



## Governor Julian M. Carroll

April 16, 1931 - December 10, 2023

Frankfort – Julian Morton Carroll, age 92, passed away Sunday, December 10, 2023. Services will be held at Elevate Church in Frankfort on Saturday, December 16, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Bobby Baker officiating. Burial will follow at Frankfort Cemetery. Military Honors will be observed at the gravesite by the Kentucky National Guard.

Honoring his service, Mr. Carroll will lie in state at the Kentucky Capitol Rotunda from 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 15, 2023. A memorial service will take place from 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the Capitol Rotunda.

The third of eleven children, Mr. Carroll was born in West Paducah, Kentucky on April 16, 1931, to the late Elvie Buster and Eva Heady Carroll. He spent a lifetime in service to the great people of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, whom he loved with all his heart.

Mr. Carroll's journey of public service began with the United States Air Force shortly after graduating from the University of Kentucky Law School in 1956. For three years, he served as an Air Force attorney, then returned to Paducah to practice law. Mr. Carroll was active in civic affairs, including membership in the Jaycees and charter president of the Paducah Optimist Club.

In January 1960, he led a public referendum campaign to allow the Tennessee Valley Authority to provide electricity to McCracken County. The referendum, which would lead to lower electric costs, passed by a three-to-one margin, a success that set the stage for more than three decades in elected office.

Mr. Carroll served five terms in the Kentucky House of Representatives, including Speaker of the House from 1968-1970. He was then elected Lieutenant Governor and eventually succeeded Governor Wendell Ford, who left for the U.S. Senate before his term as governor ended. In 1975, Mr. Carroll won a full term as governor with a record margin of victory. His legacy of Kentucky governor has had a long-lasting impact across judicial, educational, recreational, and safety areas.

He implemented a modernization of the state's judicial system that was called a model for the nation. He also championed legislation to eliminate the private bail-bond system. Public schools were transformed when he invested heavily in teacher salaries, eliminated fees for required classes, and provided free textbooks. He also established a School Building Authority to help poor school districts build new schools. In addition, vocational and special education were expanded while a pilot program for gifted and talented students was initiated.

Mr. Carroll also had a big impact on the state park system, which was expanded under his leadership. His opposition to damming the Red River saved Red River Gorge. Stricter safety enforcement was also put in place following the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire.

He took on national roles when he served as chairman of the National Governors Association and co-chairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission. Following his service as governor, he received several honorary degrees, and the Purchase Parkway was renamed Julian M. Carroll Parkway. Mr. Carroll concluded his public service in the Kentucky Senate, where he

served from 2004 to 2020.

He is survived by his children, Ken (Jenny), Patrice, and Elly, who were provided with opportunities for a wonderful education in Kentucky. As a loving grandfather, he enjoyed spoiling Chris (Niki), Jason, John Bradley, Clayton, Emma, Sam, and Max; and as a great-grandfather, he also continued the tradition of spoiling Evie, Lynlee, and Liam. He is also survived by his siblings, Neel Carroll, David Carroll, Jane Erickson, and Tommy Carroll.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Charlann; son, Brad, and six siblings.

Serving as pallbearers will be Kenneth Morton Carroll, Christopher Morton Carroll, Jason Thomas Carroll, John Bradley Carroll, Philip Maurice Block Jr., and Philip Barrett Block. Honorary pallbearers will be Sonny Hunt, David Cobb, and Craig Blanton.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in Julian M. Carroll's memory to the University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center or Murray State University Library, Julian M. Carroll Collection Fund.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory.

# Cemetery Details

## Frankfort Cemetery

215 East Main Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 227-2403

# Previous Events

## Lying in State

DEC 15. 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Capitol Rotunda  
700 Capital Avenue  
Frankfort, KY 40601

## Memorial Service

DEC 15. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Capitol Rotunda  
700 Capital Avenue  
Frankfort, KY 40601

## Lying in State

DEC 15. 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Capitol Rotunda  
700 Capital Avenue  
Frankfort, KY 40601

## Service

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DEC **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Elevate Church  
1019 East Main Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601

