



Mr. Ranson J. "Ranny" Erskine

June 19, 1934 - June 12, 2025

Ranson J. "Ranny" Erskine, age 90, passed away peacefully on June 12, 2025, in Tampa, Florida, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on June 19, 1934, in Mount Clemens, Michigan, Ranny lived a life defined by hard work, service, and unwavering dedication to his family, country, and community. He began working at a young age, taking on jobs from collecting golf balls to delivering newspapers. At 17, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served proudly during the Korean War as a Radarman aboard the USS Chloris.

Ranny married his high school sweetheart, Mary Louise Dragneff, with whom he shared 51 years and raised six daughters in Florida. He worked for Graybar Electric and served as a volunteer firefighter before beginning a long and impactful career with the U.S. Postal Service. As a passionate union leader, he championed workers' rights, ultimately serving as Southeast Region Vice President of the postal workers' union—a role he held with honor for many years.

After retiring in 2000, Ranny worked as a substitute teacher, sharing his values and love of learning with younger generations. A lifelong baseball fan, he held spring training season tickets for over 20 years and especially loved time spent with his grandchildren, taking them on memorable road trips across

the country with Willie Nelson's "On the Road Again" playing through the speakers.

Ranny was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Mary Louise; daughter, Mary Vanessa; his parents, James and Mildred Erskine; and all of his siblings.

He is survived by his daughters: Deborah (Pat Ostman) Huntsman, Victoria Kammeier, Jaquelyn Clark, Cassandra (Ed) McLeod, and Bonnie Thrasher; ten grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; and a great-grandchild expected soon, as well as many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at 4:00 PM at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 302 N Carey Street, Plant City, FL 33563, with a reception to follow in the Parish Hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Legion Post #26, 2207 W. Baker St., Plant City, FL 33563.

Ranny leaves behind a legacy of courage, compassion, and commitment that will live on through the many lives he touched.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUN 21. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
302 N. Carey Street
Plant City, FL 33563

Live-Streamed Service

JUN 21. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
302 N. Carey Street
Plant City, FL 33563

<https://youtube.com/live/lbEEN4bjEmo?feature=share>

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Hopewell Funeral Home - June 19, 2025 at 01:18 PM

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“ The Bartlett Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. Ranson J. "Ranny" Erskine.



The Bartlett Family - June 19, 2025 at 01:17 PM

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“ The Bartlett Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Ranson J. "Ranny" Erskine.

The Bartlett Family - June 19, 2025 at 01:17 PM