



## Ralph R. Roland

June 7, 1931 - February 24, 2024

Ralph R. Roland, age 92, of Elwood, NE died on Saturday, February 24, 2024 at the Methodist Hospital in Omaha, NE. Memorial services will be on Monday, March 4, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney. Pastor Paul Stachura will officiate and burial will be later. There will be no visitation. Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated later. Please visit [www.hlmkfuneral.com](http://www.hlmkfuneral.com) to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney are in charge of arrangements.

Ralph was born on June 7, 1931 in Farnam, NE to Jesse and Roena (Slack) Roland. He attended Ansley High School and graduated with the class of 1949. He then attended Kearney State Teachers College and earned a bachelor's degree in education. Ralph began a math teaching career after college at Kearney Junior High School that lasted for several years. Unfortunately, he was forced into early retirement due to several strokes.

He married Bonnie Jean Newman on September 10, 1950, in Ansley, NE. They spent most of their life in Kearney before retiring at Johnson Lake, NE.

Ralph enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending time outdoors, but he loved spending as much time as possible with his family. He also loved his garden. In fact, one year he had over 80 tomato plants and supplied fresh tomatoes to

friends around the lake.

Surviving relatives include his loving wife, Bonnie Roland of Elkhorn, NE; daughters, Christine Sanders (Bob) of Green Valley, AZ; Sharen Wroblewski (Jim) of Elkhorn, NE; Karen Thompson, (Blain) of Johnson Lake, NE. Grandchildren Jarrod and Brandon Sanders; Angie Butler, Cory Wroblewski; and Colby Christensen. He is also survived by 9 great-grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.

Ralph was preceded in death by his parents Jesse and Roena Roland; Siblings: Violet (Mick) McDowell; Anna (Fred) Watkins; Wayne (Betty) Roland; Willis (Irene) Roland; Robert Roland; Betty (Charlie) Walline, and Dwight (Ethel) Roland.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAR 4. 10:30 AM (CT)

Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl  
2421 Avenue A  
Kearney, NE 68847  
(308) 237-2259  
<https://www.hlmkfuneral.com>

# Tribute Wall

“ He was one of my favorite teachers and I remember many good times in class with him and Mr. Ritter. Thinking back I remember Armstrong with the first landing on the moon. It was shown live with fluttering black and white pictures on the TV that Ralph had in the classroom. At the last minute teachers from other classes came running into his class to watch. We were packed in there like sardines in a can and he picked me up and moved me to the front row. I was always little and short and he was quite tall. He seemed like a giant to me. But he always stuck up for me. I would always tease him about roman numbers when he said Mr. Ritter was smarter than him, that he could not count past XV (the number 15). I always told him it would be better if he learned the whole alphabet, then he would always tell me he knew the letters M and C and asked if that counted. ME?? I would throw it back at him why he always had to write two squared after it (MC 2sq).

But I have many other memories to when I think about how he was always singing and one summer he drove the car to church camp loaded with kids and we were SOoo..... loud in the car, but he started singing nursery rimes and had the whole car singing.

Incase you did not know/remember we all went to the First Christian Church together. I remember all of the twins but I do not remember all of their names. On a side note I remember the twins that were a little older than me. The short blonde and the tall burnett. I was to say Shannon and Sharon Looking at my age they should be about 69 years old. Anyway to share another story the tall burnett Sharon I think it was, I had my first dance with and my last dance with.

There is another story there. \*LOL\* But Ralph would teased me after that, that I was trying to steal his girl !! Then he would always give me an update about how his kids were doing. He loved all of you kids so much. But it wasn't just you, it was all of the kids at school at church, and everywhere else. He was a great man and will surly be missed on earth, not just bye me but I know with all of you.

And by the way that dance, it was at the Kearney Youth Center, I will never forget it. I was under age and there because my parents volunteered to chaperone one night with my older brother's class. I was board and kept telling you that mom needed to talk with you.

*You kept going to her as if you were in trouble and doing something wrong, and after about 3-4 times of that mom said, "I think he wants to dance with you", meaning me, (I was too shy) which is what we did. You danced what was at the time and I did the "Twist" that I had seen on TV. It was all that I knew. I remember after that several other girls asked me to dance but I never did. I was too shy. The embarrassment has lasted a life time because I have never danced since, but I still remember you!! \*LOL\* Anyway going forward if you remember any of the Corrells most all of them are now gone, I am divorced and living alone, with a fairly new career change, teaching school. \*LOL\* And my second week here students wanted me to sit in the student's section. So I did. It is something your dad would have done. AND somewhere in there I hope that I make a little bit of differences in some one's life like your dad did in mine.*

