



Raymond Richard "Dr. Bugs" Buganski, MD

April 22, 1932 - July 31, 2022

Dr. Raymond Richard Buganski, a beloved pediatrician, husband, serviceman, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully on July 31, 2022, in his home on Goddard Road. During his brief illness, Ray was tenderly cared for and constantly surrounded by family and friends. He joins his loving parents and daughters Beth, Ann Bishop, and Sister Pamela Marie eternally in Heaven.

Ray was the only child born to John and Laretta Buganski on April 22, 1932, in Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated from St. Casimir's School, Cathedral Latin High School, John Carroll University, and St. Louis University School of Medicine.

In 1955, Ray married the love of his life Ruth Elizabeth Holmes and together they created a family that included 12 children. They recently celebrated 67 years of marital bliss. All who visited the Buganski home of 56 years on Goddard Road were welcomed and encouraged to experience the joy and laughter that filled the house. Many people have been a witness to their love, patience, and faith in action. Doc and Ruthie, parishioners of St. Pius X for over 50 years, displayed devotion to the Catholic church beginning many of their mornings either at church together or sitting side by side watching mass virtually.

Ray's medical career initially brought him to Toledo Mercy Hospital for a three-year residency; however, he was called to duty in the Naval Reserve as a Physician in Norfolk, Virginia. After his service, Ray completed his last year of residency at Detroit Children's Hospital. During this time, Ray met Dr. John Tansey and in 1962 joined his Toledo Pediatric practice. This grew in time to be remembered as Drs. Tansey, Buganski, Roberts and Torsekar. Ray had a gift for calming worried parents and healing sick children. Dr. "Bugs" dazzled his patients with his Looney Tunes and Mickey Mouse clinical jackets along with his often requested "light trick". He had many famous lines to the children he cared for such as "Will You Marry Me?" and "I have a son/daughter just your age." During his medical career, Ray supported charitable organizations such as the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Before retiring in 1996, "Dr. Bugs" had served in leadership roles including Chief of the Medical Staff at Mercy Hospital (1975-1977) and Chairman of Pediatrics, Toledo Hospital (1980-1987).

Ray's love for his patients was only outmatched by his love for his family. He took pride in the sacrifices made so that each of his children received a strong foundation with 12 years of Catholic education. Over the course of his lifetime, Ray's devotion to family was deeply instilled into his children and his children's children all of whom hold much love, gratitude, honor, and respect for him.

Outside of his profession, Ray was a man of many talents. He played the accordion and was the leader of the "Raymond Richards Polka Band" in the Cleveland area in his high school and college years. He entertained family and friends on keyboards both at his home and at Sunset Village. Ray took time to share his love of music with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Kids could often be found next to him on the piano bench learning a new song or singing along to an old one.

Ray was also an avid fisherman. He spent much of his retirement at Hamilton

Lake in Indiana where he and Ruth joined St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Waterloo and met many new wonderful friends. The cottage became a special place for the Buganski family and holds countless memories beyond Ray's wildest dreams. Grandpa Ray's fishing pole was magical when grandchildren were present as he often secretly hooked a fish and made an excuse for them to hold his pole and reel it in.

Doc Bugs was also an outstanding bowler. He averaged over 200 for many years dating back to the 1970's. He rolled one 800 series and four 300 games, including a memorable one on the night before Thanksgiving in 2016 at the age of 84. His personality was always on display in his bowling leagues. His sense of humor, generosity, competitiveness, and overall warm nature made him popular with fellow bowlers and the staff at local bowling centers.

