



## Ralph Creed McTall

October 7, 1939 - September 13, 2024

Ralph Creed McTall passed away September 13, 2024 at his home. He was born October 7, 1939 in Washington D.C to Evelyn (Creed) McTall and Ralph Lewis McTall and moved to the Irvington/Clay Hill area as a child where he attended Clay Hill one-room school and told stories from that time for many years. Ralph graduated from Centralia Township High School, Centralia Junior College, and SIU Carbondale where he received his Master's and Specialist's Degrees in Education.

Ralph married Leora Coulter on December 11, 1959 and she survives. Other survivors include children: Diane and David Boswell, Michael McTall, and Doug and Donna McTall and grandchildren: Jessica and Blake Freels, Josh Boswell and Tiffani Ihrig, Katie and Cheyenne Boswell, Kaley McIntosh, Lacey and Tyler Burmester, Ethan McTall, and Caterina McTall. Great grandchildren: Rylee, Dexter, Winona, Levi, and Rowan. He is also survived by nieces and nephews: Roger and LuAnn Wolff, Randy and Jodi Wolff, Rhonda and Rich Rumer, Robert and Sara Ludwig, Renee and Doug Krebs, and Rama and Jeff Seats. Also, his brother-in-law: Gary (Barb) Coulter and sister-in-law Arlene Kummetz.

Ralph was preceded in death by his parents, sister: Susan McTall and grandson-in-law: Daniel McIntosh.

Ralph was an avid photographer throughout his entire life, and along with Leora, owned the Ralph McTall Studio and Camera Shop in downtown Centralia. He was the plant manager for Candles by Wax Craftsmen in

Irvington and clerked for many years with Auctioneer Bill Windler. He had a long career in education, teaching and coaching at many local grade schools including Oakdale, Richview, Ashley, Lincoln, Woodlawn and ending up at Irvington Grade School as the Superintendent until his retirement.

He was an active member of Irvington United Methodist Church where he was treasurer for many years and proud to be the official bell ringer; past president of Irvington Ruritan Club, member of the Centralia Elks Lodge 493; St. Louis Gateway Postcard Club; Washington, Jefferson, Marion County Historical Societies; and Centralia Area History Museum.

His favorite pastime involved researching and documenting the history of Irvington, including genealogy of family and friends. He spoke at length to Irvington residents and recorded their memories to better understand the history of the town he loved so much.

A Visitation will be held Wednesday, September 18, 2024 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia.

Funeral Services will be held Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 11:00 AM at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Centralia. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and will be accepted at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home at 235 North Sycamore Street Centralia, Illinois 62801, (618)532-3523, who is honored to be of service to Ralph's Family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com) and the Funeral Home Facebook Page.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **18.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home  
235 N. Sycamore Street  
Centralia, IL 62801

## Funeral Service

SEP **19.** 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home  
235 N. Sycamore Street  
Centralia, IL 62801

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Ralph Creed McTall*



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**Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services** - September 18, 2024 at 11:26 AM

SB

“ *Many good memories of Ralph and his family. Blessing to all of his family.*

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**Stella Black** - September 30, 2024 at 11:19 AM

VG

“ My husband and I have fond memories of the McTall family. Mr. Mctall was Gary's 7th and 8th grade teacher. He encouraged Gary to go to college and to think about becoming an engineer. Gary did so and became a civil engineer. He worked for the state since graduating from college until his retirement.

*I became a teacher, and my first job was in Irvington, Illinois. I had his daughter in my class for two years. She was a very sweet, intelligent young lady. Since Irvington was a small school, I also knew Michael but didn't have him as a student.*

*We are so sorry for your loss.  
With deepest sympathy,  
Vallie & Gary Gould*

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**Vallie Gould** - September 28, 2024 at 12:53 PM

DL

“ Lenora Don and I want to let you know that this is a rough time. Ralph was so much to you and your family. I know that Jesus loves you and so do we.  
so sorry that we cannot be there but we will be praying for you and your family. Don and Juanita Likens

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**Don and Juanita Likens** - September 18, 2024 at 10:25 AM

TC

“ Tim And Cindy Coats lit a candle in memory of Ralph Creed McTall



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**Tim and Cindy Coats** - September 17, 2024 at 10:50 PM

