



Ralph Virgil Jay Jr.

September 11, 1944 - June 15, 2022

Ralph Virgil Jay Jr., 77, of Ringgold, Georgia passed away Wednesday, June 15, 2022. A lifelong resident of the Ringgold area, he was a member of the Ringgold First Baptist Church. After graduating Ringgold High School in 1962, he joined the Army where he served during the Vietnam War. Ralph was owner/operator of Jayco and later worked for Stockroom for a couple of years. He also was choir director for several churches in the Ringgold area. Ralph loved sports, along with coaching both slow pitch and fast pitch softball for over 40 years. He also officiated football, basketball, baseball and softball in the Chattanooga/ North Georgia area for 50+ years. He is preceded in death by his parents, Ralph Virgil Jay Sr., and Sarah Adella Lawrence Jay. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Jan Blansett Jay of Ringgold, GA.; two daughters, Lori (Tommy) Kimbrell of Chickamauga, GA., and Benita (Billy) Johnson of Ringgold, GA.; sister, Carolyn (Randy) Rolan of Ringgold, GA.; seven grandchildren, Kalei Clark, Jordan Kimbrell, Samuel Jay Johnson, Nathaniel Johnson, Brittany Wilson, Billy Johnson III and Bethany Kittle; nine great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be held 11:00 A.M. Saturday, June 18, 2022 at Ringgold First Baptist Church. The family will receive friends 4-8 P.M. Friday and 10-11 A.M. Saturday at the church. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Ringgold First Baptist Joy Choir, 7611 Nashville St., Ringgold, Georgia 30736 or to the Alzheimer's Association 922 East Morris St., Dalton, GA., 30721. Arrangements are by Wilson Funeral Home Wallis-Stewart Chapel Ringgold, Georgia.

Cemetery Details

Catoosa Memorial Gardens

Boynton Dr.
Ringgold, GA 30736

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 17. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Ringgold First Baptist Church
Ringgold, GA

Visitation

JUN 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Ringgold First Baptist Church
Ringgold, GA

Funeral Service

JUN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ringgold First Baptist Church
Ringgold, GA

Tribute Wall

ZS

“ *Ralph Jay always was super friendly to me as a kid while he was refereeing our ball games. He’s a wonderful Christian man. I apologize I couldn’t make it to town for the services. My condolences to the Jay family*

Zac Steele - June 18, 2022 at 10:31 PM

LF

“ *To ralph family all of y'all are in my prayers. you all know that me and ralph was friends for a long time we become friends through sports refereeing and umpiring together. if i wasn't flying out of town friday around lunch i would definitely be there. Leroy finney*

Leroy finney - June 17, 2022 at 07:15 AM

SJ

So sorry for your loss. Ralph and I had some good times together. Sorry I can't come I'm down with something and send you my prayers .

Susan Jackson - June 17, 2022 at 10:12 AM



“ *Sending deepest sympathy to Jan, Lori, and Benita. Ralph was a great one who will be missed by many.*

Robert Alford

Robert Spence Alford - June 17, 2022 at 06:28 AM

DG

“ I am proud to say that Ralph was a friend and mentor. When I was a Coach his work as an umpire was a lesson in the proper way to work a game. When I became an umpire myself he was a mentor who worked diligently to make me a better umpire. The World is a lesser place without this Great man.

David E Gamble - June 16, 2022 at 11:19 PM

JG

“ Our heartfelt condolences to Jan, Lori, Benita and other family members. I know that you all have special memories of Ralph, hold them close to your hearts and let them be of comfort to you! Rest In Peace Ralph



Judy Gattis Weir and Sharon Gattis - June 16, 2022 at 11:30 AM

GG

“ Genny G. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ralph Virgil Jay Jr..



Genny G. - June 16, 2022 at 11:28 AM

SM

“ After I graduated high school in the summer of '75 Ralph called to ask if I wanted to officiate basketball. My first words were that “girls don't officiate basketball “. Ralph's reply was “says who?” Ralph wasn't trying to promote the feminist agenda he was just looking for officials. Certainly paid for my textbooks.

Sue Mason - June 16, 2022 at 10:08 AM

CK

“ Always enjoyed seeing Ralph. I guess my first meeting of him was when he officiated basketball, then got to know him better as time went on. He always had a great smile and laugh. We are in Tampa taking care of my niece’s children so don’t know if we will make it to the funeral. Sorry for your loss. We all lost a bit of sunshine.

Con Kellerhals - June 15, 2022 at 06:20 PM

CG

I always enjoyed his smile. I loved his girls. Always pleasant to see and be around. Going to miss him!

cindy lynn gattis - June 15, 2022 at 06:49 PM

SP

Ralph’s Mother and my Dad were sister and brother. We shared so many vacations. Loved visiting with them in Ringgold and them visiting with us in North Charleston as well as including me in the Gatlinburg retreats. My love to all my sweet relatives and friends there. Love, Sarah Lawrence Pinkerton and Family

Sarah Pinkerton - June 15, 2022 at 07:27 PM

TV

Got to know Ralph during my softball years. No matter when you saw Ralph always had a smile on his face, awesome word of encouragement. He will be missed by many. Sending prayers 🙏 and 🥰 to family and friends.

Teresa Vaughn - June 15, 2022 at 07:30 PM

JH

Ralph will surely be missed. An asset to our community. RIP my friend.

Jan McNew Hendrix - June 15, 2022 at 09:15 PM

ST

Ralph was a pleasure to be around, he contributed greatly to the Northwest Georgia Community. Fly high old friend.

Steve Tarvin - June 16, 2022 at 06:04 AM

GO

To Jan and the girls, Ralph was the best of friends, he always make me laugh. I will truly miss him, we had a great time on the cruise's with him and Jan. You are all in my prayers. I'm here if you want to talk.

Genny Ogle - June 16, 2022 at 11:38 AM

TH

Our condolences go out to Jan, Lori, Benita, Carolyn and all family members. Ralph was truly a ray of sunshine with his big smile and tall tales. From trips to dinners, there was never a dull moment. He will truly be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Tommy and Kay Hale

Tommy Hale - June 16, 2022 at 04:32 PM

PW

Ralph was a good and decent man. He reffed many a game for me as a coach, and I reffed with him after coaching. He was not driven by ego, only fairness. I'm thankful to have known him.

Pat Woolsey - June 18, 2022 at 10:44 AM