



## Mr. Lowell William Ross

March 13, 1932 - September 1, 2022

Lowell William Ross, Sr., 90, devoted husband of Carolyn Tuten Ross, peacefully entered his heavenly home on Thursday, September 1, 2022, with his loving wife by his side.

Born on March 13, 1932, in Oconee County, Lowell was the son of the late Jesse A. and Jessie Keown Ross. Following graduation from Walhalla High School in 1949, Lowell boarded the bus to Columbia in the fall and enrolled at the University of South Carolina. Upon graduating in 1954 with a major in economics and a minor in education, he served in the US Air Force for 3 ½ years before deciding to pursue the study of law. In 1961 he was graduated, cum laude, with his LL.B. from the USC Law School. While there, he was a member of the Wig and Robe Honorary Scholastic Society and the Law Review.

Following graduation, Lowell served as a law clerk for US District Judge J. Robert Martin (deceased) in 1962-63 during the time when Judge Martin issued orders requiring the integration of the University of SC and the state parks of SC.

Lowell practiced with the firms of McKay, McKay, Black and Walker and Rogers, McDonald and Ross while living in Columbia.

In 1969, Lowell and Carolyn found a home and moved to Seneca, SC, to fulfill Lowell's dream of opening a law office to help and serve the people of Oconee County. He started his practice in Walhalla with Howard Pettit; Julian Stoudemire later joined them. Lowell and Julian eventually opened their practice in their new building in Seneca where they practiced together and with others for many years. Lowell semi-retired in 2017 after practicing law for 56 years.

Lowell was always passionate about helping those who he believed had been treated unjustly or had not had a fair chance in life. He was very active in the South Carolina's Young Lawyers. His extraordinary vision led to the establishment of the Defense of Indigents Act, which created a Public Defender System in South Carolina for the first time.

He served two terms in the SC Legislature (1970-1972; 1990-1992), where he worked tirelessly to help create the Oconee County Sewer Commission providing wastewater treatment for Oconee's towns. Under his watch, Oconee County achieved Home Rule with the establishment of the Oconee County Council, and South Carolina moved forward by creating the Statewide Unified Court System. All of these improved the lives of Oconeeans and South Carolinians.

Lowell received the Distinguished Service Award presented by the Columbia, SC, Jaycees (1967) and the South Carolina Outstanding Young Lawyer Award (1969).

Over the years he served Oconee and South Carolina in many capacities, including being a member of the SC House Judiciary Committee; chairman of the SC Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline; member of the SC Bar Board of Governors; president of the SC Bar Foundation, general counsel (pro bono) for the Oconee Board of Disabilities and Special Needs;

president of the Northside Elementary Parent-Teacher Association; member of the Seneca Sertoma Club. He was a local historian and writer who loved to share his knowledge and works.

Since 1969 Lowell and Carolyn have been active members of the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, where he served as a lay reader and a member of the vestry. He helped negotiate the purchase of the property where the new church is located on Northampton Road in Seneca, when the mission church was growing to become a parish.

Lowell loved his family and was very proud of them. He also loved cooking his special recipes and serving them to family and friends, hiking and exploring the back roads of Oconee County, enjoying baseball events, traveling with his family, watching Westerns, riding his bike, and spending time at his and Carolyn's farm. He was an avid reader and a photographer. While at USC, he was a Gamecock photographer.

Lowell is survived by his wife, Carolyn; sons Lowell, Jr, of Seattle and David (Lisa) of Columbia; daughters Kay Ross (Richard McEachern) of Columbia and Sharon Ross (Russ Rogers) of Seneca; grandchildren Ben Thrasher (Teresa), Tripp Ross (Necia), Mary Leigh McEachern, Brennan Ross; plus bonus grandchildren Ashlie Rogers and Dalton (Mercadies) Rogers; two great-grandsons; a sister, Opal Ross Bullington, and nephew, Danny Bullington (Michele), of Aiken; and many more loving family members. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, Eldon Bullington.

The family would like to thank all of the caregivers, doctors, nurses, and home health care professionals who provided such excellent and compassionate care.

