



Rex G. Ray

JUN 4, 1939 - APR 24, 2014



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Rader
FUNERAL HOMES
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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Rex G. Ray

Memorial services for Rex G. Ray, will be 2:00 PM, Saturday, April 26, 2014, at Greggton First Baptist Church with Rev. Bobby Moore officiating. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 PM Friday, April 25 at Rader Funeral Home, Longview.

Rex was born June 4, 1939, in Hugo Oklahoma to August E. and Bessie Ray. He passed away on Thursday, April 24, 2014, in Longview. Rex was preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 49 years, Linda Janice Ray, son, Ryan Lee and brother-in-law, Buster Riggs .

Rex attended Texas High School in Texarkana, Texas, where he lettered in football and basketball receiving most valuable player for the district as well as all state basketball honors. After graduation from high school Rex played basketball at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches and received a degree in kinesiology and history. While at SFA he met and married his wife, Linda. Rex served in the US Army prior to starting a successful career as a basketball coach and teacher. Rex began his education career at Garrison taking two teams to the state tournament. In 1971 Rex and his family moved to Longview where he was Head Basketball Coach and world history teacher at Pine Tree High School until his retirement in 2002. The highlight of Rex's career was Pine Tree High School's state championship in 1973. Members of that championship team remain close to the family.

Rex is survived by two daughters, Robin Ray-Carlton of Longview and Randee Ray of Dallas. He is also survived by two sisters, Othal Turner of Texarkana and Dollie Riggs of Texarkana, brother Pete Ray and wife Joanna of Dallas, grandsons Chase and Chandler Carlton of Austin and special friend Shirley Bratton of Longview, as well as a number of nieces and nephews.

The family thanks our supportive friends who are too many to mention as well as the



Obituary

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especially dedicated doctors and nurses of Longview Regional Hospital. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the American Heart Association, United Leukodystrophy Foundation, Longview Regional Hospital or the charity of your choice.



Events


Rex G. Ray

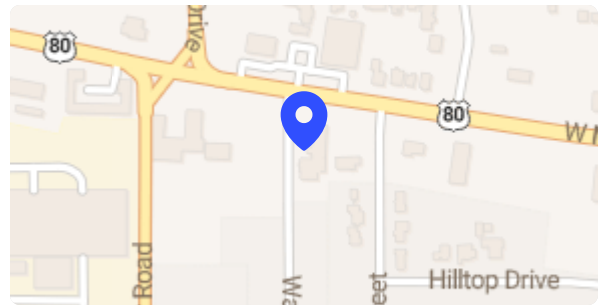
JUN 4, 1939 - APR 24, 2014

Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, April 26, 2014

 2:00 PM CT

 **Greggton First Baptist Church**
4520 W. Marshall Ave., Longview TX





Tribute Wall

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Shirley Spencer Emberton Bratton shared an album called **New Album Name.**



May 24 at 8:25 PM



Shirley Spencer Emberton Bratton shared an album called **New Album Name.**



May 24 at 8:21 PM



Shirley Spencer Emberton Bratton posted:

Rex and I were classmates from the 7th grade-12 grade at Texas High in Texarkana, Texas, graduating in 1957. Rex was a super athlete in football and basketball, and I was a Texas High cheerleader cheering at all his games. We were good friends. After our spouses passed away, God saw fit to reunite us in a committed, loving relationship until his untimely death on April 24th, 2014, and we were looking forward to spending the rest of our lives together. Though I grieve his passing each day, I remember his saying, "life goes on". I will always cherish the wonderful memories of our time together, and he will always be held lovingly in my heart. I thank God for bringing us together and for the love we shared. Shirley Spencer Emberton Bratton

May 24 at 7:41 PM



Jolinda Carlton posted:

My sincere sympathy to Robin, Randee and the entire family. Coach Ray was always one of my favorite teachers at Pine Tree. He was truly larger than life! Jolinda Carlton

May 2 at 4:09 AM



Glenda Johnson posted:

We were so sorry to hear about losing Rex Ray. What an influence he was on his students, the athletes, and those whose lives he touched! I have many fun, fond memories of when we taught together at Pine Tree High School where he always had a smile and a positive outlook on everything. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Robin, Randee, and all the family, at this difficult time. May God bless each one of you. Glenda and Gary Johnson

May 1 at 5:58 PM



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LM

L. Miller posted:

So sorry for your loss. It was a pleasure to care for him at the end of his life and I can rest easy knowing that despite doing all we could, it was unfortunately his time.L. Miller, RN

May 1 at 5:14 AM

JB

John Berry posted:

A Champion has walked through the gates of Heaven. Coach, thanks for the memories, the contributions you made our community and on behalf of the thousands of young people who became productive members of our society because they knew you, Thank You. You have finished the race and have now received your prize! I look forward to seeing you again one day. Robin and Randee, thank you for sharing your family with us, I am praying you for you. John

April 30 at 8:22 PM

CT

Chad Timmons posted:

Coach Ray was a great coach, great teacher, and a great man. He will be missed!

