



Edward Charles Rutherford

September 27, 2021

Edward Charles Rutherford, 68, returned home to our Lord on September 27, 2021. He was currently a resident of Henderson, Nevada and a longtime resident of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Ed was a native Coloradoan, born in Hayden on May 15, 1953, and raised in Craig, where he graduated from Moffat County High School. Early in his career, Ed worked for a Big 6 accounting firm in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he met his wife, Patricia Eileen McCormick. They were married in Craig before relocating to Fort Collins, where they raised their five children. The family suffered an enormous tragedy when Patricia was killed by a drunk driver in May 1990. Ed was an extremely dedicated father, and despite his tremendous loss, he made numerous personal sacrifices to support his children and maintain a strong family.

Ed worked for nearly 30 years for Larimer County Human Services and was also a past president of the National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators. In 2017, Ed retired from the county and relocated to Henderson, NV where he lived in the Lake Las Vegas community. He instantly made many strong friendships there, with his magnetic personality and genuine care for others. Ed has been a longtime avid golfer, and in recent years he developed great enjoyment from the game of pickleball.

Ed's Catholic faith was at the core of his being, and he led others to Christ by his powerful Christian and moral example. In addition to his faith, his family was always Ed's most important priority and the source of his greatest happiness. Everyone who met Ed was soon to be treated to multiple stories where he bragged about his five children and their spouses and gushed with pride in being Bapa to his 23 beautiful grandchildren. Ed leaves a legacy of love and happiness. He was always seen with his trademark giant smile on his face, and instantly drew others to him with his quick wit and warm and welcoming personality. Ed had an enormous love for life and living moments to their fullest. His joyful and contagious laugh will long ring in the hearts of those he loved.

Ed is survived by his 5 children, Sean (Julie) Rutherford, Sarah (Chris) Lindgren, Ellen (Mike) Doherty, Andrea (Luke) Vercollone, and Caitlin (Cole) Emerson; his sisters, Barbara (Ken) Martin, and Marlene (Jerry) Sutherland; and brother, Larry (Fran) Rutherford; He will be greatly missed by his 23 Grandchildren; Jacob, Patrice, Maddie and Caela Rutherford; Connor, McKenzie, Dylan, Aiden and Teagan Lindgren; Emily, Ariana, Addie, Jackson and Kolbe Doherty; Augustine, Gemma, Estella, Zaylee, and Sebastian Vercollone; and Tavian, Felicity, Beckett, and Ephrem Emerson. He was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia Rutherford, and his parents, Ralph and Marie Rutherford.

A Rosary will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 4, at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church in Windsor. The Mass of Christian Burial is planned for 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 5, also at Our Lady of the Valley. Ed will be interred at a private ceremony with his family present. He will rest at last beside the love of his life, Patricia Rutherford.

The Mass will also be streamed online for those who cannot attend in person. Steps to watch service online:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ourladyofthevalleywindsor/>

- Friend Our Lady of The Valley, Windsor, CO
- It will prompt you to join/login
 - o Click “not now”
- Click on “Live”

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=video+olv

- Go to youtube.com
- Search “Video OLV”

Memorial contributions may be made to:

Knights of Columbus Council #11575

1250 7th Street

Windsor, CO 80550

Previous Events

Rosary

OCT **4**. 7:00 PM (MT)

Our Lady of The Valley
1250 7th Street
Windsor, CO 80550

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **5**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of The Valley
1250 7th Street
Windsor, CO 80550

Tribute Wall



“ *Edward Charles Rutherford*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *I had the privilege of getting to know Ed when I worked as a contract psychologist with the Larimer County Department of Human Services. We shared some wonderful lunches together and I still recall his enthusiastic and fascinating stories of his travels. Ed always impressed me as a man of principle and integrity. While we shared our Catholicism, he seemed to live his faith to the fullest. I am so very saddened to learn of his passing and I send my sincere condolences to Ed's family and dear friends.*

Gary Ranch

Gary Ranch - October 03, 2021 at 11:41 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Polly Scott - October 03, 2021 at 10:02 PM



This picture is Ed in Washington, DC in his official capacity as NAGDCA President with the NAGDCA board.

Polly Scott - October 05, 2021 at 08:07 PM

PD

“ I recall the first time I met Ed; it was the day Mike, my son, proposed to Ellen. After the proposal we all went to the Wyoming vs CSU game in Laramie. Ed being a supporter of the Rams brought his CSU blanket. Did I mention that this was in November in Laramie so it was a bit cool at game time. Well anyway we all “sat” in the Wyoming student section.... Ed kept his blanket rolled up the entire time, he kept insisting that he was not cold.

