; Becky, Jimmy & JD; and Molly

Linda Rollings - March 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ A great friend to me. A truly wonderful person. Never heard him say a bad word about anyone. Always positive and good humored. So sorry he is gone. Sympathy to family and friends.

Randy Stone - March 05, 2017 at 12:00 AM