



## Ralph Leo Buckel Jr.

June 26, 1942 - August 21, 2023

Ralph Leo Buckel, Jr. passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his loving family on August 21, 2023, at the age of 81. He was born on June 26, 1942, in Cumberland, MD, the son of the late Ralph Leo Buckel, Sr., and Ethel (Shawley) Buckel. To his family and close friends, he was affectionately known as “Buck.”

He graduated from Northern Garrett High School in 1960 before attending the University of Maryland, earning his undergraduate degree in poultry science. He then attended University of Georgia’s College of Veterinary Medicine. He met his wife, Sara Gray, while they worked at the U. S. Department of Agriculture. They were married on April 16, 1966, and raised four children together.

After graduating from veterinary school in 1968, he started working with Dr. Alvin MacKay at the Chestertown Animal Hospital. Dr. Buckel became Dr. Mackay’s partner in the practice and was well-known among the local dairy farms. “Dr. B” or “Doc Buckel” had a soothing bedside manner for his small and large animal patients and their owners. He was passionate about his work and never hesitated to answer an emergency call.

He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, American Veterinary Medical Association, Maryland Veterinary Medical Association, 4-H All Stars, Maryland

Farm Bureau, and the American Association of Bovine Practitioners.

He enjoyed outdoor activities, sports, and being an active member of his church. He served in several leadership roles at church and especially enjoyed singing in the choir. He was a fan of Georgia Bulldog football and Maryland Terrapins basketball. He loved returning to his home of Bittinger, MD, in Garrett County, relaxing with his family in Ocean City, hunting and cutting wood at his Kennedyville farm, pursuing Ruffed Grouse in Minnesota with his bird dogs, and fishing at sunset on the Chesapeake Bay.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Sara Gray Buckel; three sons, Lee Buckel (Julie), Jeffrey Buckel (Christine), Mark Buckel (Tamy); a daughter, Cathryn Nash (Seamus); a sister, Judy Perkins; a brother, James Buckel; nine grandchildren, Ryan, Patrick, Alyssa, Sam, Andrew, Gray, Ella, Sara Cathryn, William; and many nieces and nephews.

Services will be held on Saturday, September 30 at 11:00 am at Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home in Chestertown. A visitation will be held one hour prior, from 10 -11 a.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his name may be made to a charity of your choice.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home  
130 Speer Road  
Chestertown, MD 21620  
<http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com>

## Service

SEP 30. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home  
130 Speer Road  
Chestertown, MD 21620  
<http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Ralph Leo Buckel Jr.*



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - September 30, 2023 at 08:36 AM



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ralph Leo Buckel Jr.*



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - September 27, 2023 at 12:21 PM



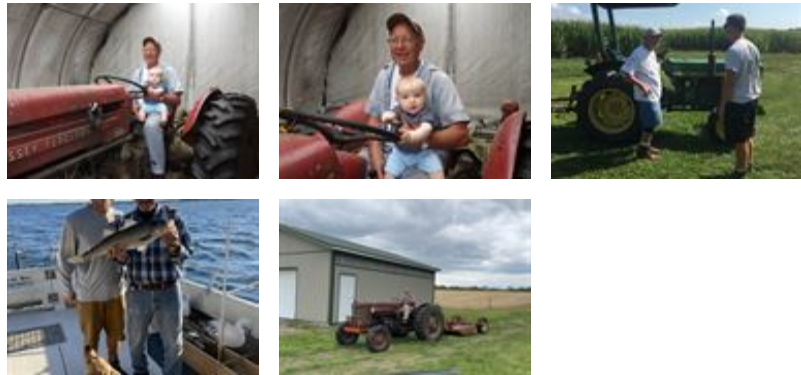
“ *Ralph Leo Buckel Jr.*

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October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ 122 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - September 27, 2023 at 12:22 PM



“ *Donna Edwards sent a virtual gift in memory of Ralph Buckel*



**Donna Hubbard Edwards** - September 27, 2023 at 09:32 AM



“ *Donna Edwards sent a virtual gift in memory of Ralph Buckel*



**Donna Hubbard Edwards** - September 27, 2023 at 09:30 AM

BG

“ *Barbie & Greg Glenn*



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**Barbie & Greg Glenn** - September 14, 2023 at 08:35 AM

CD

“ *So sorry for your loss..  
He played a huge role in the community...one of the best  
veterinarians in the county  
He will definitely be missed...*

