



## Leonard Ray Knox

October 17, 1934 - September 28, 2021

Leonard Ray Knox (86) of Davidson NC died on September 28, 2021 peacefully at his home. Ray was born on October 17, 1934 in Davidson NC to the late Ralph and Annie Barkley Knox. A 1953 graduate of North Mecklenburg High, he proudly served in the Army during the Korean War. Upon returning home, he met and married his wife Frances Chapman and moved to Chapel Hill. He often expressed his appreciation for the GI bill that afforded him the chance to graduate from UNC, and he was a passionate Tar Heel fan. Ray's career in human resources included roles at General Time, Burlington Industries and Westinghouse, where he retired after 26 years of service. From serving on the board of the Arrowood Business Association, to coaching baseball in the Starclaire Athletic Association, he enjoyed connecting with his community and could strike up a conversation with anyone, anywhere.

Ray was a life-long member of Bethel Presbyterian Church, where he served as elder and deacon. He enjoyed many hours in his garden and volunteering for Habitat for Humanity. His greatest joy was found being with his family – attending events of his children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and connecting with his vast extended Knox family.

He is survived by Frances, his devoted wife of 63 years, and sons Gary (Sharon) Knox and Steve (Paige) Knox and daughter Karen (Chip) Fesperman; Brother Eddie (Frances) Knox and sisters in law Lib Knox, Montye Knox; sister in law Becky (Richard) Wilson; seven grandchildren Tabitha (Jeff), Olivia (Logan), Tiffany, Chandler (Ally), Kenzie (Jake), Jay, and Rebecca; eight great grandchildren; and a large extended family of nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family would like to thank Laura, Angie, Carrie and Lisa for their continued compassionate care.

A service will be held on Friday, October 8 at 2:00 pm at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Cornelius, NC. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. A reception will follow services in the Family Life Center.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Bethel Presbyterian Church, 19920 Bethel Church Rd. Cornelius, NC 28031.

James Funeral Home of Huntersville is serving the family.

# Cemetery

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## Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery

19920 Bethel Church Rd  
Cornelius, NC, 28031

# Events

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**OCT 8** **Funeral Service** 02:00PM - 03:00PM

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**8**

Bethel Presbyterian Church  
19920 Bethel Church Road, Cornelius, NC, US,  
28031

**OCT 8** **Visitation** 03:00PM - 04:00PM

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**8**

Bethel Presbyterian Church  
19920 Bethel Church Road, Cornelius, NC, US,  
28031

# Comments

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Leonard Ray Knox.



October 05, 2021 at 11:25 AM

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“ Frances, one of my high school classmates called to tell me of Ray's passing since Eddie also graduated with us in 1955. My heart goes out to you in this loss of your dear husband of over 60 years. My fondest memory: It was June 14, 1958 and there was to be a wedding at Williams Memorial Presbyterian Church, the marriage of Frances Chapman and Ray Knox, performed by my father, Marcus B. Prince. The groom was very handsome and the bride, beautiful. The church was lovely with lots of greenery, white flowers and many candles. It was hot, very hot, and the church was not air-conditioned. I remember seeing the candles beginning to tilt slightly in the heat but none went out.

Frances, I have thought of you and your wonderful family over the years. Your father took some of the wood from the old manse and used it in constructing a beach house--was it Kure Beach? I wish that we could have seen each other as the years have passed but please know that I am thinking of you during these difficult days.  
Affectionately, Laura Prince Boyles

Laura Boyles - October 04, 2021 at 03:57 PM

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“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Leonard Ray Knox.



October 04, 2021 at 03:37 PM

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“ I am so sorry for your loss. I remember playing down at your house as a little girl. Mr. and Mrs. Knox were always so thoughtful and patient. In times as challenging as now, you can know and experience the comfort that comes from the Lord in a way that escapes our understanding. I think some of the most wonderful words Jesus spoke was when He said, " I will not leave you comfortless.....I will come to you." As you begin rebuilding your broken heart, you can take great strength in the knowledge that you have not lost your husband for you know where he is and you will see him again.

**Grace George Stanley** - October 03, 2021 at 08:36 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Leonard Ray Knox.



October 03, 2021 at 02:45 PM

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“ I am very sorry to hear of your loss. I worked with Ray. He was always kind and fair. God bless his family.

**Don Johnson**

**Don Johnson** - October 03, 2021 at 08:38 AM



“ My once neighbor and Habitat Buddy, rest in peace, God bless Francis and family.

Joyce Mihuta

**Joyce** - October 04, 2021 at 09:04 PM