



Ralph Herbert Dunlap

APR 15, 1942 - FEB 12, 2015



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Ralph Herbert Dunlap

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Ralph Herbert Dunlap, 72, of Clearwater, Florida, passed Thursday, February 12, 2015 at his residence under Hospice Care. He was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and moved to Florida in 2002 from Mechanicsburg, PA. Ralph served his country in the United States Airforce. He was a member of the American Legion. Ralph worked as the Sales Director and developed the Daily Express Special Equipment Department during his career at Daily Express in Carlise, PA.. He was known as the "King of construction equipment" and was a friend to everyone in the construction industry. Daily Express played a huge part in Ralph's life over the years and we are blessed to have met such wonderful people along the way. You all know who you are!

Ralph was diagnosed with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), a rare neurodegenerative brain disease. He participated in a clinical trial at USF to help the medical world learn more about the disease and to help find a cure. Although the trial was unsuccessful, he plugged through the years of losing his inability to walk and talk. One thing though, he always had his mind and memory! He loved watching football and baseball on tv and spending time with his friends and family. We have met many health care professionals during his journey and are thankful for all their support, especially our buddy "Macus".

Due to this disease affecting our family at such a young age, Ralph would have wanted any donations to go to the "CurePSP Foundation". As a daughter and nurse for many years, the first I ever heard of such as disease was sitting next to my father during a Dr's appointment. I have heard of Parkinson's disease and ALS. . . but never PSP. I want to thank the CurePSP Foundation and their website for helping our family understand the disease and all the wonderful information and support it has provided to us.

The CurePSP website is located at: <http://www.psp.org/index.html>. Donations can be made at: <http://www.psp.org/donate/>.

The family plans to have Ralph's celebration of life sometime this summer on the Delaware Bay.



Obituary

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You will be missed. . . "BIG R".

He is survived by his loving wife, Donna; son, Shawn Dunlap of FL., daughter, Veronica Dunlap of FL.; mother, May Stover of PA.; brother, Gary Stover of PA.; sister, Linda Elser of PA.; sister, Ruth Stover of PA.; grandchildren, Christopher and Sarah Dunlap.



Tribute Wall

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CD

Chris Dunlap posted:

Hello every one I love scrolling threw all the comments every one has written about my grandpa (also known as big R) I have nothing but good things to say about him. Big r was my buddy, we always got along and I used to always look forward to come and see him. Everything from funny jokes to playing football in the front yard. Both grandma and grandpa were always supportive of me and my sister. They were at every baseball game of mine even when he wasn't well. I think of him all the time. Although I'm very sad he's not with us anymore, I'm glad he's no longer suffering. I know for a fact he is in that special spot reserved for him above. I love him very much he is a good man. Thanks for the kind words every one I know he appreciates it and he definitely deserves it. Best of wishes,cj

February 28 at 3:32 PM

BA

Bruce Althouse posted:

Donna, Shawn and Ronnie, my sympathy on the loss of Ralph, "Mr. Dunlap". I have very fond memories of him as a little league baseball coach, as a great CV sports fan, and getting picked up in the station wagon to go bowling on Saturday mornings in the summer as a young kid. He was truly a wonderful man. One of those dads who knew all of Shawn's friends and had a real interest in seeing us and talking with us. Very sorry to hear of his passing. Bruce Althouse

February 28 at 8:30 AM

SD

Sarah Dunlap posted:

Dear family and friends, Big R was the best grandpa I could ever have. He was most friendly, caring, loving, and don't forget funniest person one could ever know. It is hard to think that he isn't with us to share his love with his friends and family. When I was little he always used to hold me so high on his chest, he was so proud of me and believed in me always. Now he's not with us but he's watching over us so I plan to keep making him proud. The best of wishes to all. Love, Sarah

February 28 at 5:57 AM



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BM

Brian & Mollie Meharry posted:

I'm so very sorry for your loss, Donna. Please know that Brian and I are right here (literally!) if you need anything at all. Day or night. I remember not long after you and Ralph moved in, he would mow the lawn and rake leaves with twice the stamina of a 20 yr old! He would work for HOURS in the heat and didn't even have the decency to look winded!! He always stopped whatever he was doing to chat though, and was so charismatic we liked him immediately! After he got sick, I would see him on his walks with Marcus, working so hard. You must be very proud of his perseverance - a lot of people would have given up. I know the last several years have been extremely difficult for you, Ralph, and the kids. I hope your memories bring a smile to you when you need it most. He was a good man, and we will miss him terribly.