*When death comes through we sometimes morn and say Ralph, Rest In Peace, but we need to remember that he is with the lord, Jesus Christ and he is at peace. It is us that need to find solatude, and peace in this difficult time with little or no rest. With the planning, travel and getting the family together. So knowing that he has now found his peace, I pray that you receive Peace and Rest that I know you need.*

*I know I need to let you go, and you probably do not remember me, But on Monday I will have 50 years in as a volunteer firefighter, EMT-A/C, coroner. I am here if anyone need to talk.*

*Dennis Correll Extra.load.trucking@gmail.com 507-369-3284*

---

**Dennis Correll** - March 09, 2024 at 01:38 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memorial Service



**Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services** - March 04, 2024 at 03:18 PM

RS

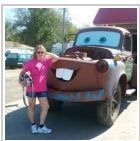
*So sorry for your loss. Ralph was a character and always left me with a smile when we would see each other around the lake. Prayers for the family, we will all miss Ralph.*

**Randy Seward** - March 08, 2024 at 09:45 AM

MK

“ *Bonnie, Chris, Karen, and Sharon, please accept my deepest sympathy in the passing of Ralph. What a fun guy who brought joy to so many. May good memories keep him close to you forever.---*  
*Mary (McKinney) Kommers*

**Mary Kommers** - March 01, 2024 at 08:30 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss, He was my favorite teacher and friend. He really cared and made math make sense. Thank you for sharing him with all of us.*

**Cindy Dady** - March 01, 2024 at 02:19 PM

SN

“ Many memories of Bonnie & Ralph! I worked with Bonnie at Kearney State Bank & got to party with her & Ralph at the lake with other Bank friends! Ralph was a fun guy! I know he'll be missed! Steve & I send our condolences to Bonnie & the family 🌹 Sincerely, Steve & Sharon Nelson 🙏

---

**Steve & Sharon Nelson** - March 01, 2024 at 10:19 AM

DF

Jan and I send our condolences for the loss of your Husband/Father. We are thinking of your family in your time of loss.  
Dan Freese

---

**Dan Freese** - March 02, 2024 at 12:23 PM

MF

“ Bonnie, Chris, Karen and Sharon;

*So sorry, to hear about Ralph. I have been remembering all the great times our families had, especially at the lake. I remember going across the road to shoot sparrows out of the elevator in Broken Bow. Most people wouldn't remember a thing like that. The times spent at the lake were some of my best memories. I learned how to water ski behind your boat with Ralph driving. I think he really enjoyed dumping me.*

*One of the best things that ever happened to my brothers and sister were when Ralph took us out in his boat to go chase white bass at Johnson Lake. I was hooked. My Dad bought a boat and his greatest joy, besides preaching, was camping and fishing for white bass every summer. I believe this brought us closer as a family and I will always thank Ralph and Bonnie. (I'm still hooked, thanks again)!*

*I will miss hearing his laugh on the lake. Dad would say let's go fish over there, that's Ralph's. I will never forget those times.*

*To Mom and Dad, Ralph and Bonnie were one of the best couples and friends they ever had and my dad considered Ralph one of his best friends.*

*Our prayers that God will bless you and be with you. I'll always remember Ralph.*

*Mike Ferguson*

---

**Mike Ferguson** - February 28, 2024 at 07:45 PM

MR

“ *Sorry to hear of your loss Ralph was a one of a kind individual. He was always kind friendly and full of joy.*

---

**Mike Reese** - February 27, 2024 at 12:45 PM

JS

*Lifting Ralph's family and friends up in my thoughts and prayers. May you find comfort in knowing he was loved by many. I will never forget the times spent with Ralph, Bonnie and family at their cabin at Johnson's Lake and thier home in Kearney When I think of Ralph it brings a smile both inside and out. to me.*

**Janelle Stadler** - February 27, 2024 at 07:05 PM

AS

*I will never forget 7th grade math class with Mr. Roland, He would often say " take your time, but hurry up!"*

**Andy Stadler** - February 28, 2024 at 10:16 PM

MQ

*Loved being his colleague*

**Mary (Wilkins) Quinn** - March 01, 2024 at 10:38 AM

LW

*Our condolences to his family*

**Linda Willuweit-Joy** - March 01, 2024 at 07:43 PM

BL

*Bonnie & family, I was sorry to hear of Ralph's death. I remember when Dale and I were visiting Betty & Chas at Johnson Lake, Ralph taking us out in his boat - around 1992. I know what good friends you were of my sister Betty and Charlie. Bobbie (McGowan) Lindenstein*

**Bobbie Lindenstein** - March 04, 2024 at 05:51 PM