



Ralph Dickson

July 18, 1929 - April 3, 2019

Ralph Davis Dickson, age 89, was welcomed by all of heaven on April 3, 2019. We can only imagine the celebratory reunion that took place between he and his loving wife, Martha A. Dickson, who passed away on April 28, 2014. Ralph was surrounded by his four children, Diana, Michael, Todd and Beth.

Born and raised in Clintonville, Ohio, Ralph was son to Ralph H. and Ola Davis Dickson, and younger brother to Mary. He attended North High School and was known for his hard work. He was actively involved in his high school fraternity and also ran track.

Ralph attended The Ohio State University with his interests focused on obtaining his CPA Certificate and a law degree. He believed this was the best possible combination for being a financial success. Even in those early days, Ralph knew what he wanted and set a plan to achieve it. In addition to college, Ralph sought other interests. In his own words he expressed, "Outside activities were a must for my resume. Grades were only part of the picture." Never doing anything halfway, Ralph dove right into building his resume. He was active in organizations, campus government and fraternity life, serving as President and Treasurer allowing him two years of free living in the chapter house. Furthermore, Ralph's exhaustive activities included ROTC, pistol team, honors societies and US Marine Corps. active reserves. During

the summer months, he worked full-time on the railroad section gang and after hours painting. And if that wasn't enough, this hard-working man carried a heavy school schedule and graduated in 10.5 quarters rather than the typical 12.

All the while, as Ralph was pursuing his degree and extracurricular activities, he courted his high school sweetheart, Marty. They were married October 21, 1950. Two months later, in December, Ralph graduated from The Ohio State University.

Upon graduation, Ralph's career was looking most promising as a CPA so he accepted a local internship. He loved the constantly changing assignments and challenges. However, due to the approaching conflict with Korea, Ralph's Marine fighter group was activated and required to report to Cherry Point, North Carolina. Upon arrival, Ralph was assigned as crew chief on a fighter jet. Not long after, Ralph requested a transfer to the Marine Corps. Air Station in Miami, Florida. He was granted the request, and immediately reported to the office of the area auditor, under the direction of the Inspector General of the Marine Corps.

Ralph and Marty flourished in Miami. Ralph enjoyed his work on the base, and of course, received accolades for his expertise and knowledge. In true entrepreneur fashion, Ralph also started a side business doing accounting and tax work for architectural firms. As for family life, the couple had a beautiful home near Miami Bay, countless visitors, loved the warm climate, and announced the arrival of their first child, a baby girl. It was a busy, and fulfilling, time for their family.

At the conclusion of the Korean conflict, the young family decided to stay in Florida. Ralph had accepted an offer at a large regional CPA firm in Fort Lauderdale. However, their six month old daughter, was diagnosed with a severe ear infection due to the damp weather, coincidentally Ralph also

contracted an ear infection. It was time for a different kind of climate change. Ralph and Marty decided to move and plant their roots in Columbus, Ohio.

Remember that internship Ralph had immediately following college? Well, that CPA firm whole-heartily extended an offer letter if the couple would indeed move back to Ohio. The firm eventually merged with a national firm, expanding Ralph's responsibilities into audit work and systems and management advisory work. Ralph truly was one of the best at what he did. He was dedicated, hard-working and an expert in his field. He received several partnership offers, however they were all in larger cities and would require a move. Ralph declined every offer. His family had grown over the years to four children - Diane, Mike, Todd and Beth. They were established in Columbus and he had no intention of moving his wife and children.

It was then that he decided to start Ralph Dickson & Company, CPA's, as a sole practitioner. He opened his office at 50 East Broad Street. In those days, a CPA could not advertise, or tell clients that he was leaving the firm. He started out with no clients. He grew a mustache and walked the streets of downtown, hoping to run into friends so he could tell them about his new firm. Ralph shared, "The Lord was good to me, and in a short time I was too busy to handle all the business myself." Over the years, his company expanded and grew to a total of 35 staff.

On January 1, 1988 Ralph Dickson & Company merged with Crowe Chizek & Company. Ralph was required to stay for three years and three months to manage the Columbus office. On April 1, 1991, after fulfilling his commitment, Ralph started Forensic Accounting Services, Inc. for the purpose of providing litigation consulting, business valuation and fraud investigation.