Another memory is at Mike and Ellen’s wedding reception. It turns out that one of my nephews had cigars for the dads (Ed & me) so we found a table in the corner and lit up. Funny thing, to me was trying to find matches in this bar... I later learned that bars in Fort Collins were non-smoking....oops!

Over the years I don’t think there were many times Ed missed one of the grandkids’ sacraments; be it baptism, first communion or confirmation. His batting average on this is better than mine and he has twice the number of grandkids. Ed was one of the guys that could preach the gospel to you and never open his mouth; just look at the actions.

Ed was a good man and raised a wonderful family to which he was very proud and rightly so. I think he knew a secret for raising faith filled, wonderful kids; a feat that is an accomplishment in itself but he was able to do this as a single parent. Ed, my hat is off to you!
God Bless you Ed,
Pat Doherty



Pat Doherty - October 03, 2021 at 10:01 PM

JA

“ My heart aches for Ed's family and friends. I knew him at John XXIII church years ago. His sister, Barbara and husband Ken, sent their three daughters to Bennett Elementary School where I was teaching second grade. I was so lucky to have his nieces in my classroom. May your happy memories of him help you during this difficult time. My prayers are with you all.

Janie Arnold

Janie Arnold - October 03, 2021 at 04:29 PM

PS

“ I met Ed through NAGDCA and saw him each year at the conference. We served on the board during the same timeframe and I was Ed's vice president. He was a great colleague and also a very genuine person. I remember one time Ed telling me, for no particular reason, that I had pretty hair.

Ed was always enjoyable and we would always talk about getting together since we lived only about an hour apart. We never did, but Ed invited my husband and me to his retirement party which we did attend. It was quite a bash with a fabulous band and plentiful food and drink. We danced a lot that night. Ed said he threw the party for his office and all the people that would continue working.

My sympathy and prayers to Ed's children and extended family.
Polly Scott

Polly Scott - October 03, 2021 at 03:59 PM

PS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Polly Scott - October 03, 2021 at 03:50 PM

PS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Polly Scott - October 03, 2021 at 03:50 PM

PS

This picture is of Ed at the 2015 NAGDCA conference after the Washington Update Session.

Polly Scott - October 05, 2021 at 08:09 PM

CR

“ *My condolences to the Rutherford family. I met Ed May 1990 the night of the tragic accident as I was on call for the District Attorney's Office. Since that time, we remained good friends. I had the utmost respect for Ed and we often greeted each other with a good strong handshake whenever we would see each other. Ed's smile lit up a room and he was a gentleman. I will miss him. Prayers for his family.*

God bless and May he Rest In Peace.

Charles Robles - October 03, 2021 at 11:05 AM

DA

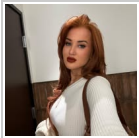
“ Ed and I worked together at Kruchten and Co. in the early 80s. Later, he worked with my wife Cathy at the county. We both enjoyed working with Ed and really appreciated his work ethic.

I was always so impressed with Ed's care of the family after Patricia's death. Great will be his reward in Heaven.

Our condolences to you all as you grieve the passing of your great father and grandfather.

Dave Agee

Dave Agee - October 03, 2021 at 10:07 AM



“ It was amazing meeting Ed! He was such a warm and bright person. I'm so happy I was able to get to know him these last 9 months, from when my mom moved to lake Las Vegas! He was such a great friend to my mom and everyone here in lake Las Vegas. I will miss Ed's charisma, his beaming smile and his dialogue about the world. RIP



Andréa Cristina - October 02, 2021 at 05:46 PM

MT

“ I am heartbroken that Ed has passed. He was one of my very first friends here at Lake Las Vegas after I moved from Philadelphia in October 2020. He had most people at - hello - including me.

The last 9 months of friendship have been wonderful knowing him, and I am thankful that our paths crossed —if only for a short time. I'm also thankful for the video's and pics we took a long the way...

Together, we had great dinner parties (wow, was he a foodie), we hiked (he was always up front), we golfed (he was such a competitor), we talked politics (ad nauseam), and we conversed --at length --about his love of life here in LV and his beautiful family.

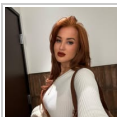
It seems unimaginable that he is gone, and while I did not know Ed for as long as we both wished, Lake Las Vegas will never be the same. #legendary

With all my heart, I am sending my deepest condolences to the entire Rutherford family.

Rest in peace, you sweet soul...



