



Ronald Neal Wray

May 15, 1934 - December 13, 2016

Ronald Neal Wray, 82, of Kansas City, MO, passed away peacefully at home Dec. 13, 2016. He was born May 15, 1934 to Orville K. and Eugenia M. (Neal) Wray in Pickering, Missouri. Ron was a Bearcat at heart, playing football and graduating from Northwest Missouri State University in 1956 with a BS in Industrial Arts and Secondary Education. He went on to receive a MS in Industrial Arts and later obtained his School Administration Certification from University of Northern Iowa. Ron was a talented educator of 40 years, throughout his career teaching elementary through high school physical education, industrial arts and drafting classes across Iowa at Adair-Casey, Treynor, and Waterloo and in Kansas at Tonganoxie and Shawnee Mission Northwest High School in Shawnee. In addition to teaching, he coached boys and girls grades 5-12 football, basketball and track. He also coordinated the Distributive Educational Clubs of America at SM Northwest and taught drivers education at Bonner Springs High School. Ron had a love for his family, his students, animals, gardening, sports, and especially NWMSU Bearcat football. He also enjoyed operating heavy equipment during his time off in the summer. He proudly served as an Officer in the US Marine Corps and later as a Staff Sargent in the Army National Guard. He is preceded in death by his parents and is lovingly remembered by his wife, Janet (Boucher) Wray of the home, children; Dana Wray, David (Susan) Wray, Michael (Paula) Wray, Lori (Dan) Shattuck, and Karen (Stan) Williams, a host of beloved grandchildren, great-grandchildren, other family and close friends. Family will greet friends at 9 am

Thursday, December 22, 2016 at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Parish at: 900 Ida Street, Lansing, Kansas 66043 with Mass of Christian Burial following at 11 am. Interment at Leavenworth National Cemetery will follow at 12:30 pm. Fond Memories and words of comfort may be shared at: www.CashattFamilyFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

Leavenworth National Cemetery

150 Muncie Road
Leavenworth, KS 66048

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

DEC **22**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church
900 IDA STREET
Lansing, KS 66043

Visitation

DEC **22**. 9:00 AM (CT)

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church
900 IDA STREET
Lansing, KS 66043

Tribute Wall



“ *Ronald Neal Wray*

October 04, 2023 at 10:39 PM



“ *Ron was such a happy person. I remember him when Phyllis and I were Freshmen in college in Maryville.*

Condolences to his wife and their family, and of course, to Phyllis Wray and her family.

Meredith Nystrom Philippus

Meredith Nystrom Philippus - December 28, 2016 at 07:02 PM



“ *Janet,*

Our deepest sympathy to you and your family during this difficult time. You are in our prayers. You and Ron have always been very special to Lon and I. We've enjoyed our birthday lunches and visiting with you in church. May God bring you comfort and peace. With love and hugs, Jill and Lon Seglie

Jill Seglie - December 26, 2016 at 10:41 AM



“ *Ron was always thoughtful and generous to our Public Affairs staff at Fort Leavenworth with his annual buffalo chili(several varieties) feeds. He was a one-man band with crockpots, dishes, silverware and even crackers.*

George Marcec - December 21, 2016 at 06:00 PM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ronald Neal Wray.*



December 20, 2016 at 08:45 PM



“ *Being far from the model student, there was one teacher that reached me and that was Ron. I had him all 3 years at SMNW, 30 years ago, and consider him a true influence in my life, which includes my proud military service. Thank you Ron for teaching me so much more than drafting. My Condolences to all the family.*

David Clement - December 20, 2016 at 07:15 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to your family. Ron and I taught at NW High School. I loved his sense of humor, no nonsense attitude, and his love of the kids he taught. One of my fondest memories is the time after he took a creative writing class offered by the district. He then became Wra-ven and wrote many poems, much to the dismay of many administrators but much to the delight of the faculty. My favorite was the poem based on Frank's contingency plan for final exams when bad weather was threatening. So funny as only Ron could do. I will miss you. Rest in peace.*

