



## Ralph E. Holmstrom

February 28, 1914 - August 23, 2016

Ralph E. Holmstrom, 102, of Newington, husband of the late F. Louise Herrmann Holmstrom, passed away Tuesday August 23, 2016 at Middlewoods of Newington. A New Britain native and longtime resident, he later lived in Plainville before moving to Middlewoods in 2014. Ralph attended New Britain High School and served with the US Merchant Marine. Ralph was a firefighter for the City of New Britain for 28 years, retiring as a Lieutenant in 1969. He later worked in the Automotive Department at Sears in Corbins Corner and also served as a bartender at several local restaurants and country clubs.

A member and former head usher at First Lutheran Church in New Britain, he was a member, Past Master and 38 year Secretary of Walnut Hill Lodge AF&AM now Unity Lodge # 148. A past District Deputy of 5B for the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, Ralph was a recipient of the Piermont Edwards Medal in Bronze. He was a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a 63 years member of the Funsters Unit of Sphinx Temple Shrine in Newington. He was a dual member of Frederick-Franklin Lodge and Frederica Chapter, Order of Eastern Star.

Surviving are his three daughters, Kathy Hickey of Plainville and her longtime companion James Murray of Prospect; Donna Brown and her husband Larry of South Windsor; and Jane Holmstrom of Plainville and her companion and former husband Joe Kozalka of Kensington; three grandchildren, Scott Hickey and his wife Carla; Jennifer Conner and her husband Stephen; and Aaron

Brown and his wife Tracey; seven great grandchildren, Colum, Kylie, Kenzie, Leah, Riley, Ayla, and SJ; several nieces and nephews. Besides his wife Louise, Ralph was predeceased by two brothers and three sisters, Raymond and Robert Holmstrom; Ruth Holmstrom; Olga "Toots" Janelle and Helen Halladay. He was also predeceased by a nephew, Edward "Ted" Janelle. Ralph's family expresses thanks to his devoted caregivers, Roxanne Mueller and Nana Damoah as well as the full staff at Middlewoods of Newington for all their loving care.

Funeral services are Friday 10 AM at First Lutheran Church, 77 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 followed by burial in Fairview Cemetery, New Britain. Calling hours are Thursday 5 to 8 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain with a dual Masonic Service at 6:30 PM during the calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First Lutheran Church or to Shriner's Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104. Please share a memory or note of sympathy by "clicking" SEND CONDOLENCES at the bottom of the page.

# Tribute Wall

JC

“ James Carlson lit a candle in memory of  
Ralph E. Holmstrom



---

**James Carlson** - October 06, 2016 at 10:25 AM

ES

“ May you enjoy your new hunting grounds as much as we all  
enjoyed our old ones together. You will be missed greatly and fondly  
remembered until we are all together again.love and prayers to your  
family.

---

**Ernest Strout** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Ralph, I've so many fond and wonderful memories I can't even  
begin to count. I'll miss you, your 4th daughter Debbie to those of  
you wondering, I'm the friend from Maine

---

**Debbie Brooker** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ Donna, Kathy, Jane & Families  
I was so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. I remember him from  
church, always doing something to help out. He was so good with  
us kids. His warm smile, and generous way was an inspiration. May  
God Bless, Keep & Guide you through your sorrow.  
Sincerely,  
Helena Berlin

---

**Helena Berlin** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *Kathy, Donna and Jane*

*I am so sorry for the loss of your Dad.  
Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs  
Love,  
Barbara*

---

**Barbara Langwiser** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ *Sincerest condolences to all the Holmstrom family on the loss of the 'patriarch' of your family. Once again he is joined with your Mom..may he rest-in-peace...G-d bless you all..Peace and Love..Donna & Larry's friend Fay and my family*

---

**Fay Clymer** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ *Several weeks ago, Ralph and I were sitting at dinner table at Middlewoods, our home. The server was taking longer than expected to deliver our desserts.*

*"I asked for German Chocolate cake," Ralph said, "but I didn't think she'd go to Germany to get it."*

*Whenever Ralph talked with someone, or whatever aspect of his one hundred two years he was discussing, he expressed exuberance and love for life and those with whom he shared his. We will miss him.*

---

**Keith Erickson** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Mom and Holmstrom Family, I am so sorry for your loss. And so sorry SJ and I couldn't be there. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Rest in Peace Grandpa  
With Love, Carla and SJ

---

**Carla Magnusson** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GK

“ To the Holmstrom family:  
It is with sincere sympathy to the Holmstrom family to read of Ralph's passing. My dad and I were blessed to have known Ralph, who always was smiling and enjoyed telling stories of "old times".  
May Ralph rest in peace.

---

**Glenn Klocko** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Kathy, Jane, Donna and family

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time of sadness. Your dad was special to Mike and I, now he can be at peace and free from illness and pain.*

*with all our love and thoughts  
Mike and Denise*

---

**Mike and Denise Johnson** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Our deepest condolences to Jane, Donna, Kathy and family on the loss of your father.

---

**Sharon Kitchen** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ *Kathy and Joe Krajewski offer our most sincere condolences to Janie, Donna and Kathy and their families in this time of sadness. Our prayers go out to you.*

---

**Joe Krajewski** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ *So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayer are with the entire family and wishing everyone fond memories of Ralph to get through this difficult time. God Bless, Bob and Justine Daunis.*

---

**Justine Daunis** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ *So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayer are with the entire family and wishing everyone fond memories of Ralph to get through this difficult time. God Bless, Bob and Justine Daunis.*

---

**Justine Daunis** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM