



Rudolph John "Rudy" Shutey

June 3, 1938 - January 16, 2026

Rudolph "Rudy" John Shutey

Son of Croatian and German immigrant mining families which landed at Ellis Island, NY and migrated across the country following opportunity from PA to MI and eventually settling in MT on Butte's East Side.

Rudy was born in Butte on June 3, 1938 to Rudolph and June Shutey and passed away on January 16th, 2026.

Rudy proudly graduated from Greeley Elementary School and Butte High School with honors. He was the first and only member of his immediate family to attain a college degree. Rudy put himself through school graduating from Carroll College in 1961 with minors in Education, English and Philosophy attaining a B.A. with honors (Maxima cum Laude) and recognized as the valedictorian of his class. After graduation, he began his teaching career in Noxon, MT. In 1962, Rudy joined the military and was stationed at Signal Section, Headquarters, 7th Army in Stuttgart, Germany. Upon his honorable discharge, he returned to Butte and taught English and Spanish at Boy's Central High School. Rudy continued his teaching career from 1966-1974 as an English, Reading, History, Math, and Speech Teacher at both East and West Junior High Schools.

Rudy went on to attain his Master's Degree in Secondary School Administration at Montana State University in 1973 – 1974. He maintained a 4.0 average and was elected to membership in MSU's Chapter Phi Delta Kappa. Rudy spent the bulk of his leadership career in the Butte School

System acting as Curriculum Director, Vice Principal of East Jr. High School, and Principal at West Elementary and eventually retired as Assistant Superintendent. During his tenure as Curriculum Director, he assisted in the development of and directed the Elementary Art Program, established the Community Curriculum Advisory Committee, authored a booklet on diagnosis and treatment of reading disorders; authored, edited, and disseminated a district curriculum newsletter and so much more. The highlight of Mr. Shutey's career was being recognized by local, state, and federal governments as the pioneer and driving force behind the Accelerated Learners Program (ALP) which was implemented throughout Montana, adopted and is still used today throughout the nation.

Mr. Shutey earned a multitude of awards and honors including but not limited to: Certificate of Commendation – 7th Army; Who's Who (In Education and in Colleges and Universities); Montana Association of Gifted and Talented Distinguished Service Award; Montana Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Special J.S. Award; School District #1 Dedicated Service Award.

He was appointed by OPI to a Task Force on Arts Education and on the Gifted. He was elected to serve on Board of Directors of MASCD, elected Second Vice President, elected First Vice President and Conference Chair all for MASCD, and was selected one of the top five Superintendents of School District #1. Rudy was appointed to the ASCD National Board of Directors and attended ASCD's Presidential Training Conference in Washington D.C. Rudy also served as a charter member of the Montana Association of Gifted and Talented Education. He served as Vice President of Montana AGATE and was a Conference Chairman for the organization. He was published by the Educational Clearing House publication, and presented curriculum development programs before State Board of Public Education.

Mr. Shutey served on the Board of Directors of: United Way (Budget and Loan Ex Chair), Campfire Girls, and the American Red Cross. He served on the Chamber of Commerce Economics Education, and was appointed to the

Chamber of Commerce Education Committee.

Rudy met his wife Sandra, a fellow educator, while both worked at Hennessey's Department Store. They were married for over 50 years and were blessed with a large family. Children: Mark (Tammy) Shutey, Michelle (Bob) McCann, Nanette (Paul) Pietrewicz, Danielle Shutey, Christiane (Pete) Newton, Josh (Marie) Shutey. Eleven Grandchildren: Tyrell (Pam), Matthew (Chelse), Cyndel, Bryce, Marcus, Shaina, Sean, Kendall (Nicole), Zia, Joseph, Grace. Four Great Grandchildren: Kelton, Isabella, Paxton, Bennie. Living Siblings: Nancy Henderson, Mike (Kathy) Shutey and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his loving wife Sandra, parents Rudolph and June Shutey; Parents-In-Law: Stafford and Ruth Cloonan, Brother-In-Laws: Larry Henderson, Bud Cloonan, Charles Cloonan, Paul Cloonan; Sister-In-Law Juliene Cloonan.

Cremation has taken place. Funeral mass will be celebrated January 30th, 2026 at

11am in St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Friends may call at the church beginning at 10am.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to St. Patrick's Catholic Church or Shriners Children's Hospital.

Rudolph John Shutey's dedication to education and his community changed the lives of countless thousands; he will be deeply missed.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

JAN 30. 11:00 AM (MT)

St Patrick Catholic Church
329 W Mercury St
Butte, MT 59701
(406) 723-5407

Tribute Wall

RN

“ My deepest sympathies to Rudy's family and friends on their loss. I was close friends with his wife Sandy's family and Rudy was one of my teachers when I was attending West Junior High. He was an amazing teacher and mentor and I'm grateful for knowing him. May his memory be a blessing. RIP Rudy 🌸

Richard Norine - February 15 at 02:29 PM

RB

“ My Deepest Sympathy to Rudy's Children and their Families. He was not only a Great Educator but a True Friend. As a School counselor at East Middle School we worked hand in hand. He truly cared about the students and staff. Memory Eternal. Ruby Backer

Ruby Backer - February 03 at 11:36 AM

LJ

“ Love Sam, Carleen, Jacquie & Jonnie purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Rudolph John "Rudy" Shutey.



Love Sam, Carleen, Jacquie & Jonnie - January 28 at 01:39 PM

LJ

“ Love Sam, Carleen, Jacquie & Jonnie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rudolph John "Rudy" Shutey.

Love Sam, Carleen, Jacquie & Jonnie - January 28 at 01:39 PM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Rudolph John "Rudy" Shutey.*



January 27 at 11:42 AM



“ — *Silverman Law Office planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rudolph John "Rudy" Shutey.*

— **Silverman Law Office** - January 27 at 11:42 AM



“ *Shana C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rudolph John "Rudy" Shutey.*

Shana C. - January 24 at 09:50 AM



“ *Sandy Girdler lit a candle in memory of Rudolph John "Rudy" Shutey*



Sandy Girdler - January 23 at 02:29 PM

TF

“ *The Bush and Dickinson Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Rudolph John "Rudy" Shutey.*



The Bush and Dickinson Family - January 23 at 09:11 AM

TF

“ *The Bush and Dickinson Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rudolph John "Rudy" Shutey.*

The Bush and Dickinson Family - January 23 at 09:11 AM

MK

“ *My deepest sympathy to all the family. I had the pleasure of working with Rudy at East. As I write this, many memories of sharing insightful conversations come to mind. I also remember seeing Rudy and Sandy bring all their children to church each week. You all took up the entire row!
Rudy and family, you will continue to be in my prayers. Bless you all.*

Michelle Kambich - January 22 at 05:36 PM

GD

“ *My condolences to the Shutey family.*

Gino Dunfee - January 22 at 12:37 PM



“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Wayrynen-Richards Funeral Home - January 21 at 04:17 PM