February 26 at 4:47 PM

LA

Linda & Greg Arendacs lit a candle in honor of Ralph.

Donna and family, Sorry to hear of your loss. We shared a lot of happy times when you lived in PA. They say only the good die young, and the world will miss Ralph. We weren't in touch much since you moved to Fla., but you were always family. He is in a better place, probably playing cards with Maurice. Our prayers are with you and your family. Linda & Greg Arendacs - Middletown, PA



February 24 at 3:32 PM

CA

Central Dauphin Hs Alumni Assn. lit a candle in honor of Ralph.

With deepest sympathy to Ralph's family from the Central Dauphin High School Alumni Association, Harrisburg, PA.



February 24 at 6:33 AM

JW

John Wheelock posted:

When I started with daily in the 80s he was the one I always heard about and a good friend of mine who was an equipment dealer and good friends with Ralph actually pulled the ropes to get me on special equipment and I will never forget all the good times I had with Ralph. He must have seemed to me to know everyone in the country that had a piece of equipment to move somewhere. He was always telling me hey I got a buddy that needs this moved. I often think of him and the times we worked together. He was certainly one of a kind and I will never forget him. Prayers to all the friends and family.

February 20 at 7:42 PM



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CB

Charlie Baer posted:

I was in Florida at the auctions when I got the news, and after reading Jane's note, I can say that the aucions haven't been the same without him! He was a well respected and loved in the construction equipment industry. I am proud to say that he was a friend for 30 years! My thoughts & prayers are with you.Sincerely,Charlie Baer

February 20 at 11:39 AM

AH

Annette & Joe Helm posted:

Dear Donna,We were so sorry to hear of Ralph's passing. He fought the good fight with you by his side every step of the way. So sad for your loss but glad that he is at peace. May you find comfort in all of the happy memories of time spent with family and friends.Sincerely,Annette & Joe

February 20 at 6:51 AM

RW

Ron Walker February 27 at 9:35 AM

Donna, I am so sorry to hear your sad news. I met Ralph while inspecting your home. He was a friendly knowledgable man. I appreciate you both. Call me if I can help you in any way.

JT

John & Joan Trach February 24 at 5:13 AM

Donna, Joan and I want pass along our sympathies. I know words can't can express your loss, but we wanted to let you know our thought and prayers are with you and the family. God bless Ralph!

HH

Harry Hatter posted:

I met Ralph in third grade and we were very close through elementary, junior high, and high school. We even joined the Air Force together under the buddy system in September of 1960, Although we went our separate ways over the years, we got reunited when I returned to Harrisburg in 1986. Do you remember when I was house boy and bartender at the pool party? Well . . . there is a chapter missing in my life, and a hole where Ralph use to be. He will always be in my thoughts.Harry Hatter

February 19 at 4:31 PM



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SM

Shelvey Meyer posted:

Donna, my heart goes out to your family during this time. Ralph was loved and respected by so many and he will definitely be missed. I hope you find peace that he is now without pain and in Gods loving care. May you find joy in the years to come with his memory book sharing all the good times with those who loved him for the caring person he was. God bless you for the loving care you gave him in his final years. Shelvey & Mike Meyer

February 18 at 3:34 PM

JJ

Jane Jardine posted:

