



Ralph E. Bakley

February 8, 1933 - April 16, 2018

BAKLEY SR., Ralph Emerson - 85 years young, of Cape May, went home to be with God on April 16th 2018 with his loving family at his side. Ralph was born on Eldredge Avenue in West Cape May and moved to York Avenue prior to graduating from Cape May High School in 1951. He enlisted in the US Air Force during the Korean War and served in the Strategic Air Command (SAC). He met the love of his life, Barbara Kelly, on Washington Street in Cape May. Ralph said "she felt sorry for me so she married me." They married in October 1954. Ralph was a Cape May City Lifeguard and is in the Lifeguard Hall of Fame. Ralph worked at the Magnesite Plant where he had wonderful times with many friends including George Rea, Sr. and Vernon (Skippy) Hoffman. Upon leaving the Magnesite Plant, Ralph began his career in law enforcement, serving in the Cape May Police Department with distinction for 30 years. He was a K-9 officer for fifteen of these years. Ralph was also president of the New Jersey K-9 Association; the first president of the United States Police Canine Association and president of PBA Local 59. Upon retirement from the Cape May Police, Ralph served as a Cape May County Freeholder for 8 years. Ralph was a member of the West Cape May Volunteer Fire Company; Cape May Kiwanis Club; Cape May Masonic Lodge and was a 50 year member of the Lower Township Elementary School Board. He leaves behind his loving wife of 63 ½ years, Barbara; three loving children, Sonny (Cathy), Jeffery and Barbara. He also leaves behind his golf partner, work partner and son-in-law, Anthony Marino; grandchildren, Alex Marino, Camille and Ethan Bakley and one great grandchild. Ralph will be missed by many people including the Wawa coffee-clutch and his golfing buddies. Ralph's viewing will take place on Saturday (April 21st) from 10am until 11:50am in the First Assembly of God Church, 1068 Seashore Rd., Cape May where his funeral ceremony will begin at 12pm. Interment with military honors will follow in the Cold Spring Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, for those who wish, contributions are suggested to Animal Outreach (West Cape May) or to the Cape May City Kiwanis Club through "In Memory Of" online at www.inmemoryof-memorial.org/ralph-bakley for your convenience and to ensure Ralph's family is notified of your thoughtfulness.

(Spilker Funeral Home, Cape May) info and condolences: spilkerfuneralhome.com

Cemetery

Cold Spring Cemetery

780 Seashore Road

Cape May (Lower Township), NJ,

Events

APR **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:50AM

21

First Assembly of God Church

1068 Seashore Road, Cape May, NJ, US, 08204

APR **Service** 12:00PM

21

First Assembly of God Church

1068 Seashore Road, Cape May, NJ, US, 08204

Comments



“ Ralph will be remembered for his love and dedication to the Lower Township Elementary School district, and for his gracious support of the Children’s Memorial Garden.

With love and prayers for all his family,
Susan Campbell
Retired educator



Susan Campbell - April 29, 2018 at 10:07 AM



“ Dear Ralph Barkley Family,
I was so saddened to hear about the passing of Ralph.. I considered him to be a dear friend from the first time we met over thirty or so years ago. I will always cherish our conversations over a meal at Kiwanis and our numerous discussions at various times.Ralph had such a long and consequential life.He was so active in serving his community and county to make all of our lives better. He gave his all for so many years and I am sure that the family will have lasting memories.May he Rest In Peace knowing that he was appreciated, loved, and respected by so many.

Richard Strauss

Richard Strauss - April 21, 2018 at 12:44 PM



“ John & Karen Rechner lit a candle in memory of Ralph E. Bakley



John & Karen Rechner - April 21, 2018 at 08:42 AM



“ To the family of Ralph, I'd like to extend my deepest sympathies and prayers to his family. As a former K-9 officer from Willingboro, NJ, I met Ralph in 1972, it has been my pleasure and honor to have known him over all these years.

With Sympathy

Mike Kozlowski Willingboro P.D.

