



Ralph Butler

January 5, 1929 - March 19, 2018

Ralph A. Butler was born, alongside his identical twin Raymond, January 5, 1929 to Tom and Catherine Butler of rural Dunnegan, MO. Like so many, barefoot and bib-overalled , they were steeped in hard times and hard work. Having attended one room school houses like Plum Grove, it was at Humansville High School where he met, at 15 years old, Glendena Squibb his future wife of 45 years. Their son is Jim Butler of Springfield, MO.

The only time he left his beloved Ozarks, is when he was deployed to Korea, where he experienced intense combat and was awarded the Purple Heart. He returned to his new bride's family farm, near Rondo, to begin its' purchase. Her family arrived in the area, a half a mile away in 1838.

Despite drought, and other setbacks, he persevered on the land he never left until the day he died. He transformed a stressed farm into a showcase. Early on, the soy bean, corn, and hogs supplemented the dairy and beef cattle. He would serve area landowners by mowing, raking, and bailing hay and as well as extensive combining of fescue seed. He worked most decades, from 4:30 in the morning until after 9 at night. His skill set included building and repairing in all aspects of carpentry, farm machinery, automotive, electronics, welding and most any other practical skill. His work product was first rate. He believed the quality of a man's work reflected on his character.

He was a member of the Rondo Baptist Church, Masonic Lodge, and the National Rifle Association. He also served on the MFA Board of Directors for Bolivar, Stockton, Weaubleau, and Lowry City, as well as the Mid-America Dairy Co-op and the Soil and Water District.

He liked quail hunting and fishing for bass. He had a soft spot for Blue Healer cattle dogs. He enjoyed old time country music and dancing. He admired John Wayne and laughed at Barney Fife. He was a steadfast supporter of Law Enforcement in their time of challenge. But he loved the American flag and he risked his life defending it. He among others, realized the greatness of this country and the goodness of it's people and was proud to stand against any who would tear it down.

He was good to all he met, kind and charitable. He savored life's simple pleasures and was of strong character. His memory will continue to warm the hearts of those who knew him and will hear of him. He is survived by his wife, Cathy Butler of the home; son, Jim Butler; stepsons, Aaron and his wife Tara Routh, Jeremy and his wife Jennifer Routh, Nathan Routh and Lyndsy Gudde, Adam and his wife Mishala Routh, Andy Routh; grandchildren, Jackson, Tate, Dylan, Addison, Brayden and Mason Routh, and Brittany and Jacob Jennings; Great-grandchildren Greyson and Cam Jennings Funeral Services for Ralph Butler will be held Friday, March 23, 2018 at 10 AM at Butler Funeral Home in Bolivar, MO. Visitation will be held Thursday, March 22, 2018 from 5-7 PM at Butler Funeral Home in Bolivar, MO.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **22**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar
407 E. Broadway
Bolivar, MO 65613
(417) 326-5233
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR **23**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar
407 E. Broadway
Bolivar, MO 65613
(417) 326-5233
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Ralph Butler*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Ralph Butler*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Dick and Peggy Howell convey our deepest sympathy's to Kathy and family. We also loved the fish fry and dances. We also loved visiting with Ralph and he and Dick shared many stories. About serving in the military. Kathy may you and the family know we are thinking of you*

Peggy and Dick Howell - March 24, 2018 at 11:29 AM



“ *We watched Ralph & Cathy dance many times at dances where Jim played. I enjoyed visiting with them and taking pictures during the dance. Beautiful people!!
Our thoughts and prayers go out to Cathy and Family. God Bless,
Jim & Marilyn Johnson,
once part of the "Moonshiner's".*

Marilyn Johnson - March 22, 2018 at 10:49 AM



“ *So sorry to hear the news. I always valued his advice and friendship. Ralph will be missed. Anne and Kelly Grant*

Kelly Grant - March 22, 2018 at 10:12 AM

TM

“ *The Allison Family - Marcella, Tony, Amy, Marty, Doris purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Ralph Butler .*



The Allison Family - Marcella, Tony, Amy, Marty, Doris - March 21, 2018 at 12:10 PM

WD

“ *With much love, Susie Butler Dodd and Bob Dodd purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Ralph Butler .*



With much love, Susie Butler Dodd and Bob Dodd - March 21, 2018 at 10:06 AM

SB

“ *My dear uncle was such a strong man - of character as well as might. A war hero, and one of my favorite people on the planet. I'm sure he and my dad have already launched a fishing trip in heaven. Love to you Cathy - you took such good care of him. And to Jim - so sorry you've lost your dad.*

Susie Butler Dodd

Susie Butler - March 21, 2018 at 09:59 AM

RB

“ *Very sorry to hear of the passing of Ralph a very good man that will be sadly missed. Ronnie & Cindy Bruce*

Ronnie & Cindy Bruce - March 20, 2018 at 08:06 PM

LF

“ *Leondra Hall & Theunissen Family purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of Ralph Butler .*



Leondra Hall & Theunissen Family - March 20, 2018 at 03:54 PM

BS

“ *Dear Kathy and Jim:*

I wish to extend my heartfelt condolences to you and your family. Few people have achieved the position of respect and high esteem which Ralph enjoyed for so many years in his community. His absence will be felt by many for years to come.

Betty Shelton

Betty Shelton - March 20, 2018 at 03:42 PM