



## Russell Reid McClure

December 12, 1936 - May 22, 2018

Frankfort - Russell Reid McClure was born December 12, 1936, and passed away on Tuesday, May 22, 2018. Known to his children and grandchildren as “Big Russ”, “Dad” and “Granddad”, he filled every room he entered. Full of love and life to the end, he cared deeply for family, friends, and most importantly children and those who were vulnerable. Russ was never short of a funny story, a pat on the back, a thank you, or a surreptitiously delivered act of charity when it was needed. He was also an endless well of love and grace when any of us stumbled. He will be profoundly missed, and heaven will never be the same.

Russ was born in Somerset, Kentucky to the late Joe and Anna Russell McClure. He attended Somerset High and then Transylvania University, where he met his love of 62 years, Brucene, now the matriarch of a large and vibrant lineage. Russ was also survived by his children, Tina Emrick, Mark McClure (Lee), and Holly Smith (Scott) and preceding him in death was an infant son, Rusty McClure. No greater joy was found for Russ than with his grandchildren, April, Chase, Lauren, Cory, Drew, Shelby, Ali, and Abby. He woke each day eager to talk to one of them and just feel joy. Each had a unique relationship with Russ, because he embraced their individuality. Equally treasured were his great-grandchildren, Connor, Brooke, Henry, Nolan, Ella, Helen Hall, Ava, Reid, and one on the way.

Russ had a storied and diverse career, starting as a budget analyst for the State of Kentucky and then at an early age, becoming Finance Vice President

at Morehead State University under the watchful eye of a trusted mentor, Adron Doran. He later became the Kentucky Secretary of Finance and Executive Assistant to the Governor. Later he owned and operated a commercial insurance company in Louisville, where he left a wide and colorful swath of influence on the development of that city. With all that being said, it meant nothing to him unless his family framed it all.

Russ loved to create, build and feel. He taught his children and grandchildren to embrace their expression, whether that be in the form of woodworking, song, birdhouses, or crying at a touching commercial. His family is one that hugs, hollers, stands up, and knocks down barriers when they block what is right. It all added up to absorbing God's delicious soup of life's experience. Russ asked us all to laugh and tell stories about him when this day came, and we'll do our best to meet his expectations.

Services for Russ will be held at First Christian Church in Frankfort, Saturday, May 26, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Dr. John Opsata officiating. Burial will follow at Frankfort Cemetery. The family will receive friends at Harrod Brothers Funeral Home on Friday, May 25, 2018, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and at First Christian Church, on Saturday, May 26, 2018, from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. prior to the service hour.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests expressions of sympathy may be made in Russ's memory to United Way of Franklin County, Kentucky; 76 C Michael Davenport Blvd, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

## Frankfort Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 25.** 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Harrod Brothers Funeral Home  
312 Washington Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 227-4526  
hbfh@harrodbrothers.com  
<https://www.harrodbrothers.com>

## Visitation

**MAY 26.** 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Harrod Brothers Funeral Home  
312 Washington Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 227-4526  
hbfh@harrodbrothers.com  
<https://www.harrodbrothers.com>

## Service

MAY 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

Harrod Brothers Funeral Home  
312 Washington Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 227-4526  
hbfh@harrodbrothers.com  
<https://www.harrodbrothers.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Russell Reid McClure*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Through life's ups and downs, Russ never lost his humanity. I treasured his friendship. May he Rest In Peace.*

*Keith Kappes  
Morehead*

**Keith Kappes** - May 30, 2018 at 08:52 AM



“ *Love that Russ McClure!! He would spoil us girls back in Breck Days! I will keep those fond memories in my heart forever!! Such a beautiful service today! I am sure he was proud!! Love and prayers for his beautiful family.*

**Kim Miller Bybee** - May 26, 2018 at 03:48 PM



“ *My heartfelt sympathy to all the family.*

**Henrietta Milich** - May 26, 2018 at 10:36 AM



“ *My family and I send our thoughts and love to the family and loved ones of Mr. McClure  
Love Agnes Cheshire and family*



**Agnes Cheshire** - May 25, 2018 at 08:17 PM

RW

“ *Marisa and I share our heartfelt sorrow in the loss of Mr. McClure. He was a good friend of our father Harold White and I attended school with the kids in Morehead. A great man who I know will be missed. Our thoughts and our prayers.*



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**Ray & Marisa White** - May 25, 2018 at 01:54 PM

DM

“ *Danny & Reshia Morehead KY*



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**danny mabry** - May 24, 2018 at 08:21 PM

KN

“ *To Brucene, Tina, Holly & Mark - I grew up in your home and hold so many precious memories of Russ. He was the fun and cool dad! His love for life & family was contagious and his smile was genuine. I can still hear him saying "Now Kathy..." and then he would ask me about my life and what I thought about things. I was always "at home" when at your home. He will be greatly missed. Although I can not be there with the family on Saturday - my heart will be. I will see you all soon. Much love, Kathy (Louder) Norman*

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**Kathy Louder Norman** - May 24, 2018 at 10:29 AM

DM

“ My deepest sympathy to the entire family. Russ was a dedicated volunteer of the YMCA and led all of our meetings with prayer. He was genuine, warm, loving and caring. Every time we saw Russ he would ask how we were doing, how was our family. I know all that loved Russ will miss him greatly. Thank you for sharing Russ with the YMCA and the gift he was to our community. We all will miss him.

God Bless,  
The Frankfort YMCA Leadership - Staff and Volunteers

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David Martorano - May 24, 2018 at 08:52 AM

TO

“ I send my deepest condolences to all of Russ's family at this sorrowful time. He was a great, deep, caring, warm, special man to so many people that he touched. I feel blessed to have known him in even a small way and I am sure that his love and kindness and generosity and vibrancy will live on in his amazing family.



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Todd - May 24, 2018 at 05:01 AM

 Dee  
Crumm

“ Mark and Lee, you are in my prayers and surrounded by love. It's clear that you inherited your tender and loving heart from your wonderful father.

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Dee Crumm - May 23, 2018 at 06:37 PM

BF

“ *Butch and Alida Jane Jones and family purchased the Fruit Abounds for the family of Russell Reid McClure.*



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**Butch and Alida Jane Jones and family** - May 23, 2018 at  
04:58 PM