



Mr. Johnny Mack Ray

August 18, 1949 - March 31, 2019

Services for Mr. Johnny Mack Ray will be Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 3:00 p.m., in the Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mike Hudspeth, Rev. John Berry Rev. Craig Martin and Rev. Steven Hill officiating. Burial with military honors will follow in Deadwood Cemetery under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home. Visitation will be Tuesday evening, April 2, 2019 from 6 – 8:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Johnny Mack Ray, age 69, died at his residence in Deadwood, Texas on March 31, 2019. He was born August 18, 1949, in Shreveport, Louisiana, to L.T. Jr. and Juanita Parker Ray. Johnny is survived by his wife of 50 years, Gwen LaGrone Ray and his daughter Daphne Alford and her spouse, Donald. Others left to cherish his memory are his sister, Beverly Smith (Daniel), nephew, Devin Mayhall (April), and two brothers-in-law, Jack LaGrone (Martha) and Mike LaGrone (Carolyn). Johnny had three loves in his life: God, Family, Country.

He was raised in a loving, Godly home and at twelve years of age, he made the decision to follow Jesus Christ. This decision to follow Christ set the course for his life. Following the example of Jesus Christ, he was always available to those in need. At King's Temple, Johnny taught the four to five-year-old Sunday School class for 26 years. He also started a Boys Scout Program, sang in the choir, and acted in church plays while attending King's Temple. After moving home to Texas, he was active in the Texas District CHURCH IN A DAY Program.

Johnny loved his family. His order of priorities was Jesus Christ, Gwen, Daphne, other family members, and friends. After graduation from Carthage High School in 1968, he worked as the assistant manager for Perry Brothers. In 1971 he moved his family to Shreveport, Louisiana, and began a 46-year career selling oilfield supplies. In addition to providing for his family, he was devoted to Gwen and Daphne and developed a loving home atmosphere that allowed growth in faith, service, and community for all of them.

Johnny's love for his country is evidenced by his service to our nation. In May 1969, he was drafted into the US Army and completed basic training at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. He was later stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, and then stationed in Aschaffenburg, Germany, as a field medic. His wife and daughter were able to accompany him to both these assignments. During his tour of duty, he earned the Expert Field Medical Badge and he was honorably discharged with the rank of E5 in 1971.

Johnny loved all people, he was a great listener, he was a kind and gentle man.

Johnny Mack Ray – a man of excellence – an exceptional man – a life well lived.

The family request donations be made in Johnny's memory to Panola County Cancer Coalition, Inc.

Cemetery Details

Deadwood Cemetery

Deadwood, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 2. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home
307 West Wellington Street
P.O. Box 188
Carthage, TX 75633
(903) 693-3816
info@hawthornfuneralhome.com
<https://www.hawthornfuneralhome.com>

Service

APR 3. 3:00 PM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel
307 W Wellington St.
Carthage, Tx

Tribute Wall

NK

“ *Sis Ray, Daphne, and family... I'm so sorry I'm just now seeing this. My deepest condolences to you and all your family. I don't know how many times I've told my kids about the man who always brought me green peppermints to church and how special it made me feel. I have so many childhood memories that y'all are apart of...I'll be thinking about y'all.*
Love, Nicole (Smith)

nicole smith krueger - May 23, 2019 at 08:46 AM

JA

“ *Judy Andtews lit a candle in memory of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray*



Judy Andtews - April 02, 2019 at 03:24 PM

JM

“ *Jim, Brenda, Christa & Misty purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray.*



Jim, Brenda, Christa & Misty - April 02, 2019 at 10:03 AM

ED

“ *Employees Of Patterson UTI Drilling purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray.*



Employees Of Patterson UTI Drilling - April 02, 2019 at 09:18 AM

HH

“ *HeartsWay Hospice lit a candle in memory of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray*



HeartsWay Hospice - April 01, 2019 at 08:32 PM

KB

“ *Work the rigs with Johnny many years, it was should a delight to be around him, I was able to be in church with him once back in 1999. Thank you for your service to God, Country and the oil field.*
Keith Beard

Keith Beard - April 01, 2019 at 05:23 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray.*



April 01, 2019 at 02:28 PM



“ 263 files added to the album LifeTributes



Hawthorn Funeral Home - April 01, 2019 at 02:00 PM



“ Employees of DNOW purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray.



Employees of DNOW - April 01, 2019 at 11:20 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray.



April 01, 2019 at 11:07 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray.*



April 01, 2019 at 11:05 AM



“ *I first met Bro Johnny many years ago at Deadwood UPC... There was a special love there for both him and his wife. Always thoughtful and happy...I remember one time after I worked on a play with Sunday School children he recognized me at the end with a bouquet of flowers. I was honored that he thought I did a great job. Bro Johnny will be greatly missed it was sad when they were gone from the church and I feel bad I didnt see them enough since they lived in the same community. But my prayers and thoughts of peace arr with you all Sis Gwen God bless and I love y'all.*

Marilynn n Jason Harrison - April 01, 2019 at 07:41 AM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray.*



March 31, 2019 at 10:09 PM



“ *Reflections of Glory Wreath was purchased for the family of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray.*



March 31, 2019 at 10:05 PM



“ *Johnny was always smiling. He was a loving husband& Dad. We are all sad to see him go, but he has made his journey home. I have loved this sweet family for a long time. I pray for comfort, and peace for this precious family 🥹❤️🙏*

collis ezell - March 31, 2019 at 09:52 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Johnny Mack Ray.*



March 31, 2019 at 08:02 PM