

RALPH HOLZER



Ralph Holzer, a cherished husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and respected educator, passed away peacefully on April 23, 2024, at the age of 83. Born on March 29, 1941, in Pittsburgh, PA, Ralph's life was a testament to his dedication to family, education, and the community he so dearly loved.

Ralph's journey began as the beloved son of the late Ralph and Marie Holzer. His early years in Pittsburgh set the stage for a life full of learning and teaching. After graduating from Duquesne University and earning a Master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Ralph embarked on a distinguished career in education. For 39 years, he inspired countless students as an English teacher at Bishop Canevin High School, leaving an indelible mark on the minds and hearts of those he taught, which led him to be inducted into the Canevin's Ring of Honor in 2011. As well as being a teacher, Ralph also inspired many athletes throughout his years as a wrestling coach and Athletic Director.

Beyond the classroom, Ralph's leadership extended to his role as manager of Settlers Cabin Wave Pool and as a Ranger at the South Park Golf Course. His dedication to these positions reflected his love for community and the great outdoors.

Ralph's passion for history was evident in his love for reading, particularly books on World War II and the Civil War. This interest was more than a hobby; it was a way of connecting with the past and understanding the complexities of human experience.

A devoted husband, Ralph was married to his loving wife, Andrea Holzer, for 61 remarkable years. Together, they built a family foundation that was strong, loving, and supportive. Ralph's legacy lives on through his children: Ralph (Colette) Holzer, Danny (Carol) Holzer, Michael (Jodie) Holzer, Michele (Mike) Ringling, and Stephanie (Josh) Shosky. He was a guiding light in their lives, instilling values of integrity, perseverance, and compassion.

Ralph's joy multiplied as he became a grandfather to Deana (Cellus) Irving, Taylor Childers, Madison (Darian) Greb, Mackenzie Childers, Nathan Childers, Riley Holzer, Ava Haberstock, Addison Haberstock, Michael, Kevin (Micale), and Sara Ringling. The family circle grew even wider with the arrival of his great-grandsons, Cameron and Cooper Irving, and Eli Ringling. Each of these individuals was touched by Ralph's wisdom, humor, and unconditional love.

Ralph's sister, Patricia Walker, will fondly remember her brother's unwavering support and the close bond they shared throughout their lives.

An avid golfer, Ralph spent many a day on the greens, relishing the game's challenges and camaraderie. His love for golf was paralleled only by his enjoyment of family vacations to Ocean City, where memories were made and cherished by all.

Ralph's commitment to his family was matched by his enthusiasm for following his children's and grandchildren's sports and activities. He was their biggest fan, celebrating their achievements and offering encouragement during times of challenge.

Ralph Holzer's life was one of purpose and impact. His influence extended far beyond his immediate family, touching the lives of students, athletes, colleagues, and friends. His was a life well-lived, full of love, laughter, and the pursuit of knowledge. As we bid farewell to Ralph, we celebrate a life that was rich in experience and abundant in love. His story does not end here, for his legacy will continue to resonate through the lives of those he touched.

Family and friends are welcome for visitation on Thursday, April 25, 2024 from 2 pm - 6 pm and Friday, April 26, 2024 from 2 pm - 7 pm at the **JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME**, 301 Curry Hollow Road, Pittsburgh 15236. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, April 27 at 10 am at Triumph of the Holy Cross Parish, St. Thomas A'Becket Worship Site, 139 Gill Hall Road, Clairton, PA 15025.

Online condolences may be shared at www.jeffersonmemorial.com.



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