Ann Williams

Ann Williams - December 19, 2016 at 01:20 PM

LY

“ Janet,
Sincere condolences on your loss of a very special guy. You are not alone of many who Ron's life touched in a meaningful and positive way.
We shared some of my military's best years in the B.S.O. With you, Ron, Charlie Williams, Mike Freeman, Nick, Andy and all the rest we were a wonderful team. Along with the "Sweat Hogs: of Company C we were the best of the best.
Ron was the one we all looked up to as a steady and strong hand with his soft smile and his always ready to listen and offer solutions to business and personal issues of our group. He will always have a lasting good memory in my heart.
Ron's ways was forever "Semper Fi".
Your friend as always,
Larry Youngdoff, COL USAR, Ret.

Larry Youngdoff - December 19, 2016 at 10:19 AM

BS

“ *Upon the occasion of our 50th A-C high school reunion I told Coach (and Janet) how much he had influenced me, and how important he had been to me, in my life's path after high school. Even in those many years when we had no contact. How his mid-1960's interest and concern gave me the self-confidence I needed to develop as an adult. I'm certain that Ron's mentoring relationship of scores of students over his career will be his legacy....I hope his spouse, kids and grandkids can understand his contribution and how it was shared so unselfishly. Sometimes shared in the "Marine Way", but most often with humor about life's curve balls and regardless of numbers on the scoreboard. It meant so much to so many of us, then, and still. Thank you Coach. God bless you. Bob "Doc" Smith, A-C Class of 1965*

Bob Smith - December 18, 2016 at 09:06 PM



I remember you quite well from when I went to the A-C football practices and track meets. You were "Doc", back then too.

Dave Wray - December 18, 2016 at 11:21 PM



I haven't been Doc for 50 years, but did so in this message as an identifier to others whom may post. I was thrilled to see Coach at the reunion. So sorry for your family's loss. I live in Oregon....wish I could attend the memorial. My thoughts will be with you all.

Bob "Doc" Smith - December 18, 2016 at 11:55 PM



“ Ron Wray and I taught together many year at S.M. Northwest High School. He was a marvelous example of ability and concern for others. He was always a happy person and one who could write poetry for nearly every person and event. Both students and the faculty considered him to be "part of their family." I never heard him say an unkind work about anyone. His many memories will challenge us to do likewise. I will miss you Ron, enjoy your eternal reward.

Ronald W. Poplau - December 18, 2016 at 03:38 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Ronald Neal Wray.



December 18, 2016 at 11:41 AM

SP

“ So very sorry for the loss of Cousin Ron. He was instrumental in recording Dad and Mom's (Forrest and Lila Wray) WW2's memories. And Ron and Janet made many trips to the farm to visit and take them out to eat. His spirit and zest for life will be greatly missed. Greg and Sheila Wray Paxton.

Sheila Wray Paxton - December 18, 2016 at 10:15 AM

BJ

“ Ron and I taught and coach together at Adair-Casey jr-sr High School. I was his assistant in football and he was my assistant in track. Ron was an excellent teacher and always had the best interest of the students in mind. Our friendship was further cemented by the countless hours that we volunteered working to develop and improve the athletic facilities at the new high school. He was a great friend and will live on in my memory. Judy and I send our condolences to Ron's entire family and especially to his wife Janet. May you Rest In Peace and may your beloved Bearcats continue to win.
Bob and Judy Jackson

Bob Jackson - December 17, 2016 at 03:34 PM



I remember you perfectly Bob Jackson and Judy too. And the kids.

Dave Wray - December 18, 2016 at 11:24 PM

DA

“ Coach Wray had a positive and friendly impact on my life. From highschool football to present day. He was a good man and I and many others are going to miss him. Duane Avey AC Bombers 1964

Duane Avey - December 16, 2016 at 01:24 PM



I remember you from football and also from track. I was looking up all-time Iowa Track and Field records, one day, and you are the only person from Adair-Casey on the all-time track and field list.

