



Joseph Stanley Ray

September 20, 1946 - January 5, 2017

Joseph Stanley Ray, "Polar Bear," 70, of Syracuse, died on Thursday, January 5, 2017, while surrounded by family. Born in Syracuse, Joe was the son of the late Roy and Clara Leonard Ray. He attended both St. John the Evangelist and St. Bridgid Church Schools and served in the US Army. Joe retired from Carrier Corp. after 30 years of service. He was active in CYO and enjoyed fishing, golfing, and spending time with his family.

Joe is survived by his longtime partner, Helen Allen; son, Michael (Meghan) Ray; daughter, Jennifer Ray; grandchildren, Devante and Connor Ray; former wife, Sandi Ray; sister, Georgia Stasinski; nephew, Dennis (Jennifer) Stasinski; step-children, James (Joybelle) Allen, Lon (Dennis) Allen, and Pam (Dan) Little; step-grandchildren, Justin and Josh Allen, and Courtney Little; and many cousins, extended family members, and close friends.

Calling hours will be Tuesday, January 10, 2017, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home, 4612 S. Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13205. A funeral service will follow at 7:00 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the family to benefit his grandchildren's education fund.

"We're Done Here."

Tribute Wall



“ *Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joseph Stanley Ray*



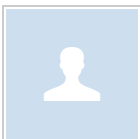
Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home - January 05, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ *I remember Joe Ray and Danny Marani as two of the biggest and toughest older guys from Lewis Park. Nobody messed with Joe and I remember when I got to be able to play as a young guy with Joe Ray, Danny Marani, Sonny Foscolo, Mark Lake, David Zaroni, it was like I was in heaven.*

Greg Brostek

Greg Brostek - April 13, 2017 at 06:57 PM



“ *It is with great sadness of hearing of the passing of Joe Ray today! From the many parties at the camp on lake to the great times at the Tavern, Joe will be missed by many! REST IN PEACE JOE RAY and you will never be forgotten! Bob & Jeanne*

January 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ I worked for Joe for many years and he was a wonderful boss and a friend to all.

He will be missed

January 12, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Joe and I served in the same Army unit. You could always count on Joe to back you up if you got into a tough situation. We shared many brews and laughs. Condolences to his family.

Hal Smith

January 11, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ I had the pleasure of being a friend of Joe Ray. He "let me " hang around with him in the late 70's when we both worked at Carrier. To be in his company was like being at the State Fair; never a dull moment. He turned every occasion into an event and you walked away with a memory, a story. You didn't just bump into Joe and walk away. When you saw Joe you might blow off the rest of the day. He could walk into a room full of strangers and in a few minutes have them all laughing together. We talked recently but I haven't seen Joe in years. But I felt his presence/knew he was walking the earth, daily. I guess I'll have to keep up our relationship at that level.....until we meet again, my friend.

Jim Cavale

January 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ As a young guy I became a supervisor at Carrier and I had the pleasure of coralling Joe into the "Carrier way" of doing things. Sometimes it was a battle but we always worked things out and spent many a night having a beer and laughing about the things we got into. Joe was a great friend and was always by my side if I needed backup wherever we might be. Although we left Syracuse and have been separated from Joe for many years now, my wife and I still bring Joe to mind and have good feelings about the times we spent together. Our prayers are with him and ask his family to please accept our condolences. John and Joanne Donohue

January 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Joe Ray was one of a kind. ..I knew and worked with Joe for his entire career at Carrier and enjoyed every minute of it. or Our sincere condolences to Joe's Family and his Friends. He will forever be missed.
Fred & Marilyn Hartung

January 10, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ I will miss you Uncle Joe. I will always remember your crazy humor. Always making me feel happy, and all your complements. I hope now you and Dad can continue playing cards and drinking beer together. My face always hurt from laughing every time we got together. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Rest in peace- Love you. Kim & Keith Gilliam.

Heart - January 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *It has been many years ago but I played baseball for Tipp Hill American Legion.
We played in Lewis Park next to St. Bridget Church.
Joe was a great baseball pitcher on his teamI could never hit his various pitches !*

may he rest in peace.....

January 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



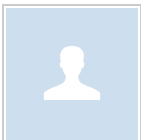
“ *Condolences to all of Joe's family. He was a great friend of my brother, Pat Brown. I am sure they have reconnected up above!
Barbara Murphy*

January 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Wish we were able to meet Joe . Jen and Devante , we are praying for peace for you and your family.*

January 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Joe was such a special person. I'm so sorry he is gone. He was a high school friend that I hadn't seen for over 53 years until last summer. He was that same wonderful person I always remembered. It was a gift in life to have seen him again and to still be his friend.*

I will miss him.

My heartfelt sympathy to his family. May God Bless You.

With love from, Dorothy Blair Buschi

January 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Joe Ray knew how to be a friend. I will miss him.
The words "one of a kind" are often over used. But I have to say, in this case, they apply. Joe was truly unique.
While gifted athletically, he could have cared less. He could throw a curve ball when he was in Little League. It was just no big deal to him. I'm not sure he really understood how good he was.
While I'm sad at his passing I will have to smile whenever I think of him. He was just such a larger than life character. There are so many stories that could be told; so many laughs.
What I can say for certain is that Heaven is a much happier place. The angels will be tested.
Joe, please tell Danny and Pi Brown I was asking for them.
GOD bless Joe Ray.
Sincerely,
Pat Dooley

January 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Joe was a great friend to my late father and our family. I would love to hear stories from the 2 of them about their old parochial school days and some of the mischief they would get into. He was very supportive of my mother after my father passed. They would tell each other that they loved each other. In his final days when Joe was not speaking, my mother said, "I love Joe Ray" and he squeezed her hand. I have fond memories of Joe at our family's house, barbeques in the backyard and his famous story telling. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. God bless you Joe. We miss you!
-Brian Johnson & Family.

January 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Wish we were able to meet Joe . Jen and Devante , we are praying for peace for you and your family.*

January 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you. Cousin - Anne Papinchak, Pittsburgh.*

January 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM