



## Ramon "Ray" Wilson

December 16, 2011

Ramon Chandler "Ray" Wilson, died Friday, December 16, 2011 at Kobacker House from complications following emergency abdominal surgery. Born at home in Carrollton, MO to the late Helen and Dr. C.W. Wilson, he graduated from Carrollton High School in 1954 where he played basketball and trombone in the marching and dance band. While growing up in Carrollton listening to the radio and records, he developed a life-long interest in jazz-particularly New Orleans, Dixieland and Kansas City styles. He received a B.S. in Science and Social Studies Education from the University of Kansas in 1958. Ray married Suzanne Stapleton on May 29, 1957 in Independence, MO soon after they had met on a blind date the previous Christmas. He taught at Crane Junior High School in Topeka, Kansas and started the family who survives him: Lisa Maureen Eggert and husband Michael, Gregory Chandler Wilson and wife Trish Neel, all of Columbus, Ohio; Julie Cathryn Wilker and husband Karl, of Springfield, MO and Jeffrey Cameron Wilson, of Missoula, MT; grandchildren: Brendan and Andrew Eggert, Austin, Emily and Johanna Wilker and Chandler Wilson; brother James and Judy Wilson, of Lees Summit, MO. In 1960 he began a career in the Elementary and High School text book business first in Missouri and Kansas living in Wichita and Lawrence, Kansas and later in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana as a representative and sales manager as well as a national science consultant. The family moved to Columbus from St. Louis in 1968 for what was to be two years and turned into twenty. He retired from McGraw Hill Book Company in

1996 after receiving national awards as an outstanding representative. From 1989-98, along with his wife, he was a proprietor of The Frederick Fitting House Bed and Breakfast in Bellville, Ohio. After his retirement they moved to Prescott, Arizona where he was a volunteer for the zoo and nature center which allowed him to further his continuing interest in nature and animal conservation. It also was a great opportunity for the addition to his seemingly never-ending “fun facts to know and tell”. In 2005 they returned to Ohio to be closer to family and friends and settled in Powell at the Homestead at Scioto Reserve. He thoroughly enjoyed travel, particularly to listen to all kinds of music—a highlight being a tour of Europe with the award-winning OSU Jazz Ensemble in 1986. There were many trips to New York—from little clubs to Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. Cruises came later with his favorite being to New Zealand and Australia. An ardent Truman Democrat, he was the supporter of many liberal causes. He leaves close friends and extended family, The BBT’s, for whom he spun many tall tales about his childhood around the campfire at Hueston Woods, which was part of a tradition that spanned a couple of generations. At his request there will be no services but rather a celebration of his life with the sounds of his beloved “vinyl’s” and a bit of good cheer at a later date to be announced. He will indeed “be a part of that number—when the saints go marching in.” Memorial contributions in his memory can be made to any organization furthering jazz education or animal or wildlife conservation. Arrangements by the Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell, 450 West Olentangy St., Powell, OH 43065 (614)-792-1471. Send condolences for the family to: [www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ramon "Ray" Wilson*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *To the family of Ramon Wilson. We are very sorry to hear of his death. We just learned today. He was a great friend and we spent a lot of time together . He was a great person and We know everyone will miss him.*

**Jim Gibson** - December 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Family of Ramon - He was a great Carrollton High School friend of mine and will be missed. Fortunately, I just saw and visited with him at the last Class of 1954 reunion in October 2010 in Carrollton. Our thoughts and prayers are will you.*

**Tom & Miriam Archibald** - December 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. May the words in Isaiah 57:15 give you hope and comfort.*

**Barb & Tom Layton** - December 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ray will be missed. He was a one of a kind guy, larger than life in so many ways. Our love and condolences to Sue, Lisa, Greg, Julie, Jeff, and all the extended family. You are in our hearts and thoughts. Fritz and Diane*

**Fritz (Fritzie) and Diane Stocker** - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Sue, I was so sorry to read of Ray's passing this weekend. He was always such great fun and a wonderful conversationalist, who always made me feel a welcomed guest at your parties. Pete and I fondly remember our weekend get away to Bellvue, shortly after you opened the Bed and Breakfast at the Frederick Fitting House. You always were the best host and hostess!!!! My sympathy is sent to you and your family at this sad time. I would love to see you sometime when you feel up to it..it has been such a long time. You can contact me at 885-1685. Please know you are in our thoughts. Warmly,  
Pete and Mary Simpson

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**Mary Cramer Simpson** - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EY

“ Ian, Avry and I have fond memories of Ray at Hueston Woods and the tales he shared at the campfires. He was the back bone at the camp site and the "TV" we did without while we all supposedly "roughed it"... Haha! I'll never forget his (and Sue's) welcoming me into the "group". I will miss him very much even though I haven't seen him in years. I'm very sorry for your loss and will continue to have special memories of Hueston Woods and Thanksgivings at FFH because of Ray and the character he was. He touched so many lives in so many different ways!!

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**Ellen Young** - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Dear Sue, Lisa, Julie, Greg and Jeff, We just learned today of Ray's death. Katy learned of it from Julie's facebook. We are saddened. We have many happy memories of our times with all of you. We talked with all of our kids today and they all express their sympathy. We will be thinking of all of you.

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**Mary Jane and Mike Brunt** - December 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ *"Uncle" Ray will be loved and remembered fondly. Love, Brian*

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**Brian White** - December 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM