



Gerald W. Ross Sr.

January 24, 1933 - November 23, 2020

Gerald W. Ross Sr. of Kingston, TN passed away November 23, 2020 at Methodist Medical Center, Oak Ridge, TN. He was born January 24, 1933 in Cleveland TN to E.L. and Mattie Belle Ross of Cleveland, TN. He graduated from Bradley County High School class of 1951 and from Tennessee Technological University with a Master's Degree in Education, History and Music. Gerald also was certified in church music at Baptist Seminary in Louisville, KY. Gerald was the Band Director at Jellico High school from 1955-1957 where he met his wife of 64 years Annette Adkins. They relocated to Kingston in 1957 where he was a Teacher, Band Director and Glee Club Leader until his retirement in 1985. In 1957 he was Interim Music Director at First Baptist Church of Kingston until 1966. Gerald was then called to Caney Ford Baptist Church in 1966 as Music Director where he served for forty plus years.

Gerald is preceded in death by his parents, E.L. and Mattie Belle Ross of Cleveland, TN, grandson, Adam William Ross of Columbus, Ga.

He is survived by his wife Annette A. Ross of Kingston, TN; four sons, Gerald W. Ross Jr. of Kingston, Dr. Timothy A. Ross and wife Jean of Columbus, GA, Boyd c. Ross (Corky) of Kingston, TN, Bradley W. Ross and wife Shelia of Kingston, TN. Grandchildren, Justin B. and wife Mandy Ross of Phoenix City, AL, Matthew T. and wife Monique of Huntsville, AL, Colby ross of Ashville, N.C. and Caitlyn Ross of Wise, VA. Great grandchildren, Allie, Madison and Bradon Ross of Phoenix City, AL, Carter and Callia ross of Huntsville, AL, brother Ernest Ross and wife Joyce, nephew Doug Ross all of Enfield, NC, niece Garrett Clark and husband Jerry of Charleston, SC.

Gerald was in the Union Lodge #38 of Kingston, TN and Shriners Kerbella Temple of Knoxville TN. He was a member of The Tennessee Society of The Sons of Revolution, Sons of the Confederacy, past member of the Babahatchie Community Band and many other clubs and organizations. Gerald was an avid beekeeper, fisherman and hunter. He enjoyed his blueberry patch and apple orchard for many years.

Due to the current COVID 19 pandemic the family will be having a private Graveside Service at Roane Memorial Gardens with Pastor Taylor Phelps officiating. Kyker Funeral Home of Kingston is serving the Ross Family. www.kykerfuneralhomes.com

Tribute Wall

PG

“ *A good teacher and band director*

patrick guettner - May 29, 2021 at 09:21 PM

KT

“ *Mr. Ross was truly a wonderful teacher. He started me on cornet when I was in Fifth grade and I stayed in band and in commencement choir until I graduated in '64. He challenged us with music that was beyond our skill levels, such as Overture to Candide.*

I wish everyone had a teacher like this. My condolences to his family!

Karen Timmerman, class of '64.

Karen J Timmerman - May 07, 2021 at 09:07 AM

EA

“ *East Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Assoc. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gerald W. Ross Sr..*



East Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Assoc. - January 05, 2021 at 11:31 AM

JS

“ *I am so sorry to find out about Gerald's death. My thoughts and prayers to your family. I have missed being able to get to see all of you,*

Jacque Seyler

Jacque Seyler - December 06, 2020 at 07:04 PM

JD

“ So sorry to hear of Mr. Ross's passing and you are in my heart and prayers. He had a very positive influence on my life as well as the lives of so many in the Kingston area fortunate enough to have known him. I began playing in the Jr. High band in Kingston in the 6th grade, but did not stick with playing the saxophone and quit. A short time later Mr. Ross ran into my Mom (Irene Domer) in front of the White Store and told her he sure hated for me to give up music. He went to his car and brought back a pair of drumsticks and a practice pad and asked that she give them to me. Out of that simple act of kindness from Mr. Ross, I ended up playing drums in the RCHS Band 4 years until I graduated in 1965. After I graduated from RCHS, Mr. Ross called Dr. W J Julian (the famed band director at UT Knoxville) and told Dr. Julian about me. Soon after, I got a personal letter from Dr. Julian inviting me to be a member of the UT marching band (the #1 college marching band in the USA). Dr. Julian obviously had great respect for Mr. Ross. With no tryout or audition required, I was accepted as a member of the UT Band and played until 1966 when I was drafted and went to VietNam. I am so glad I finally sent a letter to Mr. Ross in March 2018 outlining how he never gave up on me and got me started playing the drums. I also thanked him for what he did for me and helping me get into the UT Band that impacted my life in such a positive way. I subsequently called him and will always remember our conversation.

Thank you Mr. Ross, and thank God for bringing you into my life! I will see you and give you a hug when we see Jesus together.

Jim Domer, RCHS 1965

Jim Domer - November 29, 2020 at 01:50 PM

RP

“ Annette and Family, sorry to learn of Gerald's passing. He was a great man and his contributions to Roane County were many. I have fond memories of him and his family as neighbors at Rio-Vista.

Roland E Plemons - November 28, 2020 at 01:29 PM

NB

“ Good memories of Mr. Ross at Catilyn's ballgames at Midway. So quiet and lots of smiles.
Prayers for all.

