



## Ralph Edward Whittington

January 13, 1945 - August 6, 2019

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Ralph E. Whittington (Clinton, Maryland), who passed away on August 6, 2019, at the age of 74. Ralph began his 36-year career at the Library of Congress out of high school and retired in 2000 as a curator of the main reading room. Ralph dedicated much of his life to archiving erotic films, magazines, and materials related to the adult entertainment industry. He served as a consultant to the Museum of Sex in New York City, the Erotic History Museum in Las Vegas, and the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, which granted him an honorary PhD. Ralph's work was featured in *The Washington Post*, *Spin* magazine, *Rolling Stone*, and numerous other publications. Ralph also appeared on *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart, *The Howard Stern Show*, and other radio and news programs, and was the subject of two documentary shorts by filmmaker Jeff Krulik, who dubbed him the "King of Porn." Ralph had a wide range of additional interests, from motor sports and automobile history to attending high school football games, following athletic careers, and was always in search of a good barbecue joint. Also a lifelong music fan, he built a prized collection of rare and historically important R&B records, which have been donated to the Library of Congress. He was included in 2008-2009's *Dictionary of International Biography* and in multiple editions of *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in the World*. Ralph is survived by a daughter, Amanda, her husband, Mike, and a grandson, Spencer. A celebration of Ralph's remarkable life will be scheduled at a later date.



# Tribute Wall



“ *Ralph Edward Whittington*

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**Funeral Home Owner** - December 12, 2019 at 11:22 AM