

# Jay R. Ross

MAR 27, 1932 - DEC 17, 2019



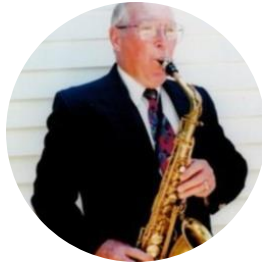
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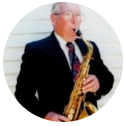


## **Jay R. Ross**

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### **J**ay Ross Obituary

Jay R. Ross, 87, of Elyria, passed away peacefully December 17, 2019. Born March 27, 1932 in Elyria, he was a lifelong resident and a 1950 graduate of Elyria High School. In 1959 he earned his Bachelor's degree from Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music with graduate studies at Cleveland State and Vandercook School of Music in Chicago. He taught for 33 years as a band director at Columbia, Lorain and Elyria High School, retiring from the Avon Lake music department. His bands received many superior awards at district and state band concerts. From 1951-1954, Jay was a proud member of the United States Marine Corps during which time he toured with the Marine Corps Band. He was a consummate musician and professional saxophone player forming his own band in high school to play at school functions and later performed with many combos and big bands including the BW Alumni Jazz Band and the Patriot's Symphonic Community Band. He played at the Palace and Front Row Theater for many top name entertainers, including Wayne Newton, Red Skelton, Johnny Mathis, Engelbert Humperdinck, Manhattan Transfer Company, and others. After retirement, he developed a singing and playing program to entertain at local organizations and nursing homes. Jay was a long time member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, where he was choir director and vocal and instrumental soloist. He was a member of the Elyria Elks Lodge #465, Elyria American Legion Post 12, and the Marine Corps League and was past president of Elyria Evening Kiwanis Club. He enjoyed membership at Spring Valley Country Club, Cotillion Dance Club and Lorain County Historical Society. He was especially pleased to be invited to play with Peter Duchin for the grand opening of Gund Arena, home of the Cleveland Cavaliers. His hobbies included music, golf, watching Cleveland sports teams and attending his grandsons' various musical and sporting events. Jay is survived by his wife of 60 years, Beverly (nee Vargo); daughter Sherri



## Obituary

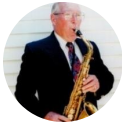
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(David) Roberts of Escondido, CA; son Jay V. (Jennifer) Ross, of Elyria; and grandsons Jeremie, Adam and Drew Ross and Scott Roberts. He was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Devon Haley Ross; parents Vernon and Elizabeth Ross; a brother Jack and sisters; Jean Winson and June Colgan. Friends will be received Friday, January 10, 2020 from 2:00 – 6:00 pm at Dicken Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 323 Middle Ave., Elyria. A memorial service will be Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 11:00 am at Community of Faith UCC, 9715 East River Rd., Elyria. Reverend Kathryn Ketchum and Reverend John Seabold will officiate. The Marine Corps League and Elyria AMVETS Post 32 will present military honors. Burial for the family will be in Brookdale Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of choice. Visitation Dicken Funeral Home and Cremation Service Friday, January 10, 2020 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM 323 Middle Ave. Elyria, OH 44035 Memorial Service Community of Faith United Church of Christ Saturday, January 11, 2020 11:00 AM 9715 East River Rd. Elyria, OH 44035

To send flowers  
to the family or plant a tree  
in memory of Jay R. Ross, please visit our floral store.

[Read More](#)



## Tribute Wall

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DD

**Dennis Dickinson** posted:

Just came across this. Im so saddened at the loss of Mr. Ross. I graduated in 1962 from Columbia high. Mr. Ross was our band director. What an amazing man. I have great memories of my time with him. Truly a wonderful man and musician.

October 21 at 8:00 PM

SS

**Susan ( Bosshardt) Sinks** posted:

I remember Mr. Ross fondly as my band director at Troy in the late 70's.

January 31 at 8:00 PM

CW

**Carla Wagner** posted:

So sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

January 9 at 8:00 PM

LY

**Larry Youngless** posted:

Bev, Sherri and Jay-v, I'm so sorry to hear of Jay's passing. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Good memories of the times spent with Jay discussing music, sports and other interesting things. He led a fulfilled life and was an inspiration to many.

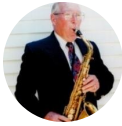
January 9 at 8:00 PM

MM

**Merle Mcdonald** posted:

Timmie and I are so sorry to hear about Jay and for not being able to attend his service. Timmie is in a rehab facility in Florida, recovering from a broken hip, so we couldnt make the trip to Elyria. Timmie and I have been good friends with Jay and Bev for a very long time. We would often spend vacations at Mountain View Inn, in Pennsylvania, golfing and eating at our favorite restaurant. We really had a ball. Jay was a fine sax player and a talented musician. Having the love of music in common, Jay and I would talk about music whenever we were together. Ill never forget one of our conversations when Jay told me he always wanted to be a dentist and I said I always wanted to be a professional musician. Which was funny because he was a professional musician and I was a dentist! We want to say good bye ole friend and that we will really miss you but will always have you in our memories. We must keep in touch, Bev, and call often. Your loving friends, Timmie and Merle, Scott, Brian, Kara and Stacy McDonald

January 8 at 8:00 PM



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CL

**Cheryl Lister** posted:

My deepest sympathy to Jays family. We worked together in the Avon Lake City Schools. Such a warm and friendly gentleman. Always had a smile on his face and a kind word for all.

January 7 at 8:00 PM

KM

**Kathleen And Kevin Mindenhall** posted:

To the Ross Family, So Sorry to hear of Jay's passing. Always loved being around him and the rest of you all! Fortunate to have had some memorable times with you Ross's! Much love to you all. I will be thinking of you.

January 4 at 8:00 PM

PD

**Paul Dunford** posted:

To the Family of Jay Ross, I was blessed to know and work with Jay at Learwood school for many years. Jay's commitment and love of Music was an everlasting gift to all he touched. Paul Dunford, Learwood Teacher (Retired)

January 4 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Jay by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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