



## Earl S. Rudolph Jr.

October 2, 1931 - November 23, 2021

Decatur – Earl S. Rudolph, Jr., 90, of Decatur, passed away Tuesday, November 23, 2021.

Earl was born on October 2, 1931, in Springfield, IL, the son of Earl S. and Anna M. (Albert) Rudolph. An Army veteran, Earl was proud of the fact that he was one of the original teachers at MacArthur High School when it opened in 1957. He went on to spend 34 years teaching chemistry and physics before retiring in 1991.

Earl was an emeritus member of the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity, member of Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, member of Teacher Saving Children, Inc., member of Notre Dame Alumni Association, charter member of Holy Family Catholic Church and current member of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, past president of Decatur Education Association, Negotiator of the first strike in Decatur School District, Member of Golden K since 1998, volunteer for AARP Tax Service at the Macon County Senior Center Decatur and member of Illinois Retired Teachers Association.

Earl married Patricia A. Schlosser on September 7, 1953, and she preceded him in death on April 29, 1988. He then married Anna M. Wilkerson on June 14, 1997. He was an avid Chicago Cub fan and loved to play golf.

Surviving is his wife, Anna of Decatur; children: Mary House of Champaign, Dr. Joseph (Susan) Rudolph of Webster Groves, MO, Stephen (Rose Marie) Rudolph of Germantown Hills, Carol (Robert) Meyer of East Peoria, Janet (Dr. Don) Fischer of Sioux Falls, SD, Daniel (Colleen) Rudolph of Darien, and Michael Rudolph of East Peoria; stepchildren: Bill (Cathy) Tapscott of Decatur, and Jim (Kay) Tapscott of Decatur; 30 grandchildren, 38 great grandchildren, 6 step grandchildren and 7 step great grandchildren; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Earl was preceded in death by his parents, first wife Patricia, sister Doris Schlosser and son in law John House.

Visitation will be Saturday, December 4, 2021, from 9:30 am, until the Mass of Christian Burial time at 11 am, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. Burial with take place at Mt. Gilead Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Decatur Right To Life, Holy Family School Scholarship Fund or Our Lady of Lourdes Building Fund.

Moran & Goebel Funeral Home and Cremation Services is in charge of the arrangements. Memories and condolences may be shared at <http://www.moranandgoebel.com>.

# Cemetery

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## Mt. Gilead Cemetery

Mt. Gilead Rd.

Decatur, IL, 62521

# Events

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**DEC** **Visitation** 09:30AM - 11:00AM

**4**

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Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church  
3850 Lourdes Drive, Decatur, IL, US, 62526

**DEC** **Burial**

**4**

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Mt. Gilead Cemetery  
Mt. Gilead Rd., Decatur, IL, US, 62521

**DEC** **Mass of Christian Burial**

**4**

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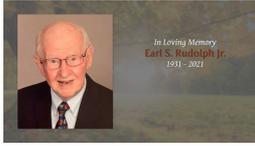
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church  
3850 Lourdes Drive, Decatur, IL, US, 62526

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Moran & Goebel Funeral Home and Cremation Services** - December 01, 2021 at 09:45 AM

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“ The first lesson of chemistry - hot glass and cold glass look the same! His instruction in chemistry was so thorough and good that my skills in significant digits for labs was beyond what my college instructors required (as were many other skills)!

I was pleased to be able to personally catch up with him about 10 years ago and present him with a chemistry activity book that I dedicated to him. He was an inspiration and his memory will live on.

Cindy Blobaum

**cindy blobaum** - December 01, 2021 at 01:24 PM

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“ My deepest condolences to Mr. Rudolph's family. I did typing for him at MHS in my Junior and Senior years. He was a kind and very patient man, as my typing skills were not perfected. May he Rest In Peace. Kathy Heiserman Hughes Class of 1970

**Kathy Heiserman Hughes** - December 01, 2021 at 12:42 PM

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“ Mr. Rudolph was a great neighbor and a loyal friend to my dad. I will never forget how he regularly visited Dad in the nursing home. I am so sorry for your loss. Joanie Shoemaker Merrill

**Joanie Shoemaker Merrill** - December 01, 2021 at 08:50 AM

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“ Back in the 60's I worked for my Uncle Earl, Buddy's dad, at Sam's Market. When Uncle Earl and Aunt Ann would go to California to visit Art and Rose, Buddy would come over from Decatur to run the store. I always had a good time working with Buddy. Like his dad he was very positive and funny. He will be missed.

