



Ralph Siegbert Kilp

November 3, 1950 - January 14, 2022

Ralph Siegbert Kilp was born on November 3, 1950, in Friedberg, Germany, the second son of Werner and Marta Kilp. His older brother, Harold, was born in 1947. Two younger sisters joined the family - Eleanor in 1955 and Angie in 1962.

In 1952 the family left Germany and sailed to America, arriving in Detroit and subsequently living in the suburb of Warren, Michigan, where the family lived during his childhood and teenage years.

Living a Christian life was the cornerstone of the Kilp family, worshipping with fellow believers at the Church of God. So it was that already as a child Ralph too made the Lord his master and trusted in His guidance for his entire life.

Music was highly valued in his family, and early on Ralph showed musical talent, learning to play the piano and subsequently the violin, playing for a short while in the St. Clair Orchestra. He was blessed with a rich baritone voice and singing became his ultimate joy. He sang in church and school choirs during his teenage years and at the age of 16 became the director of the church choir. This he did for over 50 years. He sang many a solo for weddings and funerals in his friendship circle.

He briefly attended college at Lawrence Tech, simultaneously working part-time for John V. Carr, a customs brokerage firm, ultimately working full-time, learning business and becoming a licensed customs broker, retiring from Delph in 2017.

In 1969, at the age of 18, a girl named Trudy captured his heart, leading to a

4-year courtship, and in 1973 Ralph and Trudy for married in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Together they walked and shared the joys and sorrows of life for 48 years. In 1987 the precious gift of a son, Nathan, was given to them.

Ralph and Trudy enjoyed traveling, and did so frequently - to Canada to visit family. exploring much of the United States. and well as countries overseas.

Ralph enjoyed an active retirement, which sadly came to a sudden halt on December 10, 2021, when he tested positive for Covid. Prayers were sent heavenward by hundreds of believers for his recovery, but the Lord, in His wisdom, called him to his heavenly home on January 14, 2022.

Mourning his passing is his beloved wife, Trudy, and son, Nathan; his treasured siblings - brother Harold (Erika), sisters Eleanor (John) and Angie; numerous brother-and sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces, aunts and uncles, cousins; a grieving church family at Hope Crossing, and a large circle of friends.

"MOST ASSUREDLY I SAY TO YOU, HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME HAS EVERLASTING LIFE." JOHN 6:47

In honor Ralph's memory, in lieu of flowers donations can be made to Hope crossing, to be gifted to charities that were dear to his heart.

Cemetery Details

Utica Cemetery

46325 Shelby Rd.
Shelby, MI 48317

Previous Events

Instate

JAN 21. 10:00 AM (ET)

Hope Crossing
37845 Dodge Park Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Mass of the Christian Burial

JAN 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hope Crossing
37845 Dodge Park Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Tribute Wall



“ *Ralph Siegbert Kilp*

October 23, 2023 at 04:00 AM



“ *Ralph Siegbert Kilp*

January 06, 2023 at 05:24 AM



“ *It's been way too long, but even if a lot of time has passed, the memories remain! My deepest condolences and sympathies, and as always, lots of love from overseas! 🙏*

Dan Schaefer - January 28, 2022 at 02:56 PM



“ *I have fond memories of the Kilp family, and of Ralph, as they were our neighbors in Warren. Such a kind and gracious family, with a lot of musical talent. Please accept my condolences for your loss.*

Gail Gruenburg - January 23, 2022 at 04:25 PM



“ *Dear Trudy! Sending sympathy your way on the loss of your beloved husband and father! May God send you his loving comfort and nearness during this difficult valley!
Marnita (Grams) Sonnenberg*

Marnita Sonnenberg - January 23, 2022 at 01:44 AM

HK

“ Our hearts and prayers are with you, dear Trudy, Harold and Erika, Eleanor and Johnny and dear Angie, as we say “Aufwiedersehen” to Ralph, for we will see him again in Heaven. Blessed is the Pastor and his family and blessed is the church to have such a pillar of faith. The seeds of Faith that Ralph and Trudy have sown through all their kind deeds and their example of a Christ-like life have already brought forth fruit in the lives of our young people and many more. We pay tribute to all the Kilp family for their example and love over the years. May God bless and comfort all.
God will surely be in your midst tomorrow and use this service as a testimony for His glory.
Pastor Helmut and Isolde Krenz and family

