



Donald Ray Wilson

June 6, 1935 - June 12, 2017

D. Ray Wilson, 82, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri died Monday, June 12, 2017 at Saint Francis Medical Center.

He was born June 6, 1935 in Little Rock, Arkansas to Odis V. and Arless M. Hendrickson Wilson.

He and Eva Nell Ward were married September 2, 1956 at Little Rock, Arkansas.

He served nine years in the National Guard.

Ray received a Bachelor in Music Education Degree from the University of Arkansas State Teachers College in Conway, Arkansas and Master Degree from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

He was a high school band director for ten years in Campbell and Salem, Missouri and worked as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for 38 years with the Missouri Department of Education Vocational Rehabilitation Division. He was a member of the Missouri Rehabilitation Association.

He was a member and an ordained deacon at Bethany Baptist Church. He was a Boy Scout Leader with Troop 2 at Grace United Methodist Church.

Ray was a lifelong supporter of the 2nd Amendment and he was a life member of the National Rifle Association.

While in Campbell, Missouri, he formed a jazz band called Ray Wilson and the Starlighters.

Survivors include his wife, Eva Nell Wilson of Cape Girardeau; son, Donald N. (Sarah) Wilson of Cape Girardeau; daughter, Sandra Johnson of Jonesville, North Carolina; two sisters, Caroline Hamilton of Springdale, Arkansas and Deborah Short of Little Rock; and eight grandchildren, Angel, John, Anthony, Katarina, Samantha, Alexis, Dominick and Johnathan.

He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant son, Robert Henry Wilson.

Friends may call 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Friday, June 16, 2017 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will be at 11:00 AM Saturday, June 17, 2017 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau with the Rev. Shawn Wasson officiating.

Entombment will be at Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum in Cape Girardeau.

Memorial contributions may be given to Alzheimer's Association.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1909
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

LW

“ Ray was a great brother-in-law and friend who shall be greatly missed. He had a very dry wit and a gentle teasing way. He was a loved and valued family member of our family for 60 years. Thanks to all who supported my sister in this time of sorrow.

Lynn Ward - June 19, 2017 at 08:17 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Wilson.



June 15, 2017 at 12:39 PM

GS

“ Ray was a great friend and Christian gentleman. He was so helpful to Cy many times thru rehab. Condolences to the family, I think of you often. God bless you and comfort you.

Georgiann Smith - June 15, 2017 at 08:19 AM

PR

Ray helped me get through a college degree and was just an outstanding person. He will be missed. My condolences.

Patrick Ross - June 15, 2017 at 10:18 AM

BK

Ray always had a smile on his face for everyone. Our prayers and thoughts are with the family at this time of loss. God Bless.

Barry and Gerri Knight - June 15, 2017 at 06:20 PM

RM

Mr. Wilson worked with me when I returned to college. Without his assistance I might not have earned my degree. My condolences.

Ron Maurer - June 16, 2017 at 08:39 AM