



Ralph Ronald Simplot Sr.

March 29, 1933 - February 16, 2020

Ralph Ronald Simplot Sr , age 86, died peacefully on February 16, 2020, in Beloit, WI.

Ralph is survived by his wife Ruth Simplot, of Janesville; his daughter Debbie (Chuck) Fischer of South Beloit, Sons - Ronald (Linda) Simplot of Footville, John Simplot of Texas, Ralph Simplot Jr of Big Flats, Stepsons David (Jeanine) Froeber Beloit, and Gary (Nancy) Froeber of Rockford, IL. Sister – LaFreda Wallace of Kentucky , multiple grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his first wife Joanne (Froeber) Simplot, daughter Desire' Simplot, Step-children Kathy, Gilbert and John. Mother and Father Thelma and Arthur Simplot, Brothers Harold, Irvin, Jerry, Virgil, Gaylord and sister Marcella.

Ralph was born on March 29, 1933 in Black River Falls to parents Thelma and Arthur Simplot. He attended school in Black River Falls and moved to Beloit in 1948. He found employment at the age of 17 with Waterbury Furnace company and Arch heating and cooling until his retirement.

Ralph was known as a twin to actor Sam Elliott and was always seen wearing his cowboy hat and boots. He was a great family man and a loving father. Family always came first unless there was a casino in sight, he won big in both those areas. His sense of humor and the sparkle in his eye, you never knew what he was up to. He brought joy to so many and was the center of our family.

A celebration of life will be scheduled on his birthday on March 29, 2020 at the Welty Environmental Center located at 1201 Big Hill Ct. beginning at 1 pm. All friends and family are invited to join us for a luncheon celebration of Ralph's life.

The family would like to thank the staff of Sun Valley East assisted living for the loving care they gave our father for the past two years and Beloit Regional Hospice for the exceptional care he received through their service.

Comments



“ Ralph was a very kind man. If the family would like I do have several great photos from several years back at the Pelton Simplot family reunion

Helen Crary - May 03, 2020 at 10:23 PM



“ Helen I would love to see those photos

Debbie - February 15, 2021 at 07:53 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. Dale and Iona Mckillips

Dale and Iona Mckillips - February 19, 2020 at 04:28 PM



“ I remember Ralph as he and my Brother Ronald were the ones that thought me how to swim down by the rocks in Black river. I thought I was going to drown. I always made it a point go talk to him at the reunions. He will be messt. My Love to the Family.
Gary Taylor



Gary Taylor - February 19, 2020 at 03:47 PM



“ Samantha Vance lit a candle in memory of Ralph Ronald Simplot Sr.



Samantha Vance - February 18, 2020 at 08:57 PM



“ Everytime I seen Grandpa Ralph he was wearing a cowboy hat, button down shirt with cigarettes in his pocket, dark blue jeans with his " Simplot" belt buckle and cowboy boots. This was his look!

Everytime we would go to his house his black cat would growl and hiss at us then run into the basement. That scared me everytime I walked in. I also remember his dog Chipper.

I loved sitting on his porch listening to his stories and looking at all the birds at his feeders. He would tell us how many deer and turkeys he seen before we got there. He always would tease me about the "Simplot yeti brow"....thanks Grandpa that's probably why I am so anal about my eyebrows.

I also loved how everything of his was written on. He would write his name, the person who gave it to him and the date he got it.

I remember playing his small slot machine and would get so excited every time I won! Before he would give me change to put in the slot machine he would check the dates and put the old ones in his pocket. The other coins weren't super old be would start telling me a story about the year that was on the coin. It was so interesting!

Grandpa Ralph we will all miss you but you will always be in our hearts. I love you Grandpa! ♥

Samantha Vance - February 18, 2020 at 08:54 PM



“ Ralph work for us at Arch Heating & Cooling for many years till his retirement, He was with our Company from the start.
Ralph was a great help to us in the early years of Arch Heating teaching Ed & I all he knew about the furnace business, he was a Master at Oil Furnace Systems and taught me so much about Oil Furnaces & Sheet Metal.
At Arch, We remember Ralph as always exploring small dark crawl spaces with only his cigarette lighter to install ductwork,..... Was quite of a character,.. He will be remembered at our shop..... RIP my friend

Roger Dole - February 18, 2020 at 11:53 AM



“ I was so very happy to see Uncle Ralph and Aunt Ruth at the family reunion this past summer in Beloit. He had his usual cowboy hat and great big smile and that laugh that I will never forget.

Most fondest memories of Ralph were always during deer season at the shack in Black River. Uncle Ralph is the one who got all us kids saving and eating deer hearts the Saturday night of opening weekend and frying them in cheap beer with onions on the stove top. Don't knock it until you've tried it! I can still see him sitting on the couch in the shack with a cup of coffee in one hand and cigarette in the other wearing his blaze orange cowboy hat and long underwear during those ice-cold November mornings almost forty years ago. His famous over-sized "Hot Nuts" picture with all of those deer in the back of Allen's Toyota will be kept on the wall of the shack as long as the shack still stands. I still think he may have shot one or two of them after hours with his trusty .44 mag pistol.

Uncle Ralph, you taught me a whole hell of a lot about life and the real world from a very young age and I'm eternally grateful to you for that. You are greatly missed. I hope Ronald was able to put that last lit cigarette into your mouth sometime last weekend before you headed up to see your Mom and Brothers.

-Jeremy John

Jeremy Simplot - February 18, 2020 at 11:15 AM



“ We will miss uncle Ralph. He has been a part of me since the beginning, all the way back to South Beloit with Gramma & Grampa Simplot. The last brother of our senior family. So sad, will never be forgotten. Once when my dad was building a garage, with his brother's, at our house on New Field Drive I offered to wash Ralph's car for .50 cents. Of course he said "yes" so I preceded to wash his car but only the half he could see from the garage. When that half was done I summoned Ralph to inspect, he did. Upon seeing that only one half the car was washed I then told him okay, Ill wash the other half for another ..50! Laughing he agreed. Amazingly he never forgot that and brought it up to me many years later and more than once. What a guy!! Our thoughts and prayers are with you guys. We love all of you. See you on the 29th!
Love, Tootie & Cathy

Marv Simplot - February 18, 2020 at 09:37 AM



“ I remember him from Alden he could always make me laugh RIP

Karen Needham - February 18, 2020 at 06:37 AM



“ I will always remember Ralph giving me a hard time about my yellow ford suv and the packer plates on it, plus his big smile. He will be missed by so many.

Beth McHone - February 17, 2020 at 11:25 PM



“ My Grandpa Was The Best. Whenever I Seen Him No Matter What Day Of The Week It Was He Would Always Say " Why Aren't You At Work ?" I Loved Going To His House And Sitting With Him And Him Telling Me About All Of The Different Birds That Would Visit His Many Bird Feeders. I Wish I Would Have Done That A lot More Often. I Love You Grandpa

Joni Lillard - February 17, 2020 at 10:53 PM