



Ray and Bonnie Ridgley

March 15, 2020

Ray Sterling Ridgley and Bonnie Lou Ridgley

Ray Sterling Ridgley, aged 73, and Bonnie Lou Hollingsworth Ridgley, aged 64 died March 15, 2020. Ray was at Stafford County Hospital battling a recent illness while Bonnie, after learning of his passing, was rushed to Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg where she died that morning of a broken heart. They started dating in 1977 and were married in 1992.

Ray was born April 17, 1946 on the Fitzwater Farm in Nokesville. Except for a tour of duty in Korea with the US Army, he spent his entire life in the Nokesville area. He was the only son of Ira Gilbert and Violet Pearl Ridgley, and was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Hilda Florence Blank and Virginia Lee Rowe, and is survived by his sister, Elsie Lavenus Lunsford (Bobby) of Glen Allen.

Together, Ray and Bonnie were preceded in death by son James R. Jenkins. They are survived by son Robert T. Jenkins of Casanova, grandchildren Willa Coxen, Payton Buhl, and Thomas Jenkins, numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Ray retired in 2020 as a Custodian at Brentsville District High School having joined their staff after leaving the Army in 1969. His favorite pastimes were car shows, drag races, tractor pulls, NASCAR, collecting diecast models and rooting for the Washington Redskins.

Bonnie was born July 25, 1955 in Arlington, Va, the daughter of Ralph Hollingsworth and Virginia Thelma Riffle. She was preceded in death by her parents and is survived by a sister Shirley Hollingsworth and a brother Francis Edward Riffle, and her beloved dogs and cats.

She worked for Manassas City Schools in two different cafeterias for 17 years and enjoyed spending time in Colonial Beach, Va.

Burial will be private with immediate family only. A Memorial Service for both will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Brentsville District High School,

12109 Aden Road, Nokesville, VA 20181.

Comments



“ I didn't know Bonnie as she and Ray met after I graduated from BDHS. I remember visiting Ray's home many times when I was younger with my grandparents who were friends with his family. Very kind and generous family.

Arlene K. - April 26 at 10:24 AM



“ Mr Ray was a kind, gentle soul. I can't imagine what BDHS would have been like without him. RIP.

Gene Reyna - April 17 at 12:02 PM



“ Odessa Queen



Odessa Queen - March 27 at 11:06 AM



“ We watched the KC playoff game together this year. I will forever cherish those moments. Good man; great heart.

Glen E. Stietzel - March 26 at 07:47 PM



“ Brenda Stringfellow lit a candle in memory of Ray and Bonnie Ridgley



Brenda Stringfellow - March 26 at 03:01 PM



“ We are deeply saddened to hear the news of our neighbors passing. We send our condolences to the Ridgley family. We miss Ray driving by smiling and nodding hello. Bonnie I know we had a love hate relationship, but we did share the love of animals. You are missed by many.

Liz Jaxel - March 24 at 11:37 AM



“ I am very sad to hear of my cousin Ray's passing. He was so kind and a truly good-hearted man. I will so miss that big smile! Rest In Peace Ray and Bonnie until we meet again.

Cheryl Frazier - March 23 at 12:33 PM



“ Two very special people.

Our sincerest condolences, Matt & Lynn McLaughlin



Lynn McLaughlin - March 23 at 03:30 AM



“ Clema & Rickey Bailey lit a candle in memory of Ray and Bonnie Ridgley



clema & Rickey Bailey - March 22 at 08:52 PM



“ I met Ray when I became the Horticulture teacher at Brentsville. It was a pleasure working alongside him. He always greeted me with a “Good morning Mrs. Smith”. Occasionally, he would come to my classroom after school and apologize over and over before he had to tell me of a mess my kids had made, usually in front of the dumpsters. A lot of institutional knowledge is gone now. We will all miss Ray and his quiet service.

