

Ralph Milford

Alton | Friday, 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.

Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until a Mass of celebration at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Alton. Burial will follow at St. Patrick’s Cemetery in Godfrey.

Ralph would appreciate donations to The Nature Institutes, The Catholic Medical Missions Board or Masses. Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com.