Visitation will take place at Davenport Funeral Home in West Union on Sunday, September 18, from 3 to 5 PM. A Celebration of Life will follow on Monday, September 19, at 3 PM, at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Seneca, with a reception in the parish hall after the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests that memorials be made to the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, Lowell Ross Memorial Fund, 214 Northampton Road, Seneca, SC 29672, or to a charity of one's choice.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **18.** 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Davenport Funeral Home  
311 S Highway 11  
West Union, SC 29696  
(864) 638-3611  
davenportfhome@gmail.com  
<https://www.davenportfuneralhome.com>

## Celebration of Life

SEP **19.** 3:00 PM (ET)

Episcopal Church of the Ascension  
214 Northampton Road  
Seneca, SC 29672  
1-864-882-2006  
ascensionworship@bellsouth.net  
<http://www.ascension-seneca.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Lowell William Ross*

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ *Linda Nix lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



Linda Nix - September 16, 2022 at 01:46 PM

SB

“ *Many Prayers for Carolyn and the entire Ross family, in the hard days ahead. I will always remember Lowell making us some homemade vegetable soup, when my husband and I were out sick from church. It was very good, he insisted on making it for us. I will always remember him coming to church in his truck, with his bike thrown in the back, going for a ride after church. He was always very kind to us. Carolyn, please let us know if we can assist you in any way, in these sad times. We love You.*

Sid & Theresa Bryson - September 16, 2022 at 10:32 AM

KA

“ *Kathy Addis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



kathy addis - September 12, 2022 at 12:21 AM

DF

“ Dearest Cousin Carolyn, I know this is a hard time in that Grief is a force of energy that can't be controlled or predicted. It comes & goes on it's own schedule without consideration for your plans or wishes. In that way Grief is a lot in common with Love! May you find Love in your sorrow! Lowell was a mighty force himself as he championed in the Law for less fortunate peoples. Blessing & Peace to you & yours Donna

Donna Farmer - September 10, 2022 at 08:24 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mr. Lowell William Ross.



September 10, 2022 at 08:15 PM

PC

“ Pat Culbertson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross



Pat Culbertson - September 10, 2022 at 07:23 PM


LL

“ Leonard Loudermilk sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross



Leonard Loudermilk - September 10, 2022 at 04:20 PM

CH

“ *Our sympathy, love and prayers for Carolyn and their loved ones.*  


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**Carolyn Ruddick Hall** - September 10, 2022 at 08:19 AM

WM

“ *Lowell was a wonderfully gifted man who gave of himself daily to better our community and earned an enormous amount of respect in our community and across the state. He was a gifted writer and storyteller and I looked forward to our many interviews on WSNW and WGOG radio stations over the years. He worked tirelessly to help those he felt were wronged by the very system he represented- a trait of compassion and fairness. I look forward to seeing him again. Donna and I send our condolences to his precious family as we mourn the passing of this remarkable man.*

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**Wayne Morton** - September 10, 2022 at 07:53 AM

SA

“ *Carolyn and Family, sending my deepest sympathies to you and your family. Keeping you in my prayers at this difficult time. Sharon N. Adams*

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**Sharon N. Adams** - September 09, 2022 at 07:27 PM

BM

“ *My deepest sympathies to Carolyn and the entire Ross family! I had the pleasure to meet Mr. Ross in the last year and he came to be very special to me! He will be greatly missed.*

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**Becky Miller** - September 09, 2022 at 04:18 PM

RC

*Lit a candle in memory of Lowell Ross. By Bob Cureton*

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**Robert Cureton** - September 10, 2022 at 11:39 AM

KA

“ *Kathy Addis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



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**kathy addis** - September 09, 2022 at 10:05 AM

TM

“ *Tom & Mary Mann lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



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**Tom & Mary Mann** - September 08, 2022 at 05:56 PM

SM

“ *Hoping memories will bring you some comfort.*

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**Sara Wallenius Mertz** - September 08, 2022 at 03:40 PM