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**Cheryl Davis** - August 29, 2023 at 07:55 PM

DB

“ *Cousin Buck, may you rest in peace from your earthly journey. Our  
sincere sympathies to your wonderful family. Love, Dave and Donna  
Buckel*

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**Dave Buckel** - August 27, 2023 at 06:46 PM

PB

“ *To Sarah and Ralph's family: May your  
beautiful memories provide some comfort. He  
was a good friend, and I just loved his laugh.  
God speed, Ralph.  
Phyllis Hudson Brown*



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**Phyllis Ann Hudson Brown** - August 26, 2023 at 02:13 PM

LT

“ Sara. Dick Bunting told me of Buck's passing. I will pray for you and your wonderful family. I remember all the Selbyville reunions.  
Love Lorraine Taylor (Bob Taylor's wife)

Lorraine Taylor - August 26, 2023 at 09:51 AM

DL

“ So sorry to hear of Buck's passing. He will surely be missed at Trinity Lutheran Church, where he was a beloved fixture, choir member and friend to all.

Do Leonard - August 25, 2023 at 07:38 PM

RW

“ I remember Dr. Buckle when I came to the vets office to see Dr Forney. May he rest in peace.

Ruth Wilds - August 24, 2023 at 11:00 PM

JK

“ Jack Debbie Kemp lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Jack and Debbie Kemp - August 24, 2023 at 09:31 AM

BE

“ Bonnie Edwards lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Bonnie Edwards - August 23, 2023 at 08:50 PM

TA

“ We wish the Buckel family peace, comfort, and strength. Dr. Buckel was such a kind, caring man and veterinarian.



Tracy & Mike Abram - August 23, 2023 at 08:44 PM

RG

“ Rick Jeanne Geibel lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Rick & Jeanne Geibel - August 23, 2023 at 08:15 PM

DH

“ Dianne Hill lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Dianne Hill - August 23, 2023 at 05:47 PM

JG

“ We will always have fond memories of Dr. Buckel when he came out to the farm. Lots of laughter and tears on the farm but he always cared for our animals. Thoughts and prayers for the Buckel family.



Jeff and Vicky Galt - August 23, 2023 at 05:19 PM

CL

“ *Chuck and Julie Langenfelder lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Chuck and Julie Langenfelder** - August 23, 2023 at 03:15 PM

DS

“ *Dave Donell Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Dave and Donell Smith** - August 23, 2023 at 01:10 PM

TM

“ *Tommy Pam Marvel lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Tommy and Pam Marvel** - August 23, 2023 at 01:05 PM

DH

“ *Donna Hollett lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Donna Hollett** - August 23, 2023 at 11:50 AM

SK

“ *susan karbaum lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**susan karbaum** - August 23, 2023 at 10:33 AM

GS

“ *My condolences to the families*



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**George Short** - August 23, 2023 at 10:19 AM

DH

“ *Denny Judy Hickman lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Denny and Judy Hickman** - August 23, 2023 at 09:35 AM

MU

“ *Marie Usilton lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Marie Usilton** - August 23, 2023 at 09:34 AM

DT

“ *Dr. Townshend lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Dr. Al Townshend** - August 23, 2023 at 07:35 AM

GG

“ *Geri Garvin lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Geri Garvin** - August 22, 2023 at 10:51 PM

PT

“ *Pamela Teat lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Pamela Teat** - August 22, 2023 at 10:43 PM

FL

“ *Frankie Cathy Legg lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Frankie and Cathy Legg** - August 22, 2023 at 09:04 PM

GP

“ So many memories he left for those who knew him personally and also a great veterinarian.

**Gary Pinder and Renita Pinder** - August 22, 2023 at 08:58 PM

CS

“ constance smith lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



**constance smith** - August 22, 2023 at 08:15 PM

BE

“ I have fond memories of Dr. Buckel at Chestertown Animal he took care of one of my dachshund's he will be missed by many. Prayers to the family Betty Jo Embert



**Betty Jo Embert** - August 22, 2023 at 07:36 PM

NG

“ Nancy Jim Greenwood lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



**Nancy and Jim Greenwood** - August 22, 2023 at 06:37 PM

SB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**sam buckel** - August 22, 2023 at 06:30 PM

SM

“ Sandy McClary lit a candle in memory of  
Ralph Buckel



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**Sandy McClary** - August 22, 2023 at 06:20 PM

PW

“ Patti Webb sent a virtual gift in memory of  
Ralph Buckel



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**Patti Webb** - August 22, 2023 at 04:48 PM