This would begin a beautiful time in Ralph and Marty's life. This new company

would allow the couple to do what they had always dreamed, travel. Ralph planned to work $\frac{1}{3}$ of the year, allowing them to travel $\frac{1}{3}$ of the year and then leave the other $\frac{1}{3}$ up for discussion. And travel they did! For more than ten consecutive years, the couple averaged traveling 17 weeks a year, and covered a good portion of the world! When they were not in Jackson Hole, Wyoming with friends or covering more of the globe overseas, you could find Ralph and Marty relaxing at Indian Lake. Ralph loved that little peaceful place on the water, only an hour outside of Columbus. Boating, grilling out, entertaining friends and family, Indian Lake was Ralph's little piece of paradise here on earth.

During this season of their lives, Ralph still remained dedicated to his work as it brought him much enjoyment. His forensics company provided him with new cases and new challenges. Ralph expressed, "The most challenging part was testifying at trial in court as an expert witness. The key? Always tell the truth, do not exaggerate or take sides. Be independent and maintain integrity. Of course, those are good guidelines for any of us." Profound advice given by a great man who received extensive honors and awards throughout his career, including being named President of the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants.

As proud of Ralph was of his own career and achievements, he was most proud of his family. He was married to his beautiful bride Martha for almost 64 years. He had four children, twelve grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. His legacy will live on in these generations.

Eventually, Ralph and Marty did make it back to Florida. They spent much of their retirement years in Venice, Florida enjoying friends, church services on the beach and each others company. What a full life these two lived!

In closing, Ralph left invaluable words of advice,

“That you always tell the truth and maintain integrity,
That you be faithful to your faith, and listen for His leading.”

Ralph left an imprint in all the lives he touched. He worked hard and loved deeply.

Ralph was proud of each of his children and their families!

Family of Diane Halloran:

Jennifer (and Samuel) Costello, children Maximus and Charlotte

Mark Halloran, children Mia and Doc

Joshua Halloran, son Vance

Family of Mike (and Jody) Dickson:

Michael (and Malisha) Dickson, children Alden, Brynley and Cameron

Marie Wohrer, children Benjamin and Adler

Matthew (and Mandy) Dickson, children Sadie and Charlie

Mitchell (and Kelsey) Dickson, children Claire and Davis

Family of Todd (and Julie) Dickson:

Sarah Dickson, children Donovan, Caroline and Stella

Brittany (and Marc) Hogenbirk, children Brooklyn, Katelyn and Jocelyn

Ashley Dickson

Family of Beth (and Jim) Andres:

Jessica (and David) Root, children Emma, Logan and Caleb

James Andres, Jr.

Service information for friends and family of Ralph D. Dickson:

Visitation 1pm on April 13, Memorial Service to follow at 2pm.

Berlin Presbyterian Church 5175 South Old State Road, Lewis Center, OH 43035.

Ralph and Marty donated to numerous charities over their lifetime. The most vivid memories of their kindness to others, happened at holiday times when they would make numerous turkeys to take to Better Way Ministries to feed the homeless. Better Way Ministries continues today but has a new name! They are now called Columbus Dream Center. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in honor of Ralph (and Marty) Dickson to Columbus Dream Center, PO Box 8294 Columbus, Oh 43201

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **13**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Berlin Presbyterian Church
5175 S Old State Rd
Lewis Center, OH 43035

Tribute Wall



“ *Ralph Dickson*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *The Tribute to Ralph was so special today. Our thoughts are with all of Ralph and Marty's wonderful big family.*

Fondly, Lloyd and Rosalene Hackman

Lloyd Hackman - April 13, 2019 at 05:12 PM

“ Dear Family,

I wish the miles had not kept us from visiting, like we used to when we were local in Ohio. Since Mike's job relocation's in the last seven years, we have not by choice, turned to cyberspace to be able to keep up with Family, Friends in sharing, life events and heart felt daily missing them and the events they are involved in.

This goes along with keeping up with when they are ill and than suddenly, get news God calls them home. As you know, even when they are ill, and you somewhat prepare yourself, your heart is still never ready to hear that news, I know in my heart God has one of the kindest, most caring man, in his Kingdom.

I felt so blessed and loved by your parents, because of their close friendship with my Aunt Marian and Uncle George, over the years, we built a bond, with them , that was special. I would get Birthday Cards, just a card when she knew I was having a rough time, my visits to Florida were always the best, we always did the beach together , lunch and dinners.

I also remember my first years right after loosing mom, at age 15 and than getting married and having my babies. I was at Liberty during this time, I feel like I grew up with Liberty and the family group there, my Aunt and Uncle knew.