Helmut and Isolde Krenz - January 21, 2022 at 12:19 AM

MI

“ Liebe Trudy und Familie! Wir sind sehr traurig über die Nachricht, dass Ralph von euch gegangen ist. Unser herzlichstes Beileid. Unsere Gebete sind mit euch. Möge Gott euch Trost und Kraft schenken für die Zeit, die nun vor euch liegt!
Miriam & Harry

Miriam - January 20, 2022 at 03:16 PM

MI

Miriam Winkler (Kilp)

Miriam - January 20, 2022 at 03:17 PM

RJ

“ Dear Trudy and family, my heartfelt condolences. I prayed for God's healing hands to touch Ralph, and now I pray that He would surround you with His loving arms and give you comfort as only He can. Please know that many are thinking of you and praying for you.
Rosemarie Schuler Jeske

Rosemarie (Schuler) Jeske - January 20, 2022 at 02:34 PM

IS

“ Liebe Trudy, lieber Nathan, lieber Harald, liebe Eleonore und liebe Angie,
Wir sind sehr traurig, dass unser Cousin Ralph so früh heimgegangen ist und drücken Euch unser tiefes Mitgefühl aus.
Herzliche Grüße Inge und Ottmar

Inge Schaefer - January 20, 2022 at 01:22 PM

IS

Dear Trudy;
I always looked up to Ralph and was so taken by his gentle, loving and kindhearted presence! He will be fondly remembered as a godly man! I prayed for God you've mercy and heal him. God chose to heal him by taking him home! In your deep sorrow and loss may you be comforted in knowing he is with Jesus! Praying for you!

Irma Schuler - January 20, 2022 at 06:55 PM

DM

“ I am sorry to hear of Ralph's battle and your loss. Ralph was part of the John V. Carr family I basically grew up with. He was kind hearted and greatly respected. May your happy memories comfort you and keep him in your hearts. Diane Mackey

Diane Mackey - January 20, 2022 at 01:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ralph Siegbert Kilp.*



January 20, 2022 at 12:38 PM



“ *Dear Trudy and family,*

I received the news from my cousin Inge in Biebesheim that Ralph had passed away recently. This is very sad and I would like to send my sincere sympathies and condolences to you and your family at this very difficult time.

My thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Edeltraut (& Werner) Fritz
Cedar Grove, WI*

Edeltraut Fritz - January 20, 2022 at 11:08 AM



“ *Ich wusste nicht Dass er in Deutschland geboren war. Guter Mensch und Bruder.*

Ed Vivian - January 19, 2022 at 08:55 PM

RM

“ *Trudy, Nathan, and extended family,*

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy. You are in our thoughts and pray that God would comfort you during this time.

We will always remember Ralph's servant heart and kind spirit. He blessed us all with his God-given gift of music. He enriched many, many services with his rich voice. Thanks for using your gifts to glorify God and bless others.

Ron, Esther, and Rachel Mueller

Ron & Esther Mueller - January 19, 2022 at 08:22 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ralph Siegbert Kilp.*



January 19, 2022 at 08:19 PM

AC

“ *Ours thoughts and prayers go out to the Kilp family. May your memories give you peace at this difficult time.*

Angie's Family Medicine Family



Annette Cox - January 19, 2022 at 06:12 PM

UF

“ Ursula F. purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of Ralph Siegbert Kilp.



Ursula F. - January 19, 2022 at 12:39 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ralph Siegbert Kilp.



January 19, 2022 at 12:20 PM

ES

“ Dear Trudy, Nathan and extended family,

Our hearts weep with you. We pray that God with comfort your hearts as only He can. May He hold you close to His Father's heart. God gifted Ralph with a beautiful voice and we so enjoyed hearing him sing. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you in the days and weeks ahead.