Michael Kozlowski - April 21, 2018 at 07:15 AM



“ I was saddened to hear of Ralph's passing. Please know how sorry I am and accept my sincere condolences.

Charlie McGlinn (Philadelphia K9, retired)

Charles G. McGlinn - April 20, 2018 at 03:42 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Tim Joyce - April 19, 2018 at 03:00 PM



“ Many memories of a very special man! Our condolences to the family and may he Rest In Peace!!! Sincerely, Lisa and Fradell McCullough

freddie McCullough - April 19, 2018 at 12:30 PM



“ Bob Schweikert is following this tribute.

Bob Schweikert - April 19, 2018 at 10:25 AM



“ RIP Brother, I remember those coffee breaks when we were both on the midnight tour. during those long winter nights. My deepest condolences to the Family. Cape May has lost another great Son.

V/r,

Sgt. Bob Schweikert, NJMP (Ret.)
Harrington, DE.



Bob Schweikert - April 19, 2018 at 10:22 AM



“ Frank & Dawn Simonsen lit a candle in memory of Ralph E. Bakley



Frank & Dawn Simonsen - April 19, 2018 at 09:11 AM



“ Ralph was one in a million. Always a smile and a good word. Always willing to help if needed. Never forget as a kid when he visited our school to talk about what a policeman does and later how helpful he was with the Boy Scouts. He will truly be missed. Keeping your family close in thoughts and prayers. Vickie Banks

Vickie Banks - April 19, 2018 at 08:47 AM



“ Very accomplished man! I really enjoyed his company and conversation. Easy going guy who loved his family, friends and golf!

al gombar - April 19, 2018 at 07:17 AM



“ Ralph was a great man a wonderful family man. I had the privilege to know and work alongside him in a different district.
I grew up knowing his children and was always welcome at the house. The Township and area will miss this pillar as I will. I pray for all the family at this time of sorrow.
Brian Dickinson

Brian R Dickinson - April 18, 2018 at 11:00 PM



“ Couldn't have said it better myself dad. Mr. Bakely was dedicated to the people he served. He trully was a great man. My prayers go out to his family during this difficult time. God Bless.

Nathaniel Dickinson - April 20, 2018 at 08:51 PM



“ Ralph was my partner, brother and good friend. I was privileged to have witnessed his wit and unique abilities with the many that we came into contact with. Ralph was a partner that I could always count on to be there and provide the support and guidance that I needed. He had an endless love for his family and our community that he always wanted to share. I will miss Ralph whenever I see a K-9 unit. He will always have a special place in my heart. Rusty Chew (Sgt. CMPD Ret.)

Rusty Chew - April 18, 2018 at 06:42 PM



“ My Prayers are with your family and friends.

Paul Andrus - April 18, 2018 at 02:29 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Ralph will be sadly missed and was an icon with the Kiwanis Club of Cape May.
Peace, Jim and Kim Ford



Kim Ford - April 18, 2018 at 08:07 AM



“ A Lower Township resident since 1962, I have always looked to Ralph as a man of kindness and integrity. He was always at Board meetings and community events there with a smile and a hearty handshake. As Cape May County Superintendent of Schools, I was there to lend Ralph a helping hand as he always did what was best for the children of the township. He will be forever remembered as the district memorialized his memory. God bless Barbara and his family as they mourn his passing to eternal life.

Dr Albert Monillas - April 18, 2018 at 07:48 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Mr. Bakleys passing, he truly was a Cape May legend and did so much for the community. My heart felt sorrow go's out to the family.

Bob Kleb - April 18, 2018 at 06:47 AM



“ I was so shocked to learn of his passing. He was such a wonderful gentleman and will be sadly missed. My condolences to the entire family.
Patti & Denny Tomlinson

Patti Tomlinson - April 17, 2018 at 09:00 PM



“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



George Rea - April 17, 2018 at 05:40 PM



“ RIP Ralph so sorry our community loss a wonderful man to your family sorry for your loss

Joyce Erb-Madden - April 18, 2018 at 04:18 PM