Raymond is survived by his loving wife Ruth, children Cynthia Parke, Mark (Gloria), Lynn (Stephen) Roberts, Joseph (Stephanie), Laura (Sean) O'Toole, Joan (Stephen) Sadowski, Robert (Anne), David (Melissa), Michael, and Grandchildren Alicia (Parke) & Matthew Shull, Ellen (Parke) & Matthew Christ, Nathan & Shannon Parke, Tracy (Buganski) & Craig Costello, Ryan Buganski, Coeli (Roberts) & Austin Martin, Claire Roberts, Cady (Roberts) & Ryan Grable, Jillian (Buganski) & Cory Brunton, Nicholas Buganski, Meredith Buganski; Andrew, Brett, Kevin, Brian and Lauren Bishop; Owen, Connor, Erin & Kelsey O'Toole; Emma, Libby, Cooper & Molly Sadowski; Jacob, Tyler, Lucas & Abigail Buganski; Brooks, Beckett & Amelia Buganski; Dylan, Camden & Anabella Buganski and Great Grandchildren Adelaide & Oliver Christ, Aubrey & Olivia Costello, Sylvia & Jack Shull. He was preceded in death by his parents, daughters Sr. Pamela Marie SND, Ann (John) Bishop, infant daughter Beth, son-in-law Lee Parke, and Grandson Lee J Parke, along with numerous aunts and uncles from the Cleveland area who were influential in his upbringing.

Family and Friends may visit Wednesday, August 3, 2022, from 3 - 7 p.m. at Ansberg West Funeral Home, 3000 W. Sylvania Ave. Meet us Thursday, August 4, 2022, for a 10 a.m. funeral mass at St. Pius X, 3011 Carskaddon Ave. Interment will follow at Resurrection Cemetery, 5725 Hill Ave. Additionally, the family invites all for a celebration of Ray's life at a luncheon at The Pinnacle, 1772 Indianwood Circle.

The family wishes to express gratitude to Ashanti Hospice for the care and compassion provided.

In the spirit of Ray's lifetime support of Catholic organizations and his passion for education, contributions in the memory of Dr. Raymond Richard Buganski may be directed to St Pius X Parish, Notre Dame Academy, St. Francis DeSales High School or Mom's house.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

5725 Hill Ave.
Toledo, OH 43615

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 3. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Prayer Service

AUG 3. 7:00 PM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Mass of the Resurrection

AUG 4. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Pius X Church
3011 Carskaddon Ave
Toledo, OH 43606

Tribute Wall

SF

“ So sorry to hear about Dr Bug, he and Ruth were very special to our family. We are sorry we are just finding this out now. Doc and Ruth were always there in emergencies a long with other times. We were Blessed to know him and to have him as our doctor. We will always remember his love and care!

Sandy Wells Berghuis Betty Wells family - April 17, 2023 at 07:54 PM

LG

“ I am so very saddened by this news but eternally grateful that He, Dr. Bugs provided such Loving Care to My Children. When My 3 month old baby needed Neuro Surgery, He sent us to the top Pediatric Neurosurgeon in Ann Arbor, U of M. He followed his care as if we were Family and gave me his Home number in case I needed him.
He called scolded and schooled a Teacher on appropriate teaching My child with ADD. The best is he actually Understood, Respected and Loved Children.
We will always Love the Magic of His care. Thank you to his Family for Sharing “Bugs” with us.

Lisa Geha - January 27, 2023 at 06:09 PM

MC

“ Those of us who deeply appreciate all that Dr. Bugs was to us are legion. Our family began with him when the group was Tansey and Buganski and we continued on until our four children were adults. We have a special needs son who required a ton of medical help. Dr. Bugs even came to our house many times. One time he even left a bowling tournament to help.

I read of his passing and my heart is sad yet comforted knowing he is at peace. He was a unique individual who was so genuine, compassionate, humble and not a phony bone in his body. I know that all of his patients, friends and family felt so loved by him!

He was one in a million and will be sorely missed.

Our prayers go out to his family and we hold you in our hearts!

With deep gratitude for all that he was,

Sincerely, Marge and son Mike Clark (Mike is special needs and now is 55 years old!)

