



## Ralph Eldon Stone

November 2, 1942 - September 5, 2015

Ralph E. Stone passed away suddenly, yet peacefully, on September 5, 2015 in his Gainesville, VA home.

Ralph was born November 2, 1942 in Washington, D.C. He was the only child of Elbert H. and Edith D. Stone. He grew up in Alexandria, Virginia and attended St. Mary's Catholic School and George Washington High School. He went on to earn his undergraduate degree at East Carolina University and a Master's Degree at the University of Tennessee. Later in life he completed a PhD in Education. In 1965 Ralph began his teaching career at Zachary Taylor Elementary School in Arlington County Virginia as a physical education teacher. In 1971, after six years of teaching, he became the youngest principal in the county when he took over the principalship of Patrick Henry Elementary School. Through the years he served as principal in various Arlington elementary schools and in administration. In 1978 he was appointed principal at Zachary Taylor Elementary School where he had begun his career thirteen years before. He served as principal at Taylor until his retirement twenty years later in 1998. Ralph's work with children was his life's joy. He was skilled at hiring talented teachers and creating a school environment where all children could thrive and learn. He loved greeting the school buses each morning, walking the school hallways, and visiting with the children in the cafeteria and in their classrooms. He had nicknames for the children and knew them on a personal level. He loved them and they knew it. He would send them "Taylor

Pride" notes to honor their achievements, and continued to send them for years after his retirement when he would hear of milestones in their lives. Ralph brought that same devotion to his wife Lori and his beloved boys Tim and Jeff at home. He delighted in his role as father. They knew they could call upon him for anything, and that no request was too much. They brought him joy each day and he expressed this daily with his favorite saying, "I'm a lucky man! "In his professional life Ralph was a member of the Arlington School Administrators, Arlington School Administrators Associates, of which he was president of at his death, and the Northern Virginia Athletic Directors, Administrators and Coaches Association, Inc. In 1990 he was honored to receive The Washington Post Distinguished Leadership Award for Arlington County. Ralph was preceded in death by his loving parents Elbert H. Stone and Edith D. Stone.

Ralph is survived by his wife of forty-seven years, Lori, of Gainesville and two sons Tim Stone (Kathryn) of Haymarket and Jeff Stone (Brett) of Crozet, and four grandchildren: Jackson, Madeline, Jordan, and Harper. He also leaves a host of family and friends.

Family and friends are invited to join the family at a memorial service for Ralph on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 from 6 PM till 9 PM at Pierce Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 9609 Center St., Manassas, Virginia. On Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 11 AM there will be a funeral Mass at St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church, 23331 Sam Fred Rd., Middleburg, Virginia with a reception at the Stone family home following the Mass. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Ralph Stone Taylor Pride Scholarship. Checks should be made payable to "Arlington Community Foundation" and marked in the memo line as being for the Ralph Stone Taylor Pride Scholarship. Donations can be mailed to Arlington Community Foundation, 818 N. Quincy St., Suite 103, Arlington VA. 22203.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **15**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home  
9609 Center St.  
Manassas, VA 20110  
(703) 257-6028  
pfh@piercefh.com  
<https://www.piercefh.com>

## Memorial Mass

SEP **17**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church  
23331 Sam Fred Road  
Middleburg, VA

# Tribute Wall

CP

“ *Ralph broke me in as a new middle school administrator in Arlington. He assisted in demonstrating professionalism and shared valuable information that I would immediately use. I am so sorry that he is gone. You have my condolences.*

*Chris Pagliaro*

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**Chris Pagliaro** - April 12 at 06:20 PM

HS

“ *I am sad to hear of Ralph's passing. My heartfelt condolences to his family. Ralph and I were childhood friends in the Delray section of Alexandria. Our family moved in 1956 and I lost touch until the 90s when he picked me out in a McDonald's restaurant near his work. It was nice to be able to catch up for those short minutes. Ralph's impression on all of those around him and his accomplishments will be remembered and cherished.* Harry Scott

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**Harry Scott** - September 17, 2015 at 01:23 PM

LD

“ *LOVE DENISE DISANDRO purchased the Full O f Love Bouquet for the family of Ralph Eldon Stone.*



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**LOVE DENISE DISANDRO** - September 16, 2015 at 09:32 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Ralph Eldon Stone.*



September 15, 2015 at 01:14 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Ralph Eldon Stone.*



September 14, 2015 at 07:09 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Ralph Eldon Stone.*



September 14, 2015 at 06:08 PM



“ *Arlington School Administrators' Associates (ASAA) purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Ralph Eldon Stone.*



**Arlington School Administrators' Associates (ASAA) -**  
September 14, 2015 at 12:30 PM

JY

“ I remember Ralph from years ago at St. Mary's Parochial school. He was in my sister, Charlotte's, class a year ahead of me, but I remembered him well. I was so happy to see him at the May 2015 reunion and luncheon in June 2015, and to share some stories and conversation with him. My deepest condolences to Lori, Tim, Jeff and their families. I know how proud you all are of him and how much you must miss him. I will pray that, with time, your wonderful memories of him will help to assuage the grief you are feeling now.

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**Judith Knight Young** - September 14, 2015 at 01:03 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Ralph Eldon Stone.



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September 12, 2015 at 08:36 PM

LM

“ Lori, Tim and Jeff--Carolyn and I were heartbroken to hear about Ralph. The entire Stone family is fondly remembered by the whole Miller family. You are certainly in our prayers. Leonard and Carolyn.

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**Leonard Miller** - September 10, 2015 at 10:36 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Ralph Eldon Stone.



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September 10, 2015 at 10:12 AM

CB

“ *Lori, Tim, Jeff and families,  
Ralph was such a blessing to us whenever he stopped by the office;  
he always brightened up the day with his presence! He loved each  
of you so much!*  
*Charlie & Gail Brown*

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**Charlie & Gail Brown** - September 10, 2015 at 09:17 AM