*Football Throw (1942-63)
#7. Duane Avey, Adair-Casey 1963 243' 10"
= 81 yards, 10 inches*

http://www.iahsaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/2.ATB_.evntmetersyds-1.pdf

Dave Wray - December 21, 2016 at 12:12 AM

JM

“*Ron was a great friend and mentor to me in and after high school. He was the reason that I became a Marine Officer and served for 27 plus years. A great people person with a quick wit and engaging personality, but could quickly make his point. The Northwest Bearcat football team will miss him! He will be fondly remembered by my wife and me. May he rest in peace. Semper fidelis, Jim McClung*

Jim McClung - December 16, 2016 at 11:48 AM

RJ

Ron and I taught and coached together at Adair-Casey Jr-Sr High school. I was his assistant in football and he was my assistant in track. Ron was an excellent teacher and coach and was a strong supporter of this students. Our friendship was further cemented by the countless hours that we volunteered working together to develop and improve the athletic facilities at the new high school. He was a great friend an will live on in my memory. Judy and I send our condolences to Ron's entire family and especially to his wife Janet. May you rest in peace and may your beloved Bearcats continue to win.

Bob and Judy Jackson

Robert Jackson - December 17, 2016 at 06:58 AM

JM

*Janet . . . my condolences.. Ron was one of the first guys I met at Adair-Casey where it was my first teaching and coaching job. The teaching staff was very close and Ron became a confidant of mine that first year and continued until I left to go to a larger school. I spent many hours in Casey at his house and at the Schiller's who entertained us many times. I can still see him in that Corvair Greenbriar that he had back then. Over the years his name would appear in my mind many times, wondering what he was up to. I know he always kept in touch with his former students and staff at Adair- Casey and that shows how he felt for the time he spent at A-C.
Great guy, nothing I can add to that.*

Enjoyed visiting with you and the Jacksons 2 years ago. Lots of memories were shared. Sorry that I can't make it on the 22nd. I have a commitment in Minnesota . My prayers will be with you that day.

Jack Mallaro - December 17, 2016 at 08:42 PM

WS

Janet, we are so sorry for your loss, we enjoyed spending time with both of you and our other Army friends. Ron is probably trying to find a ballgame to watch "from afar". Walt & Paula Stedman.

Walter Stedman - December 18, 2016 at 11:54 AM

CM

I met Ron and Janet at the Bonner Springs YMCA. Through this our friendship evolved. I enjoyed our after Y breakfast discussions and must say Ron was a delight to listen to. He always wrote poems for our YMCA dinners including the first names of all members. He also made the best buffalo chili and always made us chuckle with his views on sports and politics. I am honored to know him, as he was a friend to all. To his family I am sorry for your loss.

Charlie Mathies

Charlie Mathies - December 20, 2016 at 06:17 AM

NW

Coach Wray had a profound affect on me, my career, and my life. So long Coach and thank you.

*Neil Westergaard
Adair Casey class of 1964*

neil westergaard - December 20, 2016 at 09:13 PM

SW

My condolences to Janet and all of the family. Mr. Ron Wray was the most influential teacher I ever had. Taking 4 years of drafting classes at SMNW with him.....his class was always the one I looked forward to. He knighted me with the nickname "The Human Drafting Machine". As a student of the early 90's era, we all looked forward to his annual Christmas poem every year, which he always included everyone in his funny rhymes. Taking trips to Fort Hays every year with him is another great memory. He helped steer me into an Engineering career, which all leads back to him and his influences. I owe him thanks in so many ways. Thanks for being a part of my life and everyone one else you touched. May You Rest in Peace.

Steven West

Steven West - December 20, 2016 at 10:06 PM

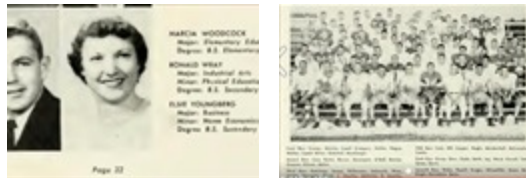


Thanks for the education and great memories Coach Wray!! You were one of a kind. Rudy Turner, Class of 67 A-C Bombers

Rudy Turner - December 24, 2016 at 05:16 PM

Dave Wray

“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Dave Wray - December 16, 2016 at 03:43 AM