



Ralph William Cullimore

November 25, 1937 - September 6, 2025

Ralph William Cullimore passed away peacefully on September 6, 2025, in St. George, Utah, at the age of 87. Born on November 25, 1937, in his parents' home in Garland, Utah, he was the youngest son of William James Cullimore and Pearl Shoell Cullimore.

Ralph met the love of his life, Carrie Joy Newman, while attending Bear River High School, where he was an accomplished athlete, participating in basketball, baseball, and football. He also served as president of the boys' organization, the Bruins. Ralph and Joy were married on July 1, 1957, in the Logan Utah Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and shared nearly 66 wonderful years together.

Following high school, Ralph attended Utah State University on a basketball scholarship. His team reached the semi-finals of the prestigious NIT tournament at Madison Square Garden his senior year. He graduated with a degree in Physical Education and a minor in Mathematics.

Ralph and Joy began their life together in Concord, California, where Ralph taught in the Mount Diablo Unified School District. Dedicated to education, he pursued graduate studies and spent many years coaching high school sports and teaching evening mathematics classes at Los Medanos Junior College. He was a beloved teacher, coach, and mentor to countless students.

Some of his hobbies include golf, golf, and more golf! Ralph had a lifelong love of sports — playing them, watching them, and especially cheering on his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He was a sucker for most

games and enjoyed backgammon, liars dice, Jeopardy, Wheel of Fortune, and all kinds of card games. This is one of the ways he connected with his family. Together with Joy, Ralph faithfully served two missions for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Their first was in Oakland, California, supporting a Cambodian branch while living at home. Their second took them to New Zealand for 18 months — an experience they treasured and often spoke of with great fondness.

Ralph was devoted to his faith and served in many capacities throughout his life. One of his favorite roles was that of financial clerk, where he cherished the friendships formed while serving.

Ralph is survived by his four children: Douglas (Julie) of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Cari (Jeff) of St. George, Utah; Coni of Harstine Island, Washington; and Lisa (Steve) of Mapleton, Utah. He leaves behind 14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren, all of whom brought him great joy. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Joy, twin infant daughters, parents and siblings: Grant Cullimore, Phyllis Didericksen, Elaine Ely, Jay Cullimore, and Boyd Cullimore. The family expresses heartfelt gratitude to the staff at the Retreat at Sun River and Zion's Way Hospice for their compassionate care in Ralph's final days. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, September 20th, at 11:00 AM at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Mulberry Chapel, 3381 Mulberry Drive, St. George (Bloomington), Utah, with a viewing from 9:00 to 10:40 AM prior to the service.

Ralph's legacy of faith, family, service, and sportsmanship lives on in the lives he touched and the family he loved so dearly.

Previous Events

Viewing

SEP **20**. 9:00 AM - 10:40 AM (MT)

Bloomington 4th Ward
3381 Mulberry Dr.
St. George, UT 84790

Funeral Service

SEP **20**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Bloomington 4th Ward
3381 Mulberry Dr.
St. George, UT 84790

Tribute Wall

RP

“ *Uploaded Ralph Cullimore’s 1967 Mt Diablo High School (Concord, Ca.) Junior Varsity Team Picture and his Teacher picture from MDHS 1967 Yearbook.*



Randall Pfyl - October 06, 2025 at 12:20 AM

RC

“ *Ralph was my basketball coach at Mt. Diablo high in 1966 and 1967. I always admired him not only for his basketball ability but for his decency and his ability to connect with young people. He expected us to work hard and play as a team and brought a sense of joy to the whole process. Ralph also knew there was more to life than sports and his example resonates with me today. I know he will be greatly missed by his family and always remembered by me. May he rest in peace.*

Richard Carlson - October 05, 2025 at 02:34 PM

GM

Rich and Randy were my team mates playing for Ralph. A great coach and so funny

Greg Messel - October 05, 2025 at 03:23 PM

RP

“ *I know I share the feelings of a lot of students and athletes from Mt. Diablo High School where Ralph Cullimore taught and coached. I’m sorry to hear of him passing. He was the best! Randy Pfyl ‘68.*

Randall Pfyl - October 05, 2025 at 01:41 PM

RP

At MDHS Concord (1966) our JV Coach Cullimore & wife Joy had our team over to their home at the end of a court. They fed us, he had lowered the basketball rim so we all took turns dunking. He was a favorite BB coach and loved it, wanted us to be the best we could be.

Randall Pfyl - October 05, 2025 at 02:44 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Funeral Audio Recording*



Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah - September 23, 2025 at 10:56 AM

TM

“ *The McQueens purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Ralph William Cullimore.*



The McQueens - September 18, 2025 at 05:55 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of *Ralph William Cullimore.*

September 18, 2025 at 01:46 PM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Ralph William Cullimore.*



September 18, 2025 at 01:46 PM



“ *Love Jan, John and Bill Ely and family's purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ralph William Cullimore.*



Love Jan, John and Bill Ely and family's - September 17, 2025
at 09:02 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ralph William Cullimore.*



September 16, 2025 at 11:25 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ralph William Cullimore.*

September 15, 2025 at 09:04 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ralph William Cullimore.



September 15, 2025 at 09:04 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ralph William Cullimore.

September 12, 2025 at 12:33 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Ralph William Cullimore.



September 12, 2025 at 12:33 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Ralph William Cullimore.



September 11, 2025 at 02:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ralph William Cullimore.

September 11, 2025 at 02:49 PM

DL

“ *DJ and Wendy Lee purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ralph William Cullimore.*



DJ and Wendy Lee - September 10, 2025 at 12:27 PM

HE

“ *Ralph was one of a kind. A great golf buddy and even better friend. I loved every minute I spent with him. Now he is reunited with the sweet love of his life. My thoughts and prayers go out to his great kids and loved ones. Rest in peace buddy and enjoy your reunion with loved ones that have passed before.*

Hal Evans

Hal Evans - September 09, 2025 at 12:46 AM

VC

So many fond memories. Loved golfing with him at Ohario golf course in NZ, Grateful for his and Joy's love and care for our children while we traveled

Vicki S Capson - September 09, 2025 at 09:52 AM

RS

Thanks for the great times playing golf and all the wonderful birthday parties we had at your home. Will see you soon. All the best to the family. Love, Roy Stephen

Roy Stephen - September 10, 2025 at 02:23 PM