Mindy Thomas - October 02, 2021 at 02:09 PM



Andréa Cristina - October 02, 2021 at 05:41 PM

JA

Beautiful memories. He looked so happy in these shots. I'm glad he had so many friends along with his loving family.

*Janie Arnold
Fort Collins*

Janie Arnold - October 03, 2021 at 04:26 PM

LS

“ I met Ed in summer 2020. I only had a week but I can say that was a humble , funny man who love his family and people. He came to Colorado springs to visit his daughter , son in law and grand kids. It was such a nice time we spent with him. I will always remember the joy to be around him. Rest in peace Papa. We will miss you.

Lydie Say - October 01, 2021 at 07:48 PM

CL

“ From Cathy Loesch:

When we first met Trish and Ed, and all the kids, we just fell in love with this family! It was around 1988, when we moved to Fort Collins from Denver. Trish was one of the first ladies of our babysitting coop to introduce herself to me. At once, we thought "What a beautiful family!" My husband Dave needed help with fixing something -- I can't recall what. Trish told me that Ed would stop in. On a wonderful summer evening, Trish and Ed biked over, with all the kids behind them (and Caitlin in the child's seat behind Ed). Trish jokingly announced, as they turned the corner, "How many Rutherfords does it take to change a lightbulb?" Ed's face lit up whenever he looked at Trish, and he loved the kids more than anything! We were all heartbroken when Trish was killed in a car crash, but Ed kept going for the 5 beautiful children! He had the greatest laugh, and his heart was always with his children. But, now Ed is with his beautiful Trish, and he is dancing with her in heaven! Our hearts are heavy because he was such an awesome person, husband, father, friend. We have been truly blessed to have been touched by Ed, Trish, the kids, and now their own families! Although we have moved away, we kept in contact through Facebook and Messenger. We love you all! Your dad was a truly wonderful person; it was a privilege to know him...and all of you !

Cathy Loesch - October 01, 2021 at 10:36 AM



“ My entire life I have held fast to a rather silly dream, to be a filmmaker. When I was in college I did a wedding video for my friend Ellen, Ed's daughter. Truth be told, I put my all into it, but this is a competitive field and it's easy to feel insecure. Sometimes I felt, "It's just a wedding video, people always like their own wedding videos." Still, Ed was so impressed with what I created, he told me to my face how special he thought it was and if you knew Ed even a little bit, you know that he was a man who was incapable of being anything but sincere. I did another video for Ellen's cousin and for her younger sister, Caitlin. I can't say I was close with Ed, but every time I saw him he treated me like an old friend, showed genuine interest in what was going on in my life and even, once, told me that if he could help me out after finishing film school, he wanted to. I flew out to Colorado to film Caitlin's wedding and I remember sitting with Ed in his kitchen, just making small talk and catching up and he said, "You look solid." I felt so complimented. At Ellen's cousin's wedding Ed told me that if I needed any help after film school, he wanted to support me. I remember him laughing and saying, "I'm going to ride on his coat tails." I never took him up on the offer, I never had the humility to ask for that help. But that's okay, because I'm still pursuing my dream. From the bottom of my heart I tell you that if it weren't for Ed, I think I would have given up a long time ago. Somehow, through all the struggle, I continue to have hope, in part, because a man who barely knew me, believed in me. Ed was an honest, sincere man, and his expression of confidence has held me up at times when I felt like giving up. I kid you not, I weep as I write this, because Ed was confident that I was a good filmmaker. For whatever reason, probably divine intervention, the sincerity of this good man has been one of the ways that Jesus has carried me, when I have not been strong enough to carry myself. It hurts to know that he has departed, but I know that he is in Heaven.

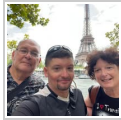
"The gray rain-curtain of this world rolls back, and all turns to silver glass, and then you see it...White shores, and beyond, a far green country under a swift sunrise." -Gandalf (J.R.R. Tolkien).

Jared Billings - September 30, 2021 at 11:19 PM

ED

Jared, thank you so much for your kind words. You have no idea how much they mean. I am so touched. My dad told me he would definitely fund a project of yours because you were one of the good guys and were going to make amazing films.

Ellen Doherty - October 01, 2021 at 11:21 PM



What a beautiful tribute!!

Cathy Loesch - October 02, 2021 at 11:39 AM

MM

“*Neil and I send our condolences to you, Barb, and Ken. What a wonderful Catholic family you came from! May Our Lord receive your brother Edward's soul mercifully into His hands.*
Maureen McCaffrey

Maureen McCaffrey - September 30, 2021 at 10:48 PM

AL

Rest In Peace my good friend.

anne lund - October 02, 2021 at 04:33 PM