Joe Albert - November 30, 2021 at 11:28 AM

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“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Earl S. Rudolph Jr..



November 30, 2021 at 11:13 AM

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“ The (Fred) Schlosser cousins purchased the Rays of Light Spray for the family of Earl S. Rudolph Jr..



The (Fred) Schlosser cousins - November 29, 2021 at 08:31 PM

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“ I, as well as other members of MHS class of 1964, one of Mr. Rudolph's three favorite classes of students, I'm told, chemistry students will long remember those days after school doing lab exercises. My condolences to the family. I am too late to ask for consideration in getting my grade of "C" changed to a better grade. It was a tough class, but one I'll always remember. As, will my sister, Kay, who also scored a grade of "C." Must be in our genes. He and I carried on a great conversation at our 50th class reunion in 2014. Thank you for the memories. Jim Dollahan

James B. Dollahan - November 29, 2021 at 07:05 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Earl S. Rudolph Jr..



November 29, 2021 at 04:13 PM

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“ I was as science teaching colleague of Earl Rudolph at MHS in the 1980's . My condolences to the family.

Scot Reynolds



**K. Scot Reynolds** - November 28, 2021 at 10:02 PM

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“ Earl always had a smile and a positive outlook, regardless what came in his life. He was a great man. The world would be a far better place were there more people like him.

**Mary Lou Ferguson** - November 28, 2021 at 09:53 PM

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“ Mr. Rudolph was first my "Intro to Chemistry" teacher in the mid 1970's. Later, he was the Science Department Chair when I started my teaching career in 1982. Earl was such a great mentor, colleague and friend. I always enjoyed our lunch "forums" where we discussed student progress and world events. I worked in the science department for almost a decade with Earl before I departed and went into the wacky world of administration in Decatur, Warrensburg, and finally retiring as a school superintendent at Spoon River Valley in 2017. I credit Earl with giving me a firm foundation and pointing the way to success. I am now retired, but have SO many good memories of him! Please accept my deepest condolences and prayers. Know that you will all be in my thoughts and prayers in the days ahead!

In a Spirit of Prayer,

Scot (Denise) Reynolds

Retired Educator  
Canton, IL



**K Scot Reynolds** - November 28, 2021 at 07:02 PM

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“ So sorry for your loss. I'm sure he was a great role model for all the family.

**cindy Dalaba** - November 28, 2021 at 05:38 PM

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“ Mr Rudolph was my Chemistry teacher circa 1970s. He was an inspirational teacher and always concerned we do our best. Our condolences. MacArthur Class of 1974 (Karen Voice Gagnon)

**Karen Gagnon** - November 28, 2021 at 03:36 PM

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“ To Mary, Joe, Steve, Carol, Janet, Dan and Mike, I am so sorry for your loss. Your dad meant the world to me. I called him as often as I could and when I was down that way I always stopped to see him. He always sent me birthday and Christmas cards. That truly meant more to me than you can ever imagine. He and your mom did a great job with you all..I think its the Rudolph/Schlosser genetics. My prayers are with you and I truly wish I could be there for all of you , like you were with my folks. I love you all and you are in my prayers.

**Philip Schlosser** - November 25, 2021 at 09:22 PM



“ Thanks so much , Philip. That means a lot to us. Your parents were also very helpful with our family. I remember how your mother helped take care of my mom in her final week- that she was very caring.

**joe rudolph** - November 27, 2021 at 09:14 PM



“ Mr. Rudolph was my chemistry teacher at MacArthur High School in roughly 1972 or 1973. He was an excellent teacher and role model. I remember him as demanding but very fair and supportive. He is the main reason I ended up majoring in Chemistry at the University of Illinois. He influenced many more people than you will ever know, all I think in a very positive way. His high standards also live on in others lives. In his own way, he was truly a great man.

Jay Corwin, MD

**Jay Corwin** - November 29, 2021 at 01:57 PM