JL

“ John Larrimore lit a candle in memory of  
Ralph Buckel



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**John M Larrimore** - August 22, 2023 at 04:47 PM

KL

“ *Katherine Langenfelder lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Katherine Langenfelder** - August 22, 2023 at 04:13 PM

GS

“ *My condolences to the family during this difficult time. I remember Dr. B being our vet, he was an amazing person.*



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**George Short** - August 22, 2023 at 03:52 PM

CK

“ *Cindy King lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Cindy King** - August 22, 2023 at 02:29 PM

CK

“ *CINDY KING lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**CINDY KING** - August 22, 2023 at 02:26 PM

SG

“ *Sandy Bobby Green lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Sandy and Bobby Green** - August 22, 2023 at 02:11 PM

RP

“ *Our Deepest Sympathy go out to Sara and their family.*

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**Robert Payne** - August 22, 2023 at 02:08 PM

RP

“ *Robert Payne lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Robert Payne** - August 22, 2023 at 01:59 PM

SF

“ *shirley Foster lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**shirley Foster** - August 22, 2023 at 01:32 PM

JV

“ Joe Margaret B. Voshell lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Joe and Margaret B. Voshell - August 22, 2023 at 12:45 PM

WK

“ Will Glenda Kelly lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Will & Glenda Kelly - August 22, 2023 at 11:57 AM

TD

“ Todd Diane lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Todd and Diane - August 22, 2023 at 11:47 AM

FL

“ Frankie Cathy Legg lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Frankie and Cathy Legg - August 22, 2023 at 11:36 AM

TP

“ *The Family & all our pets lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



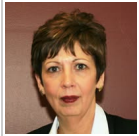
**The Ruehrmund Family & all our pets** - August 22, 2023 at 11:07 AM

SM

“ *Susan Martinez lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



**Susan Martinez** - August 22, 2023 at 11:05 AM



“ *Marian Wyble lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



**Marian Wyble** - August 22, 2023 at 10:06 AM

KL

“ *Katherine Langenfelder lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



**Katherine Langenfelder** - August 22, 2023 at 09:55 AM

CN

“ Chris Vivian Nordhoff lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Chris & Vivian Nordhoff - August 22, 2023 at 09:54 AM

KL

“ Katherine Langenfelder lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Katherine Langenfelder - August 22, 2023 at 09:50 AM

SN

“ Susan Phil Nickerson lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Susan and Phil Nickerson - August 22, 2023 at 09:45 AM

KL

“ Katherine Langenfelder lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel



Katherine Langenfelder - August 22, 2023 at 09:05 AM

MS

“ *Marlene Shelton lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Marlene Shelton** - August 22, 2023 at 07:47 AM

DL

“ *Dawn Linz lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Dawn Bakeoven Linz** - August 22, 2023 at 07:11 AM

TM

“ *Tina Mayr lit a candle in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Tina Mayr** - August 22, 2023 at 06:59 AM

DE

“ *Donna Edwards sent a virtual gift in memory of Ralph Buckel*



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**Donna Hubbard Edwards** - August 21, 2023 at 09:30 PM

FD

“ Frankie Jane Dill lit a candle in memory of  
Ralph Buckel



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**Frankie and Jane Dill** - August 21, 2023 at 09:23 PM

PS

“ Patricia Billy Sutton lit a candle in memory of  
Ralph Buckel



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**Patricia and Billy Sutton** - August 21, 2023 at 09:11 PM

BF

“ Betta Fraccaroli lit a candle in memory of  
Ralph Buckel



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**Betta Fraccaroli** - August 21, 2023 at 09:03 PM

NH

“ Nancy Hubbard lit a candle in memory of  
Ralph Buckel



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**Nancy Hubbard** - August 21, 2023 at 07:13 PM

LP

“ I have always Loved him since I was a little girl.  
He was such a sweet, caring and kind  
Blessings to his beautiful wife and family

Lee Phillips - August 21, 2023 at 06:38 PM

TB

“ Sara and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Thelma & Bill Bright

Thelma Bright - August 21, 2023 at 05:08 PM

TB

“ Thelma Bright lit a candle in memory of Ralph  
Buckel



Thelma Bright - August 21, 2023 at 05:05 PM

JS

“ Jeanette Stubbs lit a candle in memory of  
Ralph Buckel



Jeanette Stubbs - August 21, 2023 at 03:38 PM