# Tribute Wall

SJ

“ Steve & Carla Johnson lit a candle in memory of Governor Julian M. Carroll



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**Steve & Carla Johnson** - December 23, 2023 at 08:43 PM

AF

“ Dear Patrice,

*Very sorry to hear your dad has passed on. He was a tremendous presence in your life no doubt, and a treasure for all Kentuckians. I will send up a prayer for you and your family. Wishing you all peace at this time, and may you find comfort in all the amazing memories you must possess, of your life with this most amazing man, who you were fortunate enough to call your father!*

*Anne Faulconer  
Lexington, KY*

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**Anne Faulconer** - December 18, 2023 at 05:08 PM

SW

“ I met Julian Carroll and his son Kenny Carroll through my friend Ct McDonald and he was such a nice man. I even run into him at different places and he always stopped to talk for a few minutes and would ask me how CT was doing. My mother, a great artist and draftsman engineer, who died in 1973 did a sketching of him that is supposedly hanging in the Governor's mansion for which I have never seen. My prayers go out to his family during such a difficult time.



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**Samantha Whitehouse** - December 16, 2023 at 12:22 PM

TF

“ The Ronald W. Wilkins Family lit a candle in memory of Governor Julian M. Carroll



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**The Ronald W. Wilkins Family** - December 15, 2023 at 06:26 PM

DJ

“ One if the highlights of my life was working for the Governor. Meeting and getting to know his wonderful family was another. I know he will be missed but the contributions he made to kentucky will carry on

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**donna norton jones** - December 15, 2023 at 11:24 AM

DH

“ Sending much love and sympathy to the family. We are very sorry that my wife and I are unable to make it to the funeral. My father, M. Neel Heady, was Julian's uncle (younger brother to Julian's mother, Eva). He and my mother, Lois, had and shared with us many fond memories of trips to Kentucky from Michigan for family reunions. I remember our family attending Julian's inauguration in 1975 with much excitement. He always had a big smile and warm words whenever I saw him. And hanging on my wall now are the signed Certificates commissioning my dad and me as Kentucky Colonials signed by Julian.

Love, Doug (Julian) and Kathy Heady  
Ann Arbor, MI

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**Doug & Kathy Heady** - December 15, 2023 at 05:44 AM

JM

“ I met Governor Carroll almost 53 years ago when he was running for Lt. Governor on a ticket with former Governor Bert T. Combs. In 1985, when Becky and I came to Frankfort, Governor Carroll would always stop and talk with us whether we were in a local business or attending a political function, and he never failed to call us by name. He had many accomplishments in his career, however, when state employees and retirees were under attack, Governor Carroll, as State Senator, and State Representative Derrick Graham were strong and powerful voices. Without their leadership, the result may not have been so good. Our condolences to the Carroll family.

John & Becky McCauley  
Lexington, Kentucky

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**John W. McCauley** - December 14, 2023 at 06:38 PM

BF

“ I am deeply saddened with the passing of former Governor Julian Carroll. I was privileged to know him and as a newspaper reporter/editor, I also was privileged to interview him and tell his story to thousands of newspaper readers many times. Gov. Carroll was a treasure to Kentucky and he did more to help western Kentucky advance its economy than any other governor before or since. I was privileged to cover his inauguration for the Tribune Courier in Marshall County and it was a personal thrill to do so. Governor Julian will be missed greatly by his family and friends of which he has many. My prayers go out to his family. May the Lord hold each of them in His hands and give them comfort.

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**Bobbie Foust** - December 14, 2023 at 10:50 AM

JH

“ I remember Julian as a truly loving Christian man, as he definitely was a friend of ours, as we know him & his family, because we went to church in Paducah with him, when he was a young attorney there. He has a true respectful reputation, as his children were my age, at the time. He always geared his life, putting his faith first in life, but his family life was actually his truly sprinted one basically. His family was actually his true ambition & he always put them first in his life. He'll forever be remembered as he loyal friend & respectful individual in everyone he knows life, basically he was a Pillar of stone, as he always put his hands surrounding his heart & soul respectfully. I know his FAITH guided him 24/7 in life. He walked alongside his Faith respectfully and he reared his children, just as his two parents had honestly reared his own personal life!

