



Ray W. De Priest

August 19, 1937 - February 19, 2018

It is with great sadness that the family of Ray Wallace DePriest, age 80, of Benicia, CA, announces his passing on February 19, 2018.

Born on August 19, 1937, in Hammond, Louisiana, he is the son of the late, Dewey and Virginia (Albin) DePriest. Known as "Wallace," and survived by his six siblings, Allie DePriest, Floyd DePriest, Philip DePriest, Carolyn (DePriest) Kinchen, Sarah Elizabeth (DePriest) Wilder, and Vera DePriest, and a host of nieces and nephews.

He is survived by his loving wife, Rose Ann (Baglio) DePriest. Rose Ann is his high school sweetheart, and the love of his life. They were married for 61 years.

He is dad to the late Ray Gerard (Jerry) DePriest, and survived by his daughter Deene Smith, and Jack DePriest. All of Benicia, CA. He is also survived by 9 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild, who knew him as "Paw paw."

Ray was on his high school wrestling, boxing, and football teams. His love of football continued throughout his life.

He started his adult life serving his country in the army. He also participated in boxing while there. He began his working career as an electrician and carpenter. He later started his own general contractor business in the San Francisco Bay area, and retired his career as owner of Benicia Overhead Doors in Benicia Ca. During this time, he made many friends who described Ray as an honest, "great guy."

Ray was the most kindest, loving, and giving man to all who knew him. His home was always open to anyone he had ever met. He was known for his generosity, funny jokes, quick wit, and friendly personality, and always had a story to tell. He was loved by everyone who was lucky enough to have met him.

Ray loved to keep busy, and was always looking for things to do at home. He also started cooking, and enjoyed preparing meals for his family. Frequently, there would be a cake on the kitchen counter, just because he felt like baking. But, one of his favorite pass times was playing gin rummy with his honey!

Ray will be greatly missed mostly by his family, for there was no greater husband, dad, and paw paw to all of us! His family was blessed to have him in their lives, and will cherish the wonderful memories we have of this loving man forever!

Rest in peace and keep them laughing in heaven. We love you dearly!

Per Ray's request, there will be a private memorial service for family only.

Comments



“ We have lost a great guy. Ray gave me my first real job in the construction business. He taught me a huge ammount and enabled me to go on to a fabulous career in the industry. He always kept us laughing on the job site and lunch was always fun with all Ray’s stories. He will be sorely missed. For the past few years I have tried to track Ray down to say Thank You. Sad to find out too late, but Thanks Ray for all your guidance and a great career. Ken Cochrane, San Rafael CA

Ken Cochrane - October 03, 2018 at 02:10 PM



“ The City of Benicia Human Resources staff sends our condolences. Ray was a welcomed visitor in our department, always friendly and kind. We will miss his visits immensely.

City of Benicia Human Resources - March 20, 2018 at 05:23 PM



“ We saw you one last time today, before we laid you to rest. I tried to fix your hair for you. I'll always remember how perfectly you did your hair. All of us were there to say one last goodbye. It was a very nice service. Rest in peace, daddy. Love you so much, and miss you too!

Deene - March 06, 2018 at 06:55 PM



“ Love, Lori & Joey purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Ray W. De Priest.



Love, Lori & Joey - March 05, 2018 at 11:03 PM



“ Miss you daddy! I love you!

Deene - March 02, 2018 at 11:46 PM