I have many of my pictures of them in my own scrap books, in Florida, events in Ohio. What will always remain, is no matter what we did, the pride they shared in their own family, the events happening, who was doing what at that time. They were such proud parents, grandparents and great-grandparents and you were always on their mind and in their hearts . No matter what we were doing, their Family was still the topic and forefront in all our conversations, just like ours were. Proud parents, Grandparents & Great-Grandparents Indeed !

Through the years, we have been blessed, with kindness, caring and unconditional love of fellowship in so many ways. Two, people, walking hand in hand now, in God's Kingdom, as Family & Friends prepare to say so long Mr. Ralph, because we know this is not Goodbye, as God promises !

You have left such a Legacy, you have the current Generation and Generations into the future, that will continue your Legacy and undoubtedly with the knowledge and wisdom, they will only enhance and grow that Legacy that you and Mrs. Marty began so many years ago.

We send our continued prayers and thoughts to all of the family during a difficult time as you are healing. Mike and I wish we could travel but Texas road trip is impossible at this time,

*God Bless,
Betty & Mike*



Michael & Betty Hopper - April 13, 2019 at 02:04 AM

TM

“ *So sorry to hear about Ralph passing. Enjoyed working with him during my time of involvement with the Ohio Society of CPA's. MaryKay and I enjoyed the various conventions with Ralph and Marty. We will miss him. Will keep him in of prayers this weekend.
Tom and MaryKay Mulligan*

Tom Mulligan - April 12, 2019 at 02:32 PM

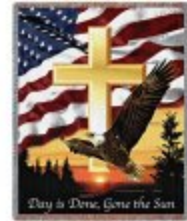
PC

“ I want to send condolences to the family. Ralph was a special, loving man and will be remembered as such by.
The memory to share is of him being my special date to go to the Sunday Brunch at Willow Brook. He and I would dress up and go eat the Brunch together. It was such a pleasure. Usually he would go to the church service a little later in the afternoon.
Ralph was a good neighbor..
In Christian Love,
Peg Crowe

Peg Crowe - April 09, 2019 at 04:09 PM



“ Memorial Honor Blanket was purchased for the family of Ralph Dickson.



April 09, 2019 at 09:38 AM

SR

“ I remember Mr. Dixon fondly as my youth leader in grades 9 & 10. I was an awkward young teenager who was learning the way of faith, yet had many questions at that period of my life. When I found Liberty youth group, I found a place of belonging. That sense of belonging, in large part, was from Mr. Dixon himself. He always welcomed me with open arms. He made me feel welcome, accepted, worthwhile, valued and genuinely loved. I know this feeling of acceptance is what paved the way for a yet deeper walk with the Lord in the years to come. I remember our meetings, our retreats to Canada and being baptized in the river, along with other members of our youth group. Only the Lord knows the full fruit from those years. Several of us ended up in fulltime ministry in one form or other, whether as pastors or pastor’s wives. That is a testament to what loving a group of teenagers, and God’s grace, will do. Thank you, Mr Dixon for your faithfulness to us - we are forever grateful to you! Until we meet again!

Shellie Richards - April 08, 2019 at 11:39 PM

GD

“ Sending our loving thoughts and prayers to the Dickson families. We have known Ralph and Marty since Liberty Church days , raised our children together, traveled all over the country and world and have such wonderful, fun, loving memories with them. They are both missed but on our hearts and loving thoughts to the families at this time. Thanks for being a great loving and giving friend Ralph and making wonderful memories with us! Always in our memories, George and Marian Davis

George Davis - April 08, 2019 at 05:17 PM

MI

George and Marian, I'm sure you must know how much mom and dad cherished your long friendship and around the world travels. I have thousands of 35mm slides that show how much fun you had.

Mike - April 08, 2019 at 07:48 PM

DH

Ralph was a great man. I will always be thankful for his kindness and guidance in giving me a start in my career. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wonderful family. David and Rhonda Humphrey

David Humphrey - April 09, 2019 at 12:43 PM

MF

It is wonderful memories that I have of parties and trips with Marty and Ralph and the trip we enjoyed with them and Marian and George to Branson, MO. I was blessed after Jack died with the kindness when they included me in activities with old friends.

Thank God for their friendship. Blessings and my sympathy to the whole Dickson family.

Mae Frost

Mae Frost - April 11, 2019 at 08:24 PM

JB

God bless Ralph and Marty as they get back together in their next life. I'm sure they will influence others as they have in this life.

Jim Bartholomew - April 13, 2019 at 08:43 AM