



# Ralph D. McGinnis

MAY 2, 1952 - FEB 10, 2018



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## **Ralph D. McGinnis**

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### **R**alph McGinnis Obituary

Ralph D. McGinnis, 65, of Elyria, died February 10, 2018. He was born May 2, 1952 in Columbus, Ohio and was a 1970 graduate of Elyria High School. He earned a Bachelors degree in acting and directing from Kent State University, a Masters Degree in Theatre History and Literature from Long Island University and a Masters in Library Science from Kent State University. Ralph taught English, Mythology and Theatre at Lorain County Community College and Cuyahoga Community College then worked at the Elyria Public Library as a reference librarian. He retired as the Assistant Director of the Elyria Public Library in 2015. Ralph wrote poetry and was published in numerous literary magazines. He wrote plays and directed and acted in Murder Mystery Dinner Theatres at multiple venues. He was an accomplished musician with guitar and tin whistle and sang in many incarnations of the Hooligans, an Irish folk group. Ralph was even a deck hand and bartender on the Block Island Ferry in Rhode Island in his younger days. Ralph is survived by his mother, Lila McGinnis; sister, Leslie McGinnis – both of Elyria; brothers, Richard (Beth) McGinnis of Winthrop Harbor, Illinois and Ben McGinnis of Hope, Maine. He was preceded in death by his father, Richard W. McGinnis, in 1989. Friends will be received Saturday, February 17, 2018 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at Dicken Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 323 Middle Avenue, Elyria. A service celebrating Ralph's life will be Sunday, February 18 at 1:30 pm in the funeral home with Reverend Kathryn Ketchum officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Ohio Wetlands Association, P.O. Box 3, Amherst, Ohio 44001 or to the Elyria Public Library Foundation, Inc., 320 Washington Avenue, Elyria, Ohio 44035. SERVICES Funeral Service Sunday, February 18, 2018 1:30 PM Dicken Funeral Home and Cremation Service 323 Middle Avenue Elyria, OH 44035



## Obituary

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To send flowers  
to the family or plant a tree  
in memory of Ralph D. McGinnis, please visit our floral store.

[Read More](#)



## Tribute Wall

**Ralph D. McGinnis**

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BM

**Brad Macarthur** posted:

Ralph was one of the most interesting people I've ever met. No matter what the problem was, he would always have a fascinating new angle to consider it. Ralph was kind, witty, and one of the greatest inspirations I've ever encountered. Thanks to his wisdom, to this day, I still don't trust anyone wearing a bow tie ðŸ™„ðŸ™'. Rest peacefully , my brilliant professor and friend.

August 22 at 8:14 AM

CA

**Charles Anthony** posted:

posting this late knew him from library

April 14 at 8:00 PM

DG

**Dawn Glading** posted:

rest easy

December 21 at 8:00 PM

JA

**Joseph Arias** posted:

sad to see him pass on

December 8 at 8:00 PM

WB

**Wayne An Martha Baird** posted:

library man

November 28 at 8:00 PM

MS

**Michael Siegfried** posted:

Just last night I was going down the "Google hole" looking up places and people from my past only to find that my very best friend from high school has been taken far too soon. I offer my sympathies to his family and his many friends, I know how much you've lost. McG, you were always the best of us. Rest easy my friend, Sigg

June 12 at 8:00 PM



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RS

**Ron Spangler** posted:

Ralph was such a very talented and very good man. I had the pleasure and the honor of knowing him and acting with him at Kent State. You will be greatly missed by all those whose lives you touched, Ralph.

February 17 at 8:00 PM

LS

**Linda Slusser** posted:

I was so sorry to hear of Ralph's passing. I worked with him many years ago at Waldenbooks and so enjoyed his knowledge and his humor. All of us there looked forward to our shifts with Ralph and our infrequent but fun get-togethers.

February 17 at 8:00 PM

TK

**Terri Kanter** posted:

You had me at hello, sir. Despite our bifurcated roads, you were never forgotten. Not sure if I told you but I actually named one of my (long gone now) dogs after you. I am grateful for your literary suggestions which led me to books, books and more books. I will never forget your sweet gentlemanly ways. Till we meet again,

February 16 at 8:00 PM

JJ

**Joseph And Beverley Jensen** posted:

Dear Lila, Richard, Leslie, and Ben, We are thinking of you and your families at this sad time. It meant a lot to us to reconnect with Lila, Leslie and Ralph just over a year ago in Elyria and we know how much he will be missed.

February 16 at 8:00 PM

PW

**Phillip Warzabluk** posted:

Dear Lila, Richard, Leslie and Ben, My heart is heavy for your loss. Since learning of Ralph's passing my thoughts have been flooded with memories of our time together so many years ago. I vividly recall that with every experience of him I came away wanting to be like him. Clever, witty, droll, musical, handsome. Talented in so many ways. I miss you all. I will always miss Ralph. With my love and sincere condolences, Phil Warzabluk

February 15 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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RL

**Rich Lundy** posted:

So many memories of music sessions and wonderfully strange times at Kent State in The House Where Everybody Lives. My thoughts are with your family Richard Lundy

February 14 at 8:00 PM

JH

**Jim Hodovan** posted:

So sorry to hear of Ralph's passing. As one of his coworkers I can truly say (although cliché) he was a gentleman and a scholar. He also was a great mentor. He will be missed.

February 13 at 8:00 PM

AA

**Andrew Allan** posted:

Ralph, old beanpod, thank you for the intellectual challenge, the music and the art. I still have your copy of The Electric Kool Aid Acid Test and will keep it in your memory. Save me a quantum singularity. I will be along soon enough. Andy.

February 13 at 8:00 PM

DB

**Deb Brady** posted:

You have my deepest sympathy over the passing of Ralph. When I read this, this morning I was shocked and saddened and then a memory from something he did at the library brought a huge smile to my face. He was always so serious but had a funny side that I loved. We worked on a few shows together. Such a talent and such a wonderful man. He will be missed.

February 13 at 8:00 PM

KB

**Kathleen Bradley** posted:

I am very sorry for your loss. I enjoyed knowing Ralph in Friends of Wetlands. He will be missed by so many of us.

February 13 at 8:00 PM

BB

**Bob Bernhardt** posted:

knew him from the library sorry to hear about him passing on

February 13 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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