AA

“ *Thinking of your family during this time.*



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**Alton and Kathy Alexander** - September 08, 2022 at 03:12 PM

DQ

“ Prayers for family and friends 🙏🙏



Durrell Quarles - September 08, 2022 at 01:33 PM

CG

“ Carolyn Grant lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross



Carolyn Grant - September 08, 2022 at 12:46 PM

JH

“ Jan Hinchman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross



Jan Hinchman - September 08, 2022 at 11:22 AM

DA

“ Don & Darlene Albertson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross



Don & Darlene Albertson - September 08, 2022 at 10:58 AM

HA

“ *Harold Alexander lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



Harold Alexander - September 08, 2022 at 10:38 AM



“ *Kdv Dickson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



Kdv Dickson - September 08, 2022 at 02:46 AM

AS

“ *Lowell Ross was everything a lawyer should be. He lived a life of public service. He was a fine person in every way. He was an inspiration to me.*  
*I am fortunate to have known him for 60 years. Alex sanders*

Alex Sanders - September 07, 2022 at 10:49 PM

AO

“ *Anne Opperman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



Anne Opperman - September 07, 2022 at 09:58 PM

AO

“ Anne Opperman sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross



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**Anne Opperman** - September 07, 2022 at 09:44 PM

FK

“ The Ross Family: I am truly sorry for your loss. I know he will be missed by many. I met Mr. Ross when I was in high school. He was such a gentleman. He showed a bunch of high school girls around the SC House and we had a great time. I will be praying for you all in the tough days ahead.

Sharon, I love you and will be praying for you.  
Faye Keasler

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**Faye Keasler** - September 07, 2022 at 09:44 PM

EW

Dear Carolyn, you and your family have my heartfelt sympathy. You will have many hard days ahead, because half of you is gone. I know you showed him much love and compassion, it showed in every conversation with you. My love and prayers to you and your family.

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**Eleanor Butts Watson** - September 08, 2022 at 10:34 PM

DB

So very sorry for your loss.  
Jim and Donna Burati

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**Donna Burati** - September 11, 2022 at 11:34 PM

BL

“ *Burgess (Bird) Laye lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



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**Burgess (Bird) Laye** - September 07, 2022 at 09:15 PM

MT

“ *Carolyn, I was so sorry to see this notice. May the Lord bless you and the family during this time of mourning.*

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**Marcia Terrell** - September 07, 2022 at 08:47 PM

FC

“ *Frieda Cobb & Jerry Cobb lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



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**Frieda Cobb & Jerry Cobb** - September 07, 2022 at 07:52 PM

BL

“ *Bobbie Jean Ledford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



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**Bobbie Jean Ledford** - September 07, 2022 at 07:48 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mr. Lowell William Ross.*



September 07, 2022 at 07:45 PM



“ *David, Nick and I send our condolences to your family. Shaheena Bennett*

**Shaheena Bennett** - September 07, 2022 at 06:48 PM



*Dear Carolyn, I am so sorry to hear about this. Prayers and blessings to the family. Mary Harley*

**Mary Harley** - September 09, 2022 at 09:57 PM



“ *Becky Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



**Becky Johnson** - September 07, 2022 at 06:16 PM



“ *Rae And Ted Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



**Rae and Ted Smith** - September 07, 2022 at 05:56 PM

RT

“ *Reg Tatum lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



Reg Tatum - September 07, 2022 at 05:51 PM

MD

“ *Mary Bryant Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



Mary Bryant Davis - September 07, 2022 at 05:20 PM

RB

“ *Robin Brucke Burns And Mike Burns lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lowell William Ross*



Robin Brucke Burns and Mike Burns - September 07, 2022 at 05:13 PM

SH

“ *Condolences to the family. I have fond memories of Lowell. He assisted me several times over the years. Prayers for the family*



Steve Harvey - September 07, 2022 at 04:55 PM

CT

*Carolyn and Sharon, I am so sorry! What a wonderful man he always was. He leaves a wonderful legacy. Sending you and your family love and prayers for peace.*

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**Cheri Brown Thompson** - September 07, 2022 at 07:37 PM