Marge Clark - August 05, 2022 at 08:46 PM

MK

“ Not quite sure where to begin as I have lifelong memories of Dr. Bugs taking such special care of my family, especially my sister, Laura, following her near-drowning accident in 1986. The Toledo Peds office was one like no other!

Dr. Bugs left such an impression on me that I grew up wanting to become a doctor so I could have the honor and privilege of serving and supporting families at their most memorable and vulnerable times much like he had done for us. Special to his care of our family was personal visits and gift offering each Christmas for Laura-if he thought she was special, rest assured, we thought he was equally as special.

My healthcare journey took a different path as I pursued a nursing career, however, as I am in a Doctorate of Nursing Practice program, I find myself reflecting on Dr. Bugs and soon being called “doctor” just as I envisioned when I was younger.

My condolences to the Buganski family-what a tremendous person he was and a great loss. I imagine a gap you will feel with his absence. May you be comforted and filled with lovely memories of him. <3

-Michelle (Klever) Kuhn

michelle kuhn - August 03, 2022 at 10:54 PM

JG

“ When we bought our house on Goddard in 1967 and expecting our first child, we knew we were buying into a great neighborhood, and we loved our new home. What we didn't know was that the neighbors next door were such wonderful and caring people who would become a significant positive influence on our children. What an incredible added benefit to our purchase! Lucy and I and our children Brad, Amy, and Corey lived next door to Ray and Ruth for 23 years and thus all the time our children were growing up. “Dockie” as we called him and Ruth included our kids in many of their family activities making them feel part of a caring, sharing, and loving family. We have great memories of the kids swapping Halloween candy, Ann making jello for Brad, and “Dockie” calling our kids to join his kids on some adventure in the station wagon. In a very real way, the Buganskis were a second family. Living only 40 feet away, “Dockie” made numerous house calls to assist one of our children. No matter what the ailment was, he had a gift for relating to children, showing compassion, genuine interest and always some humor. We were always comfortable when “Dockie”, whether in the office or in our home, was treating one of our kids. He was a gifted doctor and a caring neighbor.
Jim and Lucy Gerlach

James F GERLACH - August 03, 2022 at 08:57 PM

BC

“ Dr Bugs was my children's doctor but he was my friend too. All the countless questions I had and his steadfast advice with my daughter who had special needs meant so much to me. He even brought supplies to my home when we had a snow storm. I'll never forget him. Praying for your family. God Bless Dr. Bugs!!!

Bonnie Okulski Clark - August 03, 2022 at 05:26 PM

AM

“ *The Buganskis were a second family to me. They always welcomed me and my brothers into their home and made us feel like one of them. I fondly remember joining Dr. Buganski and the kids for trips to the pharmacy (?) where we could each pick out a piece of candy and riding in their station with the seats down, so we could slide around in the back (maybe I shouldn't be sharing that - but those were different times). And if Dr. Buganski was at home, you could be sure to be at the receiving end of a tickling attack or have the chance to hear him play polkas on his accordion. He was a good man and the best neighbor anyone could ask for.*

Amy Muldoon - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 PM

DS

“ *I have wonderful memories of Dr. Buganski. He used to stop by our house on Aldringham and he and Ruth became more like family. Dr. Buganski helped me manage through adolescence with a kind and loving heart. He was a great physician and remarkable man.*

Debi Samuels - August 03, 2022 at 10:28 AM

JE

“ *Dr. Bugs was my pediatrician years ago. I remember him once making a house call on a very hot summer day. But my favorite memory was when I went to HIS house for a house call! He lived near my grandma who took me directly to his home when I had an issue with my eye. Dr. Bugs made an impression on my life. He was a great physician and a great man. Sympathies to his family.*