*Sending regards to each one of his children, as they walk alongside his own personal life together! As GOD will be there, with his children, his grandchildren great-grandchildren, as he'll be remembered in each of their minds now & forever! Sending my love to all his family, as he'll just be remembered for the structured individual that he was, as a man by day & a family man at night! As he's definitely standing alongside his wife, Charlann now, but he's actually definitely enjoying his natural family reunion now, alongside his Savior JESUS CHRIST & GOD HIMSELF! As Julian will never be forgotten! GOD be with the family as they definitely walk this walk everyone has to truly experience in this journey we all see as life itself? Please be with all these individuals, family & friends, during this time?*

*Jess D. Hester  
Edmond, Oklahoma*

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**Jess D. Hester** - December 13, 2023 at 01:06 PM

KS

“*Julian Carroll was my friend. I led a home Bible study for five years in which he and Sharlann attended weekly. It was an honor. Julian hired me as the Director of Education for Kentucky War on Drugs in the program he administered. Most of all, I confirm Julian’s love for Jesus, his Savior. He was a true southern gentleman who loved people. See you in heaven, my friend Julian. Prayers for your family!* Kent Sullivan

Kent Sullivan - December 13, 2023 at 11:58 AM

AV

“*Julian Carroll was the epitome of a Kentucky gentleman, always prepared with a one of a kind smile and a firm handshake. He was devoted to this Commonwealth and to his loving family. Thank you for your service sir ... May you rest in peace.*



Anne Winn Vansant - December 13, 2023 at 09:47 AM

DH

“*Sincere sympathy to all the family. Sending love and prayers. Thinking of each one of you.*



Diane & Ronald Hines - December 12, 2023 at 09:09 PM

MR

“ On behalf of the Roberts family we send our condolences I had the opportunity to meet Mr. Carroll years ago he and my grandfather was best friends and worked with the Democratic Party in the Western Kentucky region including his hometown of Paducah. Mr. Carroll nominated my grandfather for a ky colonel in 1976 for his work with the postal Union and eventually did more when he became postmaster now may they both shake hands again! God bless

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**Matthew Roberts** - December 12, 2023 at 04:07 AM

RW

“ Rita Woodson Wilson lit a candle in memory of Governor Julian M. Carroll



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**Rita Woodson Wilson** - December 11, 2023 at 11:01 PM

MB

“ I only had the pleasure of knowing him briefly but I was welcomed into his home as if I were family. His attitude, spirit and quick smile were always present. My heart goes out to JB and all of the family at such a difficult time. Prayers for all of you as you navigate this difficult time.

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**Melissa Burlason** - December 11, 2023 at 09:06 PM

BC

“ I had the honor of sitting with his wife Charlann. I watched as he treated her with so much love and kindness and gentleness. It blessed me to witness them together. He treated me and my family as if we were his family. I will always hold that dear to my heart. He will be missed.

**Bonnie Carpenter** - December 11, 2023 at 07:22 PM

BR

Such an honorable Southern gentleman! His love for Kentucky and our people was obvious. I have met Governor Carroll on a couple of occasions and he was always so welcoming and gracious! Thank you sir for your leadership and service to our commonwealth!

**Buddy Rogers** - December 12, 2023 at 10:13 AM

RH

What can I say, Governor Carroll, Charlann & Brad, Kenny, Patrice & Ellie were family to me for 8 years while O.J. served as Lt, Governor. I was a Kentucky State Police Trooper assigned to his Security Detail. I traveled, ate with them and watched their kids grow-up. The Carroll's always treated employees around them as family. I could write a book on the Carroll family on how much they meant to me. I loved them, because they were good people. Ron Hunt

**Ron Hunt** - December 12, 2023 at 08:16 PM

SF

Governor Julian M. Carroll's campaign in 1975 sparked my interest in politics which led to a passion and career I could not have imagined at the age of 10. Thank you, thank you. RIP

**Scott Falmlen** - December 13, 2023 at 07:58 AM

EK

Governor Carroll was wonderful to our area during the 1977 flood in Eastern Ky his kindness and dedication will never be forgotten..May God bless his family.....Thank You!!

**Edith L.Asher Pineville Ky.com** - December 14, 2023 at 10:14 AM