



Raymond L Russell

November 8, 1934 - April 7, 2025

Raymond L. Russell

Age 90

Of Grand Junction

Passed away Monday, April 7, 2025 at his home surrounded by his family. Ray was born November 8, 1934 in South Haven the son of Clarence and Helen Russell and has lived in the Osterhout Lake area for the past 50 plus years. He served in the US Army in Korea, was a long time member of the Lee Township Fire Department and helped establish the second Fire Station in Southern Lee Township. He was very proud of the new firetruck Engine 12, and gained notoriety as the "Fireman with the coffee pot." He also served on the Lee Township Board in several positions including Supervisor. His career centered around auto body repair. He learned the trade as a young man. He started his own body shop. Then he moved on as an employee of various other companies where he did auto body repairs, wrote estimates and even managed a body shop. He finished his career as an independent auto damage appraiser. He enjoyed visiting the casinos, watching westerns, and the lake life. He loved spending time with his family. He could be found many times socializing over a cup of coffee and a cigarette. Surviving are 3 sons, Ray "Butch" (Melanie) Russell of Grand Junction, Jim (Benny) Russell of Gobles, Mike Russell of Otsego; 6 grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; and

several nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sandra Russell; previous wife, Carole Russell; son, Tommy Russell; 2 great grandchildren; brother, Bill Russell; and a sister, Lorraine Dykstra. The family will have a memorial service 2-5 PM May 4, 2025 at the Lee Township Fire Department, Pullman, MI. Arrangements entrusted to the Bloomingdale Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to the Wings of Hope Hospice in Allegan, or to the Lee Township Fire Department.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY 4. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Lee Township Fire Station
5415 109th Ave.
Pullman, MI 49450

The family suggests memorials be made to the Wings of Hope Hospice in Allegan, or to the Lee Township Fire Department.

Tribute Wall

RH

“ *My condolences to you all , May you Keep his spirt alive every time you think of him.*



Rhonda Hill - May 03, 2025 at 01:55 PM

SS

“ *Susan Page Smith lit a candle in memory of Raymond L Russell*



Susan Page Smith - April 29, 2025 at 02:24 PM

KM

“ *Heartfelt condolences to Ray's family and friends. He was a wonderful man.*



Kathy Mannelly - April 23, 2025 at 12:53 PM

JL

“ *Jessie Lowery lit a candle in memory of Raymond L Russell*



Jessie Lowery - April 23, 2025 at 09:25 AM

LT

“ Really sorry to hear about Ray. Like Bill said, he liked to laugh and have a good time, which we really did when I lived down the road from him. He will be truly missed. Love ya' man!

Larry Thomas - April 22, 2025 at 04:04 PM

PK

“ Ray was one of the good guys. I've know him since I was a kid. He always had a ready smile & made you feel like he was happy to see you. Rest in peace dear Ray!
Phyllis & Wayne Kohnke

Phyllis & Wayne Kohnke - April 21, 2025 at 09:49 PM

BF

“ Seems like I knew Ray my entire life. He was a great friend and neighbor. Ray was always quick to help anyone that needed help. He liked to laugh and have a good time. I remember Ray doing 50 push-ups on his 50th birthday. Rays smile and laugh will be missed. RIP Ray.

Bill Fry - April 21, 2025 at 09:01 PM

SE

“ Ray was a very nice and forgiving man, I once tuned his boat motor up when I was about 12 years old, it never ran quite like it was supposed to again. The Russell home was a great place to be any time of the year, fun times and great people. Ray was a solid pillar of the community, he gave so much time, love and care. I am grateful he was a role model in my life, he will be missed and his good deeds will always be remembered.

Sam and Brenda Ellis - April 21, 2025 at 06:54 PM

RM

“ *Our condolences to the Russell family. I think the thing I liked and respected the most about Ray was his honesty and his humor. Saddened by the news. A very good man. -Rob and Christy Matthes*

Rob and Christy Matthes - April 21, 2025 at 03:42 PM

JH

“ *You couldn't ask for a better nieghbor. I'm gonna miss the old guy!*

Joe Hackel - April 21, 2025 at 03:35 PM