



Mr. Edwin Laurence Ruus

August 27, 1947 - May 18, 2022

Walhalla, SC - Edwin Laurence Ruus passed away on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at Cottingham Hospice House in Seneca, South Carolina.

Larry, as he was known, was born at St. Francis Hospital in Charleston, South Carolina, on August 27, 1947, to Edwin Mayo Ruus, Sr., and Catherine Malloy Ruus. He graduated from Dykes High School in 1966 and, having been raised around the water, was an avid swimmer who mastered the butterfly stroke. His swimming career ended when he joined the Marine Corps and chose to serve his country in Vietnam (1968-1969) instead of joining the USMC Swim Team.

After the war, he began his career in demolition, working for his father-in-law. He suffered a massive injury, falling from an eight-story building when it collapsed. He was one of the only two survivors.

His career evolved from demolition into the project management field. He worked for several companies, including Benning Construction, Gilly Building, and Sandlapper Construction, located in Atlanta and Charleston, where he eventually retired.

Larry is survived by his wife, Donna Murray Collinsworth Ruus, and his two children, Russell Laurence Ruus (Allison Wilson Ruus) and Dana Caroline Ruus Johnson (Matthew Steven Johnson), whom he made with their mother,

Ellen Claire Rose. Their son was named after an old friend from his time growing up on Hillside Drive in Atlanta, who died in Vietnam, and their daughter was named after one of his biggest loves in life, Neil Diamond. He knew every word to every song and would sing them at the top of his lungs whenever given the opportunity. His "star" shined brightly, and he was widely considered "The Life of the Party" by those who knew him.

He is also survived by his five grandchildren: Gavin, Levi, Avery, Henry, and Brooks, as well as Donna's four children: Heather Cobb (Eric), Kirt Walsh (Sarah), Sarah Collinsworth, and Victoria Tidwell (Chad), fifteen grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, whom all knew him as "Big L" or Poppy. He loved them all very much and was very proud of them. In addition, he is survived by his sister, Gayle Ruus Broach (Steve Broach), sister-in-law, Diane Ruus, as well as a multitude of nephews, nieces, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Edwin Mayo Ruus, Jr.

A Graveside Service and Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Larry was an avid lover of animals, except cats, and his list of canine companions includes Kahloe, Mayo, and Taco. For this reason, in lieu of flowers, a memorial may be made to Patriot Paws Service Dogs, <http://patriotpaws.org/>.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Edwin Laurence Ruus*

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ *Donna and Family, I just saw this announcement! I am so sorry for your loss. I pray that God wil give you HIS peace that passes all understanding. I will continue to pray for you all in the next few days and weeks. My deepest condolences. Shelia G. James*



Shelia James - May 26, 2022 at 10:59 AM



“ *always enjoyed our Tuesday morning coffees, listening to his fish joke, or fixing a gadget he bought. Love ya see ya in Valhalla my friend*

Eric - May 24, 2022 at 07:57 AM

ND

“ My heart hurts, Larry has been a cherished friend since high school and we had a special bond! I don't remember the exact injury, I don't think it was when the building collapsed, I think it was after a car wreck, but anyway Larry had been in a coma and I got word that he kept asking for me, so of course, I went to see him and was relieved when he recognized me! We got together through these many long years and he always made me smile and laugh, that was just his way with everyone!

Please know my prayers are going up for Donna, Gail, all his children and the entire family! The world is a little less bright today but heaven is celebrating his new wings! Fly high Larry, loved you buddy 🙏💔

Nancy DeLany - May 22, 2022 at 08:07 AM

DB

“ So very sorry to hear of Larry's passing. Heard many happy and fun stories years ago from my Mom(Shirley Cohen, Burt Rose's sister) and Uncle Burt and Aunt June. Sending our condolences to Dana and Rusty and families.

Cousins Debbie and Bob Berman Wilmington, De

Debbie & Bob Berman - May 21, 2022 at 06:08 PM

ER

“ Known Larry as Lar the Marine, Tuesday mornings we would have coffee on his front porch, go to the VFW keep him out of trouble and listen to his fish joke, I enjoyed our times together will always remember Lar til Valhalla my friend, tell them your fish joke. Love ya old man

Eric - May 21, 2022 at 10:48 AM

KA

“ *Kathy Addis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edwin Laurence Ruus*



kathy addis - May 21, 2022 at 09:23 AM

PH

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this sad time.*



Patricia Holcombe - May 21, 2022 at 01:55 AM



“ *Wayne F Barton sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Edwin Laurence Ruus*



Wayne F Barton - May 20, 2022 at 10:36 PM