Margaret Smith - March 22 at 05:09 PM



“ Kelly Pauley lit a candle in memory of Ray and Bonnie Ridgley



kelly pauley - March 22 at 12:14 PM



“ Ray was a kind and helpful member of the BDHS staff. A friend that made life much better. I always appreciated him.

judy bohince - March 21 at 03:16 PM



“ Ray was friendly and such a hard worker at Brentsville. So sorry to learn of his passing. He always had a smile and a friendly word for everyone. Brentsville is not the same without him.

Karen Befumo - March 21 at 08:46 AM



“ Ray was such a kind person, a pillar of Brentsville District High School. He was always a calm steady presence at the place. A "Good Morning " from him automatically made my teaching day better. I am so sorry to hear of his and his wife's passing

Loretta Cocca - March 21 at 08:18 AM



“ Ray was my 'go-to' guy' ,,broken window, spilled liquids, whatever...Ray always rescued me. He had that quiet manner that could calm the most upset student, even that kid who broke a window by pulling it down on his own head.

Nancy Shepherd - March 20 at 11:42 PM



“ I had the privilege of knowing Ray for nearly 40 years, first as a teacher at Brentsville, then as a substitute teacher. Ray always had a smile on his face and always greeted me whenever he saw me with a "Hello Mr. Knight." He was a true pillar of the Brentsville community. I never heard Ray complain or say anything negative about anything. He was a true gentleman and treated faculty, students, and staff with respect. I know that his passing has left a big hole in the Brentsville heart. I was so glad when they made a tribute to him in a recent Brentsville yearbook. Ray may be gone, but his spirit will always be with Brentsville. He will never be forgotten and will be a hard man to replace. Rest in peace, dear Ray.

Dennis Knight - March 20 at 10:38 PM



“ My most sincere and heartfelt condolences to the Ridgely family from the family of George Gray. May you rest in peace. Farewell to one of the kindest and most generous men I've ever had the pleasure of knowing. God bless - -

George Gray, - March 20 at 08:38 PM



“ Hardley ever came back to Nokesville and not see Ray somewhere. Rest well my friend

Carl Hipkins - March 21 at 07:48 AM



“ Clema Bailey lit a candle in memory of Ray and Bonnie Ridgley



Clema Bailey - March 20 at 07:48 PM



“ Rhonda Bolt-Craighead lit a candle in memory of Ray and Bonnie Ridgley



Rhonda Bolt-Craighead - March 20 at 01:44 PM



“ Our family is heartbroken, and a strong family we are! Uncle Ray was not only a staple in Nokesville, he was a staple in our family. Bonnie was always with him and I will miss her sweet Christmas Cards with all of the pets names listed. I am sending prayers daily to Robert as he has suffered such a great loss. We love you and are here for you in any way possible. (Buddy and Tonya Austin (Lunsford))



Tonya Austin - March 20 at 08:16 AM



“ So so glad to meet you and your family the stories and memories are priceless

kelly pauley - March 22 at 12:12 PM



“ We are glad you are there for Robert!

Tonya - March 24 at 02:30 PM



“ Betty Caton Bolt lit a candle in memory of Ray and Bonnie Ridgley



Betty Caton Bolt - March 19 at 02:22 PM



“ Ray was always helpful and with a smile. I never met his wife and James and Robert where my school mates. Prayers going up!



Jennifer Riley - March 19 at 01:26 AM



“ Patti Johnston lit a candle in memory of Ray and Bonnie Ridgley



Patti Johnston - March 18 at 07:51 PM



“ Ray and Bonnie were well known throughout the Nokesville community and will be greatly missed. Prayers for family and friends for peace and comfort. R.I.P.

Daniel Lam - March 18 at 05:00 PM



“ Everyone who went to Brentsville knew and loved Ray. You couldn't imagine a nicer person. Always had a smile and treated us all with kindness and respect. Godspeed, Ray.

Brad Puckett - March 18 at 04:31 PM