



Russell J. Ratkay

July 4, 1944 - July 21, 2023

Russell J. Ratkay, born on Tuesday, July 4, 1944, in Mount Prospect, Illinois, entered eternal rest at his home in Tulsa on Friday, July 21, 2023, at the age of 79 years and 17 days. He was the beloved son of Earnest and Olga (Iverson) Ratkay, and his passing leaves a void in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

Russell's journey in life was one filled with love and devotion. After graduating from Mount Prospect, Illinois high school in 1962, he found himself in the rewarding role of an employee at Amoco Oil Company, where he dedicated himself to the Accounting department. But it was in the arms of his late wife, the former Miss Karon Hamilton, that he discovered the true essence of happiness and love. They shared an unbreakable bond and were united in marriage on June 28, 1975, in Bucyrus, Kansas.

Russell and Karon's life together took them to various places, from Kansas City to Des Moines, until they eventually settled in Tulsa in 1996. Russell had a particular fondness for the bustling city of Chicago, a place that always held a special spot in his heart. He cherished the city's vibrant culture and, of course, delighted in the iconic Chicago dogs that brought him joy with every bite. Moreover, Russell had a passion for preserving family history and building the family genealogy tree, leaving behind a legacy that will be treasured by generations to come.

Beyond his personal pursuits, Russell was a devoted member of Asbury Church in Tulsa, where he found solace and community. But above all else, Russell was a loving and cherished father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. His warm heart and genuine kindness endeared him to everyone he met, making lifelong friends wherever he went.

Russell's memory will forever be cherished by his son, Bryan, and wife Brenda Ratkay of Grover Beach, CA, along with his beloved grandchildren: Mike and wife Porsha, Joshua, Thomas, and Morgan. He was also blessed with great-grandchildren: Quinn, Ayden, and Madison, who brought immeasurable joy into his life. Additionally, Russell leaves behind his niece, Sarah, who held a special place in his heart.

He is now reunited with his beloved wife, Karon, and together they shall watch over their family from above.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests memorials to be sent to Asbury Church, 6767 South Mingo Road, Tulsa, OK 74133, or the American Cancer Society, 4110 South 100th East Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74146. These causes held special meaning to Russell, reflecting his compassionate and caring nature.

As we say our final goodbyes to Russell J. Ratkay, we hold onto the memories of his unwavering love, his warm smile, and the joy he brought to all who were fortunate to know him. May he rest in eternal peace, forever surrounded by the love he shared with his late wife, Karon, and may his legacy of love and kindness continue to inspire us all.

Cemetery Details

Mount Moriah Terrace Park

801 N.W. 108th St.
KANSAS CITY, OK 64155

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mount Moriah Terrace Park
801 N.W. 108th St.
KANSAS CITY, OK 64155

Tribute Wall

MR

“ I miss you a lot I've been going to Avila a lot and wishing you were around to talk to I could really use you right now. I hope it's nice up there with grandma

Mike Ratkay - August 14, 2025 at 08:48 PM



“ Russell J. Ratkay

October 23, 2023 at 01:21 AM

RB

“ We shared many a good time at Amoco. I will miss his perspective. See ya later, Russ.
Richard Boyd

Richard Boyd - July 31, 2023 at 01:23 PM

SL

“ Uncle Russ I will miss you forever!



Sarah Lamb - July 31, 2023 at 09:53 AM

CD

“ Russ, my good friend for over 30 years. You will be missed. Rest in peace.



Charles R. Diehl - July 30, 2023 at 03:14 PM

MR

“ I will forever miss you Grandpa 💙



Morgan Ratkay - July 29, 2023 at 01:06 PM

BR

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Bryan Ratkay - July 29, 2023 at 01:06 PM

MR

“ Michele Rumery lit a candle in memory of Russell J. Ratkay



Michele Rumery - July 28, 2023 at 06:43 PM

SP

Russ was always a very nice/kind person with an infectious smile and fun to be around. RIP Russ!

Shirley Phenix - August 02, 2023 at 09:22 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Hayhurst Funeral Home - July 26, 2023 at 09:35 PM