Donna, Shawn and Ronnie, I just returned from FL and got this news. My heart goes out to each of you. While in FL I passed a sign that read "Kissimmee, FL" and I immediately thought of Ralphie and all the auctions he did there. Ralph was certainly great at what he did and taught so many, so much. I traveled with Ralph to Ohio to visit some Caterpillar dealers out there. Everybody loved him, he treated everybody like they were his best friend, it's crazy to think about all the 'buddies' he had out there. Daily sure was lucky to have him. He was surely one of the best. His knowledge of construction equipment was incredible; he could break a machine down and price it to any location in sections....I was always AMAZED and so very thankful for his help!! He is missed sorely. I've thought about him so many times over the years and missed his help and crazy sense of humor. Always think about him on tax day because I know that's his birthday. Daily is a great place to work, but isn't the family it use to be without the great guys such as, Ralph, John Trach, Joe Spandler etc. These guys were the pillars of Daily, hands down. I know that Ralph suffered greatly these past few years so for that I find joy in knowing that he is at peace and in God's loving arms. I pray for God's strength and peace as each of you begin to find a new normal without is great presence in your lives. But may your memories of him live on forever. May God bless each of you, Jane Jardine (aka Munchkin - Ralph's nickname for me over the years)

February 18 at 5:01 AM

TS

Tom Stewart February 24 at 2:41 AM

I worked with Ralph back in the 60's at Daily. Wonderful guy and great co-worker. Tom Stewart.



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PF

Pat Fickett posted:

My heartfelt sympathies go out to you Donna and family. I worked with Ralph at Daily for many years and enjoyed everyone of them. He was truly a man full of knowledge on all subjects and a master at construction equipment auctions. He could sell anything to anyone. Who could say "no" to Ralph. He will be greatly missed, but God has gotten himself a wonderful angel to look over you and your family and hopefully his Daily family as well. Thoughts and prayers are coming your way.

February 17 at 3:51 AM



Anonymous sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Dunlap family.



February 17 at 3:40 AM

BC

Bill Carlisle posted:

Donna, Shawn and Ronnie,I've know Ralph for a lifetime, met him in 3rd grade when I was 8 years old and we continued to stay in touch over the years up until his passing. Ralph was the kind of fellow that would do anything within reason for a friend and I just happened to be one of his many friends. I as everybody who knew Ralph is going to miss him dearly as a friendand a real buddy.Bill and Sally Carlisle

February 16 at 5:07 PM

CS

Carol Sherman posted:

To Donna, Shawn and Ronnie Ann.We want you to know how much we loved growing up with Ralph in Harrisburg. Every weekend our parents went to our grandparents home for a visit. The cousins always had a lot of fun. Then in Jr high and high school The William Penn friends met with the John Harris friends. What memories we we have of the good old fashioned times. Ralph was the care giver of all. He loved life and people every steps of the way. May your family find solace that his life has touched many along the way. We will miss him. God Bless and keep you safe in His hands. Love and HungsCarol, Duaine, and Dale Swenson (cousins from Harrisburg, PA)

February 16 at 4:19 PM



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Larry Jones posted:

Donna, Shawn and Ronnie, I pray the hand of God guides you through the coming weeks and months, just as he has during Ralph's illness. I have almost a lifetime of memories of Ralph. He is one of the most generous and caring persons I have known. I have many fond memories of our time together at Daily, both at work and away from work. He taught me many things for which I am grateful. I pray he now will rest in peace and watch over you from above. Larry Jones

February 16 at 12:26 PM



Chris Gibney posted:

Ralph was an amazing person who always lived life to the fullest. In our business, he was a "legend". I call on accounts today that STILL ask about him on a regular basis. Everyone loved Ralph. I worked my first auction with Ralph. He showed up the morning of the auction and asked me where the cooler of beer was. I got yelled at for not having a cooler of beer.. it was great. "Red, everyone knows you need beer for the customers at an auction." Great guy, class act. He will be missed. My sincere condolences to the Dunlap Family. We lost a good one - Chris Gibney - Daily Express

February 16 at 12:22 PM



Elizabeth A K. sent a sympathy card to the Dunlap family.

February 16 at 5:38 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Ralph by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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