

Raymond Joseph Buyle

June 22, 1961 - August 24, 2026



The world lost a great light on August 24, 2026, when Raymond J. Buyle surrendered to ALS after a valiant and inspiring battle, at age 65.

Always a builder, Ray had an innate ability to create things.

He built things that last, most notably a loving family that he cherished. Whatever he constructed, whether it be his faith in God, a long career in the construction industry that allowed him to provide for his family, or the many enduring relationships he formed throughout his life, he managed the project with love, integrity and passion. Now the projects have ended, sadly way ahead of schedule. To be sure, he has passed all inspections with flying colors and left behind many shelters for others.

Although he lost his voice in his last few months, he spoke volumes through his courageous battle against ALS. Ray was a living witness that faith and hope will always overcome our human frailty. Ray will be remembered for the way he battled against the ravages of illness. Always the one to come to the aid of others, Ray was forced in his last few months to begrudgingly accept the help of others - especially that of the love of his life and wife of forty-two years, Karen Buyle. Karen's heroic displays of virtue ensured that Ray knew he was truly loved. Through his suffering, Ray demonstrated humility and enduring faith.

Ray will mainly be remembered for the family he and Karen created. Together, they built a family of four children: Eric (Nichole), Ken (Julie), Brad (Tiffany) and Annie (Jeremiah), along with a daughter-in-law Candace (Brent), who he loved as his own. True to his vocation as a master builder, Ray's family also includes 22 grandchildren. Ray always took great pride in providing a home for his family, often in various states of disrepair as he single-handedly remodeled and improved them. As Karen can attest, unlike projects in his work life, his home improvements were rarely on schedule.

Ray's family values were built upon the firm foundation provided by his parents, Ken and Kathy Buyle. Although Ken passed away in January, his example lived on through Ray. Ray was also predeceased by his brother, Daniel (Allison). In addition to his nuclear family, Ray is survived by his mother, Kathy, who resides at the Santa Marta retirement community in Olathe, Kansas. Ray is also survived by his siblings, Deb (Steve), Suzy (Robert), Mark (Kristy) and Katie (Ted).

In addition to Ray's vocation as a husband, father, grandfather, son and brother, Ray had a long career in the construction industry. After graduating from Kansas State University with a degree in Construction Science and Management, Ray devoted himself to the craft of commercial construction, mainly in Topeka, Kansas. In 2007, Ray landed his dream job at his beloved alma mater. Ray offered many years of dedicated sacrifice, service, instruction and mentoring to K-State students, helping them pursue their goals of contributing to society in the fields of architectural engineering and construction science. Student success was always at the center of Ray's academic career. Through classroom instruction, passionate involvement in student organizations and department administration, Ray impacted an untold number of lives. In 2017, Ray took on the role of Department Head for the GE Johnson Department of Architectural Engineering and Construction Science in K-State's Carl R. Ice College of Engineering, which he held until his retirement in 2024. Ray owes a great debt of gratitude to the esteemed colleagues who shared his mission of preparing students for careers in the construction industry.

Ray was a tireless steward of his time. In addition to his devotion to his family and career, Ray was always looking for ways to help others. One of Ray's passions was his involvement with K-State's AGC Student Chapter. Ray shepherded many humanitarian missions with K-State students to lend their construction skills to those suffering natural disasters, including following Hurricane Katrina and Kansas tornadoes. Ray drew strength from his Catholic faith, always looking for opportunities to grow in faith and volunteer his time to the church. As with everything he built, Ray started with a solid foundation and followed a trusted blueprint. Now it is time to rest from your labor, Poppy.

There will be a visitation on Friday, August 28th starting at 5:30 p.m. at Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas, followed by a vigil and rosary at 7:30 p.m.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 29th at Seven Dolors Catholic Church, 221 Juliette Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas. A luncheon in the Manhattan Catholic School cafeteria, 306 S. Juliette Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas, will follow the burial at Sunrise Cemetery.

In honor of Ray's love of K-State and the K-State Family, you are encouraged to incorporate purple into your funeral attire.

A memorial for Ray has been established at the Kansas State University Foundation to support the Ray and Karen Buyle Scholarship Fund within the College of Engineering. Contributions may be sent to: KSU Foundation, 1800 Kimball Ave., Ste. 200, Manhattan, KS 66502 (please indicate fund M47536). To make a gift online, go to <http://www.ksufoundation.org/give/memorials>. Donations can also be made in Ray's memory to Seven Dolors Catholic Church. Contributions and cards may be sent in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at www.ymlfuneralhome.com