



# Ralph Walter LaParl

AUG 23, 1933 - NOV 26, 2024



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## **Ralph Walter LaParl**

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**R**alph W. LaParl age 91 of Clay Twp., MI passed away November 26, 2024 in his home. He was born August 23, 1933 in Roseville, MI to the late Frank and Eleanor (Haight) LaParl. He married Barbara M. Howell August 14, 1954 in Algonac, MI.

Ralph received his bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University and became a teacher at Stevenson High School in Utica, MI. He coached baseball at Utica High School and football at Stevenson High School, where they won several state championships. He was inducted into the Coaches Hall of Fame in 1997. Ralph served on the Algonac School Board and was involved in the Algonac Little League program.

Ralph retired in 1991 and spent several winters at the Red Coconut RV resort in Ft. Myers Beach, FL. His later years were spent at his home on the North Channel with family and friends.

Ralph was an avid runner, many of you may have seen him running along M-29.

Mr. LaParl is survived by his wife of 70 years and high school sweetheart Barb, children Robert LaParl, Deb (Rob) Sadlowski, Richard (Ruthann) LaParl, Wendy Gordon, and Tracey (Rob) Rekar, grandchildren Nicholas, Nathan, Cody, Morgan, Paige, Bianca, Raquel, Hunter, Sydney, Nicole, Taylor, Trevor and Tabitha, and a nephew Rick LaParl.

A celebration of Ralph's life will be held this summer. Arrangements by the Young Gilbert Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Algonac, MI.



## Tribute Wall

**Ralph Walter LaParl**

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**Anonymous** planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of Ralph.



June 1 at 11:20 AM



**Steve Nordquist** posted:

I just learned of Coach LaParl's passing a few minutes ago. Ralph was a great teacher and coach and I considered him the finest HS coach that I had at Sterling Heights-Stevenson. In my senior year he took a very average HS team into the Regionals where we lost to the state runner up by just 2 runs. My condolences to the entire family. Ralph's induction into the HS Hall of Fame was well deserved and to this day I think about him fondly from time to time

January 30 at 2:06 PM



**Ronald P Nordquist** posted:

I was fortunate to have Ralph as a baseball coach. No other coach I ever had compared to Ralph. He was a coach like no other I ever had. He had a knack of getting young men to listen. He respected us and we'd do anything for him because we always felt we had a real chance to win if we listened and did as he demanded. He was that good.

January 30 at 12:51 PM



**Bill Richardson** posted:

My condolences to Barb and Ralph's immediate and extended family. I got to know the LaParl family very well while growing up in Algonac in the 1950's which will historically be recognized as the greatest athletic era in the history of the community! Ralph LaParl was on many of those teams. I can remember having conversations with him in the 1960's when he was coaching in Utica and I in Pontiac. I often wondered what would happen if our teams were to play each other. But that never happened since we were committed to our respective conferences and there was no state playoff format at that time. I would encounter Ralph from time to time over the years while visiting my parents in Algonac. The conversations we had, ALWAYS, at some point, turned to athletics. I remember Ralph as one of the really good guys I have met over the years who touched and made a difference in the lives of thousands of young people during his long tenure in public education. His legacy lives! Bill Richardson

December 6 at 10:35 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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