*Love,
Siegmar and Elizabeth*

Elizabeth Seida - January 19, 2022 at 11:19 AM

HF

“ Dear Trudy, Nathan and all of Ralph's loved ones,

My heartfelt condolences. May God comfort your hurting hearts. May precious memories encourage you. The first time I heard the song - "He Touched Me" was when Ralph sang it. May God touch you with His loving and healing Hand! Praying for you at this last farewell. Sincerely, Helga

Helga Fech - January 19, 2022 at 12:28 AM

DH

“ Dear Trudy, With love & prayers, Helga purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Ralph Siegbert Kilp.



Dear Trudy, With love & prayers, Helga - January 19, 2022 at 12:23 AM

DJ

“ Dear Trudy. I just heard about Ralph's passing. So very sad. I have such good memories of you both when you came to visit when we lived in Aylmer. Your Ralph was such a kind, sweet man. And you know that you were both adored by my parents.

My you find peace.

Doris Jakobsh

Doris Jakobsh - January 18, 2022 at 07:23 PM

AS

“ We were privileged to meet Ralph and Trudy so many years ago at what was Glen Oaks Alliance Church in Troy, for a special function. The outstanding Kilp family opened their arms and their hearts to us countless times over the years, with Ralph and Trudy at the helm. Ralph's great and abiding love for his wife and son was so evident and caring. He was such a steady and faithful man, as well as generous and kind. He will be missed and remembered with such love and gratefulness for having known him.

Love always,
Dave and Ann Strubler

Ann Strubler - January 18, 2022 at 06:55 PM

TF

“ The Strubler Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ralph Siegbert Kilp.



The Strubler Family - January 18, 2022 at 03:08 PM

JW

“ I had a wonderful working relationship with Ralph and deeply respected his knowledge and talent. He was a great listener and always willing to share his expertise.

Sincerely,

Jim White

James F White - January 18, 2022 at 02:56 PM

TK

“ Sending our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family. We will miss you Ralph...such a great neighbor and always enjoyed talking to Ralph and Trudy when they went walking in the neighborhood. May you ready in peace in the arms of our Heavenly Father. With deepest sympathy....Tim and Angela Koerner



Tim and Angela Koerner - January 18, 2022 at 02:06 PM

LK

“ Ralph will always be remembered as the kind man I was blessed to know. Really got to know him when we were on the Board together. I called him 'our writing guru'. Always good getting the message out without ruffling feathers. After he stepped down from the Board, kept contact. Would stop while walking my dog if he was working outside. . . which he was ALOT! He & Trudy would stop if riding bikes and see me & Maggie outside. Trudy loved my dog. Always teased him he needed to get 'Auntie Trudy' a dog. Smile right now thinking of his indulgent smile. Has left us way too soon. You will be missed Ralph. May God have & keep you in his loving arms.



Linda Komer - January 18, 2022 at 01:42 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ralph Siegbert Kilp.



January 18, 2022 at 01:19 PM

DT

“ Daniel And Debi Teran lit a candle in memory of Ralph Siegbert Kilp



Daniel and Debi Teran - January 18, 2022 at 12:58 PM

DT

Please know that we send our deepest sympathy and prayers even though we cannot be with you during this time of sorrow. May Ralph rest in God's eternal peace. We carry fond memories of our neighborhood times together and he will truly be missed!

Daniel and Debi Teran - January 18, 2022 at 01:08 PM

HH

My heart goes out to you Trudy and the Kilp family. I have such fond memories of Ralph. Your home was always open and you welcomed everybody. Remembering the times that you guys always had the youth over. You and Ralph touched so many lives I want to thank you for that.

Ralph won the race!! 🙏
He is now in the arms of Jesus.

heidi holz - January 19, 2022 at 09:08 AM

AG

I can still hear Ralph's chuckle! He just had that very engaging smile, and calm personality! The days since he has passed, I have looked towards heaven and thought about the love of Christ he is experiencing! May that carry Trudy, Nathan and all her loved ones through this very sad time. Love and hugs to all of you!
Larry and Adelle Gusse

Adelle Gusse - January 20, 2022 at 02:40 PM