Janice Every - August 03, 2022 at 09:40 AM

SB

“ I will forever remember his office jackets w/ bugs bunny and characters on them. He'd always come into our room and talk like Donald duck or come Disney character. He'd look in our ears and tell us he'd see carrots, broccoli, or some vegetables...something to make us giggle even though we weren't feeling well. I tried to take my own daughter to his practice when I became a parent and we went to Dr. Torsacar (spelling??). There was no one in the Toledo area that I knew growing up who didn't go to see Dr. Bugs. He will be deeply missed and he will always be a great memory from my childhood. RIP and many prayers for his family.

shannon Farley bermes - August 02, 2022 at 07:01 PM

JS

“ He was hands down the BEST pediatrician ever! He was my doctor, and he did, in fact, ask me to marry him several times! I will always remember the cartoon jacket he wore. How lucky was I and everyone else who had the absolute honor to be touched by his presence. They just don't make them like this anymore!

Jennifer Shanteau - August 02, 2022 at 05:23 PM

JK

“ Dr. Buganski was more welcome than Santa Claus one Christmas morning 50 years ago, when he made a surprise house call to check on our severely ill little girl!

He was certainly a follower of the Divine Physician! May he now enjoy his eternal reward!

Eileen & John Kennedy

john kennedy - August 02, 2022 at 02:51 PM

KT

“ I remember a kind, gentle and generous man who brought corsages to the teachers at Saint Pius X School every year without fail. He was grateful to us for the service to his children and grandchildren. I am grateful to him for being so thoughtful and supportive. Much love to the family.

Kathy Taraschke - August 02, 2022 at 12:57 PM

MG

“ Very sorry to hear of Dr. Buganski's death. He was my pediatrician well into my 20s and always had a sucker in his pocket for his young and not so young patients. A great patron of our St. Pius X community. RIP

Michael Goulding - August 02, 2022 at 11:57 AM

CK

“ Hello Buganski family , I am sorry to hear of Dr.Bugs passing . He was a wonderful funny guy , many many memories at Goddard and always another kid there , I think i spent more summers there than at home.! remember the pipe and piano playing and kids sitting outside the shut door listening , this I believe was his only "alone time" so gifted . Thank you for those wonderful memories on Goddard they are cherished

Carol Lynn (Moore) Knight - August 02, 2022 at 11:45 AM

BB

“What a great doc! I doubt any of his patients have ever forgotten him! He was pure entertainment for the kids and their parents, from his wild lab coats to his corny jokes that they ate up. With our last name being Boyle, he often popped in the door with “Well, how are the Boyles and Goyles today?” So many good memories. Heaven will never be the same now that he’s arrived! Deepest sympathy to the family as I’m sure his loss will be profound.

Betsy Boyle - August 02, 2022 at 11:34 AM

LG

The Toledo community lost a wonderful doctor and loving family man. One Thanksgiving my children and grandchildren were invited to bowl with Dr. Bug’s loving family...what a great memory. May Our Lord surround the Buganski family with his love and give them strength during this difficult time. 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏

Linda Granata - August 03, 2022 at 11:23 PM

CO

“Doc B. What a man?? What a patriarch!! What a hero!!!! RIP in heaven , sir, with 3 of your awesome girls!!! Love to all my Buganski pals...wish I could be there this week ...to hug and to celebrate...You are all dominating my thoughts!!
Sending love! Orph



Chris Orphey - August 01, 2022 at 11:15 PM

JK

First a client, then my childrens doctor and then a VERY GOOD friend. My three daughters, now in their late 50's and early 60's, still remember his marriage proposals when they were very small children, his jackets and the excellent care they gave to them and their children. Ray may be gone, however he will not be forgotten.

Jim Kimble - August 03, 2022 at 10:59 AM

JM

We took our 4 kids to the practice in the '60s and '70s . He always had time for the woes of the mothers and see their worried faces. We had the good fortune to have him be the godfather to our last child, Patrick, born March 5, 1982. What an honor!!! May he rest in peace in his new home with the angels in heaven.

Jim Sr. & Toni Moriarty - August 03, 2022 at 12:25 PM