April 28 at 3:04 AM

KS

Kerry Stafford posted:

You know, I never played basketball for Coach Ray, but did play football for him. He was tough, but fair and always treated players and students with the utmost respect. I was a professional fishing guide for many years after high school, and each time I would see Coach, he'd ask how the fish were biting. Years later, owning a heavy civil construction company in New Orleans, I went home and ran into him at a restaurant. He asked me how business in New Orleans was. I didn't even know he knew I was there. A very strong testament to the person he was. He kept up with his athletes and students alike.I will miss this man who had such an impression on my life.Kerry Stafford

April 27 at 11:13 AM

SS

Shirley Shivers posted:

One of a kind. Surely, he will be missed but never forgotten.Shirley Shivers

April 27 at 2:50 AM



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BB

Betty Collins And Joe Biggerstaff posted:

Words at a time like this are inadequate. Robin, Randee, Chase and Chandler, along with siblings have our deepest sympathy. You will be in our thoughts and prayers. May your memories become sweeter as the years unfold. May the Lord wrap His arms of love around you and give you comfort. Linda and I met in the seventh grade. Our dads knew each other for years. We all met Rex when he and Linda began dating. May time help you. Remember we are all here, and should you need us, we are a phone call away. Our love goes to each one of you. Betty Collins and Joe Biggerstaff, Nacogdoches, TX

April 26 at 1:49 PM

JC

John Cotton posted:

Hello Everybody:Sorry to hear about Rex. My name is John Cotton and I graduated from Texas High School in 1957 along with Rex. My wife and I are going to miss his face at the high school reunions in the future. I know what this is all about. Congestive heart failure almost got me in 2004. You would never know it now.John and Hazel Cotton

April 26 at 10:48 AM

LC

Lisa Sprouse Cauble posted:

Robin and Randee, I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. He was truly larger than life. My parents are among PT basketball's biggest fans, and they were certainly fans and more importantly, friends of his. You will all be in my thoughts and prayers.

April 26 at 5:07 AM

NS

Nolan Smith posted:

Hi Linda, my heart and prayers to family. I havent seen yall quite some time, but do think of yall. Rex , Mike Price, Gary Ashlock, Lanny Hawkens and others played basketball for Thrifts Cycle @ Sport Shop which i owned back in the 1960s. I remember you and your family during our school years my how times have flown by. Lots of fond memories. My prayers to you and your family. Love Nolan Smith

April 26 at 4:08 AM



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JS

Jody Schoen posted:

My condolences to the family. I knew Rex growing up in Texarkana. I know he is now enjoying his new life. Jody Schoen Hope, Ar.

April 26 at 4:06 AM

EW

Elizabeth Wylie posted:

Robin and Randee I'm so sorry for the loss of your father. He was a great man and seemed larger than life to me as a child. You guys will be in my thoughts and prayers now and forever. Just remember one day at a time Elizabeth Richardson Wylie

April 25 at 3:40 PM



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Ric Golemon posted:

Around 1974 I was a 6' tall, skinny shy 9th grader, crossing the street in front of the junior high school, feeling dejected because I had, once again, failed to make the 9th grade basketball team. Crossing the street, a blue and white pickup pulled up to the intersection. Coach Ray was somewhat of a local celebrity after guiding the Pirates to a state championship the year before. He watched me cross the street, then asked, in his booming voice, "what's your name?" I replied, he stared at me with those steely blue eyes, then responded after a pause that seemed like an eternity, "are you going to play basketball next year?" We'll, no I wasn't. I was discouraged by not making the team and didn't feel like I was ever going to be good enough. But I was afraid to tell THE Coach Ray "no". So I replied, "Yes Sir". He then said something that shaped my high school and college basketball career, he said "good, make sure you do". Then he said something that shaped the rest of my life. He said "and don't ever let me see you slumping your shoulders again". The first remark gave me the confidence to pursue a basketball career that paid for my college education and gave me a jump start on my business career. The second remark gave me the confidence for the rest of my life and has shaped me as a man. I'm forever grateful. Thank you, Coach. Rest In Peace. Ric GolemonPTHS '77

April 25 at 3:12 PM



Gordon Hochmeister July 21 at 2:03 PM

I was in the Army with Rex, When he introduced himself: That booming voice would proudly say, I'm Rex G. Ray the Third, from Texarkana, Texas. I got out of the Army over sixty years ago, but will never, ever, forget Rex.



Aimee Golemon Rider April 27 at 8:00 AM

That's such an awesome story. When I had him as a teacher in high school, as soon as he saw my name on the roll sheet, he asked me if I was related to you. Then he broke into this long tribute to you, quoting your height, wingspan, vertical reach, and stats. He was so proud of you!!



Cindy Cude posted:

Robin and Randi, I am so sorry to hear about Coach Ray! Me and my family stayed in touch with him a lot. We will miss him so much. We have grown used to him pulling up to the Haleys and swing the door open and sit and visit. I remember him dearly not only from school and our friendship but after I married and moved down the street. Love to you and your family!!!David and Cindy Webb CudeAaron and Lauren Cude

April 25 at 2:59 PM



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Anonymous sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Ray family.



April 25 at 2:45 PM



Phyllis Stone posted:

Deepest sympathy to you Robin and your family. Will be praying for you. Phyllis Stone

April 25 at 2:31 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Ray family.



April 25 at 1:40 PM



Shirley Spencer Emberton Bratton shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album.

May 24 at 8:25 PM





Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Rex by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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