JH

“ Mr. McTall (I never could get away from calling him that 😊) was such a kind, honorable man. He and Dad loved to banter back and forth to see who could get the last word in. We students at Irvington Grade School were really blessed to have had him for our principal. We are so very sorry for your loss and are praying for you, Mrs. Leora. ❤️ Jennifer (Payne) Henning

Jennifer (Payne) Henning - September 17, 2024 at 04:13 PM

BR

“ Ralph was always such a pleasant person and so enjoyed when we were together with Bill and Janet. He was quiet but kept Bill always in line. So sorry to hear of your loss but he is up there photographing all who enter.

Barb Reidelberger - September 17, 2024 at 01:26 PM

RA

“ Rob,Michelle, carli and brandi,Jon ana planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph Creed McTall.

Rob,Michelle, carli and brandi,Jon ana - September 16, 2024 at 09:21 PM

RA

“ Rob,Michelle, carli and brandi,Jon ana purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Ralph Creed McTall.



Rob,Michelle, carli and brandi,Jon ana - September 16, 2024 at 09:21 PM

NA

“ *Ralph was Superintendent Irvington when I was on the school board. Good educator and leader. Good man.*

**Nolland Atchison** - September 16, 2024 at 05:35 PM

BW

*My deepest sympathies to the McTall family, he will be missed. He was such a nice man*

**Brenda White** - September 17, 2024 at 07:06 PM

AC

“ *We called Ralph the Easter Bunny because each spring he would make sure all the eggs were ready for the Creed Family Reunion and his beautiful wife Leora had all the tables dressed with lovely flowers from her garden...Ralph always had a little joke to share, would have a camera everywhere he went and I can still hear him whistle around the corner...sending our sympathies, prayers, love and hugs to Leora and Family ❤️ Angela, Ed, August and Macie*

**Angela Creed** - September 16, 2024 at 02:06 PM

HR

“ *Sorry to hear of the passing of Ralph. Thoughts and prayers to you and all your family.*

**Helen Rueter** - September 16, 2024 at 01:06 PM

MS

*Thinking of you, sorry for your loss. Mary Ellen Smith*

**mary ellen smith** - September 16, 2024 at 01:35 PM

JL

“ Jerry & Maryann Long lit a candle in memory of Ralph Creed McTall



Jerry & Maryann Long - September 16, 2024 at 12:35 PM

JL

“ Sorry to hear the passing of Ralph condolences to the family

Jerry & MaryAnn Long - September 16, 2024 at 12:34 PM

HH

“ Diane and family we are so sorry for you all on the loss of your dad. Our sympathies to all.

Harvey and Janet Holland

Harvey and Janet Holland - September 16, 2024 at 12:32 PM

PB

“ I was so glad that we saw Ralph when we were last in Centralia. I have so many memories, I would not know where to start. I am so sorry that I cannot be there for the funeral. Please know that I am thinking of all of you and sending prayers, hugs, and love!

Pat (Krupp) Bundy - September 16, 2024 at 12:10 PM

DW

“ *Diane & family,  
So sorry for your loss. Sending sympathy &  
condolences. In our thoughts n prayers.💕🙏*  
💕  
*Sincerely, Donna ( Roper-Queen) & Allen  
Wooters 🙏💕*



**Donna Wooters** - September 16, 2024 at 12:10 PM

SW

*So very sorry to hear about the loss of Ralph, he was a very interesting and kind hearted man, he was our neighbor for years, my husband and I send our regrets and sympathy to his sweet wife Leora, for condolences and prayers of comfort to her and all his family at this difficult time, May God hold you in His arms at this time of sorry, with sympathy, Walter and Sharon Wegner*

**Sharon Wegner** - September 17, 2024 at 09:59 AM

TS

*Pat and I were so sorry to hear about Ralph's passing. We knew he was having trouble walking but we did not know of his failing health. We have been friends since the mid-1980s and have many nice memories of postcard shows, holiday parties, and that horrific ride home in December after thieves broke into our car at Rick & Charley's. We still talk about you and Ralph driving home while I drove the family car home with its broken windows. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Tom & Pat Snyder*

**Tom Snyder** - September 19, 2024 at 02:08 PM