Naomi White Boone - November 26, 2020 at 05:50 PM

SB

“ My sincere condolences to all the family and loved ones. Mr. Ross shone a bright light at RCHS and was loved and respected. I now live far from Kingston, but often think of Mr. Ross, and value what he taught us. His inspiration and example in so many lives will live on through the generations. He was at once ambitious, kind, strict, friendly and generous. He took the band to march in the Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, DC, and planned and led a fun, educational tour of the national museums and monuments there. He led the band to glory at marching competitions in our region. What an opportunity it was to be his student!

Susan Browning Brown - November 26, 2020 at 08:47 AM

DG

“ Mr. ROSS was my Glee Club teacher all four years of High School. He was a Godly man who had amazing passion wanting his students to learn, not only to learn music but life itself. I truly had a great time in Glee Club

Don Gardner - November 25, 2020 at 07:27 PM

PT

“ Patricia Timmerman Thomas lit a candle in memory of Gerald W. Ross Sr.



Patricia Timmerman Thomas - November 25, 2020 at 06:08 PM

GB

“ Gary, Georgeanna Bacon Family Heartfelt Prayers

Georgeanna Bacon - November 25, 2020 at 05:20 PM



“ Gerald Ross came to Caney Ford Baptist in 1966 and served as choir director for many years. He has been a vital part of the church life at CFBC as he served along side 25+ pastors and interim pastors. He became a constant part of the church's ministry team and raised his children to do the same thing. Bless the Ross family in the absence of your father, only to be united one day. From Caney Ford Baptist



Taylor Phelps - November 25, 2020 at 04:44 PM

GG

“ Geneva Gibson lit a candle in memory of Gerald W. Ross Sr.



Geneva Gibson - November 25, 2020 at 10:26 AM

DV

“ Don and Leona vanalstyne purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Gerald W. Ross Sr..



Don and Leona vanalstyne - November 25, 2020 at 09:59 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Gerald W. Ross Sr..



November 25, 2020 at 09:32 AM

PD

“ Patti Brown Davis lit a candle in memory of Gerald W. Ross Sr.



Patti Brown Davis - November 25, 2020 at 09:04 AM

KL

“ I send my sincere condolences to the family of Mr. G. Ross Sr. He was my next door neighbor for approximately 25 yrs. He was a very good man...very thoughtful ! I thought alot of him and his family & his wife is so precious ! I was blessed to have had the privilege to know them & share the neighborhood together. May the GOOD LORD, give this family that peace that surpasses ALL Understanding. Rest Easy now, Mr. Ross. With Sympathy, Kim Parris Lively.

Kim Parris Lively - November 25, 2020 at 01:39 AM

AA

“ *May you Rest In Peace Mr. Ross. I never knew that we shared a birthday. You were my band director for two years because my family moved here in 1971 and I graduated in 73. The trip to Washington DC in 72' was a highlight of my band experience.*

Anita Underwood arichmond - November 24, 2020 at 11:32 PM

AR

“ *My sincere condolences to his family and loved ones. I can't help but to imagine him smiling down on any field where the brass section is bright and tight, and everyone is taking exactly eight steps per five yards. I know I have never heard the themes to Rocky and Hawaii 5-0, "Eye of the Tiger," or "Rock Around the Clock " without thinking of him. He taught us a lot, and his enthusiasm was contagious. He sent us into the world with great experiences and precious memories. Again, my condolences.*

Annalaura Robbins - November 24, 2020 at 11:12 PM

PC

“ *Our family sends our condolences to the Ross family. Gerald was a real gentleman and an outstanding neighbor. We wish you all peace and love. Pat Cooley*

Patrick Cooley - November 24, 2020 at 10:15 PM

TM

“ *Mr. Ross was my band director, he was my brothers and sisters too, he was the band director for everyone I knew in Kingston, he imprinted the lives of the youth and leaves us all trying to stay in step. Condolences to you the family.*

Tom Moseley - November 24, 2020 at 10:05 PM

DL

“ *Ross family so sorry to hear of Mr. Ross passing. His family was our neighbors when we moved back to Kingston. He gave my brother Rick his first pet rabbit. Mr Ross became our choir director at church and I then had him in Glee Club in high school. May the Lord be with you during this difficult time. Debbie Fletcher Lowery*

debbie lowery - November 24, 2020 at 10:03 PM

LL

“ *The time I spent in band with Mr. Ross is part of the happiest memories of my life! I graduated high school in his last year as a teacher. He told me that he got just as emotional as the parents at graduation time because he loved us all so much. My condolences to his family.*

Lynn Underwood Loomis - November 24, 2020 at 09:38 PM

AC

“ *Very sorry and saddened to learn about the news. My condolences to the family. Amy Ingram-Curtis (RCHS class of 87)*

Amy Ingram Curtis - November 24, 2020 at 09:13 PM

RF

“ *I'm so sorry for the family of Mr. Ross. I have known them for bout 60 years. Mr.Ross gave me my first rabbit,put me in the youth choir at Caney Ford Baptist, and never failed to put a smile on my face. Rest in the arms of the Lord my friend.*

Rick Fletcher - November 24, 2020 at 09:00 PM

BP

“ *Dear Ross family, so sorry to hear about Mr Ross's passing*
Brent Piper

brent piper - November 24, 2020 at 07:03 PM

CI

“ *When we first moved to Roane County, the Ross family lived up the street from us. Late my daughter had him in band at RCHS. Gerald always had a smile, a big hello and asked how the family was. I know he will be missed very much. Prayers for Annette and the family.*

Cathie Ingram - November 24, 2020 at 04:36 PM