



Ralph Stephen Franks COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENT

January 6, 1951 - September 20, 2025

Ralph Stephen Franks, known to many as Steve, was born on January 6, 1951, in Russellville, Alabama, and passed away on September 20, 2025, after a courageous battle with ALS.

Steve enjoyed a distinguished career in education and athletics, serving as an award-winning educator, football and baseball coach, and Athletic Director at both Marist School and The Lovett School in Atlanta, Georgia. He also held the role of Assistant Athletic Director and football coach at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. His dedication to developing student-athletes and shaping school athletic programs left a lasting impact on many communities.

After retiring to Sandestin, Florida, Steve embraced the coastal lifestyle. He found joy in the outdoors, spending time on the beach, playing golf, watching sunsets, walking his beloved dog, and enjoying the company of his neighbors.

Steve is survived by his devoted wife, Debbie (Deborah Davis), and their cherished children: Laura Franks Powell, Luke Franks, Sean Holland, Leah Franks King (Brandon), Justin Holland (Faria), and Stefanie Holland Murphy (Ryan). He was a proud grandfather to Audrey and Abram Powell; Hartley, Hadley, and Aiken King; Maryam and Emmie Holland; Liam, Holland, and Grace Murphy.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, Oct. 19, at 1:30 p.m. in Centennial Center at Marist School. A reception will immediately follow in Crest Lobby.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT **19**. 1:30 PM (ET)

Marist School
3790 Ashford Dunwoody Rd NE
Atlanta, GA 30319
(770) 457-7201

Tribute Wall



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Ralph Stephen Franks COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENT.*



October 16, 2025 at 11:40 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Ralph Stephen Franks COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENT.*



October 10, 2025 at 01:30 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ralph Stephen Franks COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENT.*

October 10, 2025 at 01:30 AM



“ *Family,
Steve grew up in Russellville and our families went to church at Rockwood together at one time. I always thought he was such a nice guy and last saw him was when his uncle had passed away here. He had a very impressive obituary and know he was a great fellow. Thinking of of all the family during this sad time.
Jane Keeton McManus, friend and neighbor*

jane keeton mcmanus - October 05, 2025 at 11:32 PM