



## Ralph Edward Karki

March 28, 1937 - January 21, 2025

Ralph Karki, age 87 of Mounds View died on Tuesday, January 21, 2025. Ralph was a graduate of Virginia, MN High School and Junior College. He had a teaching degree from the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He was a public school teacher from 1959-1999. The last 34 years were at Columbia Heights High School. He was a coach of Quiz Bowl and Model United Nations and Model Congress Teams. Preceded in death by wife of 31 years, Stanleigh Jean. Survived by sons Joel and Jon and three grandsons. Ralph gave special thanks to those friends who put up with him as a fishing, hunting, golfing and BINGO partner. A celebration of Ralph's life will be held at 11AM on Saturday, June 28, 2025 at Forest Hills United Methodist Church, 1790 11th St. SE, Forest Lake, MN. Ralph requests no flowers. Memorials preferred to Columbia Heights Staff Scholarship Fund.

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ *Mr. Karki played a huge role in my high school years. He opened doors for me and provided me with opportunities that had a profound effect for years. I attended his first Model UN trip to the Hague and was on the quiz team my senior year.*

*I also truly enjoyed his history classes. They helped prepare me for rigorous courses in college and grad school.*

*I hope it gives his family some comfort to know that I, like many other of his students, have such fond memories of Mr. Karki. -- Mary Maronde, CHSH class of '82*

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**Mary Maronde** - June 27, 2025 at 11:52 AM

SW

“ *I had Mr Karki as a teacher and in Quiz Bowl. He was a great teacher and was fantastic n to hang with on Quiz Bowl outings. I remember his smile when he would give you a tip or comment after a match on Quiz Biwl. He will be missed. Thanks for all the knowledge you passed in to me. Shawn Walgren*

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**Shawn Walgren** - January 30, 2025 at 07:36 PM

BJ

“*Ralph was always a kind and decent guy. Never a bad word to say about anyone and a super easy guy to go fishing or hunting with. Lots of memorable moments, as you never knew what might happen when Ralph was involved. But I do recall when I was in high school Ralph would give me history quizzes as we went "up north" on another outing. I didn't mind as I enjoyed history. His off-center sense of humor was always fun and I remember watching Blazing Saddles with Ralph and my dad years ago and all of us laughing to tears.. Just the right kind of movie to watch with Ralph.*

*The photo of Ralph here with his nice walleye was one that I took just a few years ago. We were fishing for (and catching) early season crappies on Lake Minnetonka when Ralph suddenly said, "this isn't a crappie". After a nice battle, we got it in the boat. It was before walleye opener so we had to release it after taking the picture. Ralph loved catching any kind of fish but a walleye was a special prize. Especially in that situation where it was not expected. I am happy that he valued that memory enough to choose this photo for his obituary.*

*I was able to take Ralph on one last day / fishing trip "up north" to my dad's place this past October. It was pretty cold and as always, he was preparing to go out in the boat with not even nearly enough protection from the cold. My dad and I couldn't let him do that so we overruled his Iron Range Finlander "cold doesn't bother me" attitude that he has always had, and got him into some proper attire. Out in the boat he was not going to admit that made a difference but he looked comfortable. Besides, we got into a good crappie bite and Ralph was able to contribute a number of crappies to a nice catch that the three of us ended up with. That action probably kept him warm more than the clothes.*

*Ralph was one of a kind and will be missed.*

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**Brian Johnson** - January 29, 2025 at 12:13 AM

JK

*Thanks for sharing. He took me to 'Being There' & it's still my favorite movie.*

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**Joel Karki** - January 31, 2025 at 05:03 PM