

## Ralph Charles Datillio

September 24, 1940 - July 27, 2016

Ralph Charles Datillio, 75, passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his family, on July 27, 2016. After a brief but courageous battle with cancer, he is now in the loving arms of Jesus Christ, his Lord and Savior.

Although born and raised in Waterbury, CT, Ralph put down roots in Florida. After attending Palm Beach Junior College, he transferred as a junior to FSU, where he graduated with a degree in Political Science in 1962. At this time he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. It was also during this time at FSU that he met the love of his life, Edwina Thornton (Wynn). During his 3rd year of law school at University of Florida they were married, and together moved to El Toro, CA, where he fulfilled his service commitment in the JAG Corps. Both of their daughters were born in Orange County, CA.

After completing an 8 year commitment to the Marines, the Datillio family moved to Miami where Ralph entered private practice with a large law firm, specializing in transactional law. In 1981 he relocated his family to Tallahassee where he continued practicing law, joining in a partnership to open the Tallahassee office of Broad and Cassel.

It is said that a person's life can be defined by the 'dash' between their birth and their death. Although to his family his life was all too brief, Ralph filled his 'dash' to overflowing with fabulous interests, one of which was visiting various parts of the world with his beautiful wife. Throughout their marriage, he and Wynn vacationed in Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Israel, Alaska and Hawaii.

Just 2 years ago, they celebrated their 50th anniversary in the spectacular mountains of Alberta, Canada.

Ralph Datillio was the epitome of a Renaissance man: “someone who does a little bit of everything, yet does it extremely well,” which also speaks to his Christian beliefs in that whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God. If Ralph developed an interest in something, he took it upon himself to delve in head-first, educating himself, outfitting himself, and enjoying himself fully. Here are just a few of the interests that called to him over his lifetime: sailing and boating, fishing, hunting, piloting his own plane, snow skiing, golfing, photography/videography, owning and riding horses, salt water aquariums, landscape pond building, stained glass, river rafting, and very near and dear to his heart was cultivating and tending God’s creation by growing a wide variety of plants, especially flowers.

We have learned much from this great man over the years; however, one thing stands as a testimony to what he held most dear: that as wonderful and enjoyable as temporal interests may be, they are just that...temporal and fleeting. It is the eternal impact one leaves as a living legacy that endures ad infinitum. For Papa Ralph, his faith-filled legacy stands firm, rooted beautifully in his family.

Perhaps there are no words more aptly spoken than those that his grandchildren choose to remember him by: faithful, honorable, generous, caring, intelligent, strong, humble, inspiring, wise, devoted, highest integrity, hard-working, steadfast, family man, meek, gentle, kind, a man of valor.

Ralph is survived by his wife of 52 years, Wynn, and their two daughters Dana Hammett (John) and their children Bethany (23), Sarah (20), John Nathan (11), and AnnaCatherine (9); and Kim McLeod (Drew) and their children Christian (20), Courtney (16), Gabriel (12), and Elijah (9).

While a private committal ceremony will take place at the Tallahassee National Cemetery, friends are invited to join the family in celebrating Ralph’s life at a Memorial Service on Saturday, Aug. 13 at 2:00 p.m., Trinity Community

Church, Tallahassee. Memorial donations may be made to Big Bend Hospice.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG 13. 2:00 PM (ET)

Trinity Community Church  
2285 Bannerman Road  
Tallahassee, FL

# Tribute Wall



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ralph Charles Datillio.*



---

August 12, 2016 at 02:59 PM



“ *8 files added to the album Ralph's 70th Birthday Party*

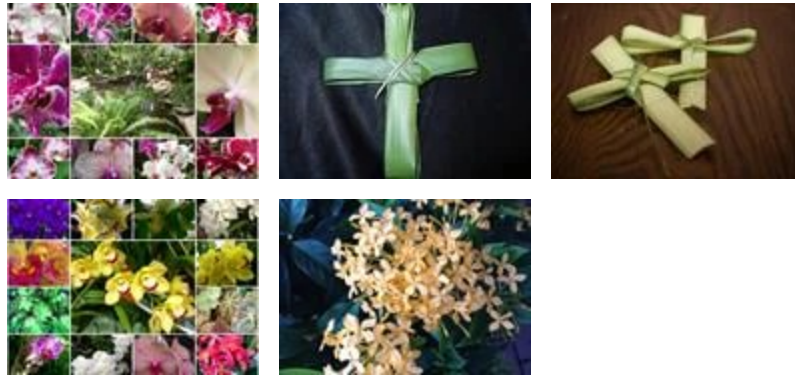


---

**Mary Ann Wright** - August 09, 2016 at 04:20 PM

SR

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



---

**Sally and Spencer Robinson** - August 08, 2016 at 04:17 PM

DA

“ *Dear Wynn and Family,*

*Ralph was a smart, funny, and kind Christian man and it was my pleasure to work with him at Broad and Cassel. We enjoyed many conversations about the Bible and our faith in Christ. He lived out his Christian faith on a daily basis. The world was a better place with him in it and he will be missed.*

*You are all in my prayers and I wish you the peace that passes all understanding.*

*Sincerely, Darlene Aldrich*

---

**Darlene Aldrich** - August 08, 2016 at 02:33 PM

PW

“ *Ralph was a person who showed the greatest love to all that was dear to him; faith, family, friends, pride in his profession and the beauty of God's creation through his beautiful gardens. He showed all of us who knew him that he respected all choices and opinions, and his strength in his beliefs and opinions were never forced on anyone, just strong and true to himself. His caring and tenderness to those of us who had a loss helped us know that he truly cared about those who were fortunate enough to call him friend. As Billy would say Semper Fi my fellow Marine and friend and welcome to our new home. My love to the Datillio family.*  
*Patsy Warmack*

---

**Patsy Warmack** - August 07, 2016 at 04:18 PM

RW

“ *He was the most kind,generous compassionate person, when Veto was ill he came to our home to help him with some legal matters, thats the kind of man Ralph was so exceptional God Bless this wonderful man*

---

**Rosemary Weber** - August 07, 2016 at 09:04 AM

SR

*Dear Wynn and Family,  
We are with you in thought and in prayer...praising God for the beautiful Datillio family and the life of your beloved husband, father and grandfather.  
We treasure our years of shared times and golden moments, and pray that God's love is surrounding you now, bringing you His strength and peace.  
Blessings and much love,  
Sally and Spencer*

---

**Sally and Spencer Robinson** - August 08, 2016 at 04:31 PM

MW

*Precious Wynn and family,  
Ralph was such an incredibly warm, fun, caring, giving, welcoming and loving man! We feel so very honored to have had the privilege of knowing this exceptional man .. a Marine, a brilliant lawyer, an 'in love with Wynn' husband, a godly father and best of all a lover of the Lord Jesus Christ! We are blest to have been a part of the never-to-be-forgotten Bible Fellowships in your home. Thank you for sharing Ralph with us.*

*In His Amazing Love,  
Charles and Mary Ann*

---

**Mary Ann Wright** - August 09, 2016 at 04:08 PM