



## Benjamin Eugene Ray

October 3, 1955 - January 22, 2018

Benjamin E. Ray, 62, passed away Monday, January 22, 2018, surrounded by his family. He is survived by his loving wife of 19 years, Lorraine, his brother Jimmy Ray, sisters Diane Cloyd and Debbie (Wendell) Carter, his two daughters Michelle Caslin and Chrissy Sterling, his two sons Benji (Sarah) Ray and Kenny (Erin) Ray, Stepdaughter Kimberly Kiefer, eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Benny Ray was a lifelong resident of Leesburg. He graduated from Leesburg High School in 1974, where he was a starter for the state runner-up Yellow Jacket baseball team. He was a former deacon and member of the congregation for the last 35 years at First Baptist Church Leesburg. He dedicated many years of service volunteering as a coach and umpire for the Leesburg Recreation Department baseball programs. He was an avid hunter and member of the Sasquatch Hunt Club, where they were more like family than friends. He worked at Besco Electric for the past 28 years, where he made many lifelong friendships that meant the world to him.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, January 27th at 3:00 PM at First Baptist Church Sanctuary, 220 N. 13th Street, Leesburg, FL 34748. The family will welcome friends at the church starting at 2 PM until the service begins.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the First Baptist Church Christian

Care Center in his honor. Online condolences may be left at [www.beyersfuneralhome.com](http://www.beyersfuneralhome.com). Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home, Leesburg, FL.

# Tribute Wall

AS

“ I was so saddened to hear that Ben had passed away. I had not heard about his recent illness. I got to know Ben when I worked at Besco. He was always very pleasant and greeted you with a big smile! I know he will be greatly missed! My sympathy to his family. I am so sorry for your loss!

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**Amy Singleton** - January 27, 2018 at 10:40 AM

LB

“ We are truly grateful for the dedication and hard work for the 28 years of service at Besco Electric Supply. He will be sorely missed by all his friends, customers, colleagues and especially the Besco family who loved him. God bless him.



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**Laura and Andy Braun** - January 27, 2018 at 08:57 AM

JS

“ Lorraine, please accept my heart felt condolences. I have so many pleasant memories of you talking about you and Ben when we worked together. Praying for strength and peace from the Lord for you and the family.

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**Jan Stanhope** - January 27, 2018 at 08:01 AM

SS

“ Dearest Ray Family:

*Your Benny was a kind, kind person all his years. I was very fond of him and his quiet, helpful ways. How many times did we walk to class together? How many ballgames did I attend with Benny as the ump? Many, many, many ...*

*I have to work on the day of his memorial. I am sorry I won't be able to attend. So many of our friends will be there. But we will all be together soon in this other life with Christ. See you there, Benny.*

*My thoughts and prayers will be with your family during this time of loss.*

*Love and Blessings, Susie*

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**Susie Norton Sapp** - January 26, 2018 at 09:51 PM

CP

“ Everywhere we look at our home and recreational activities we see Ben's fingerprints. He has been woven into our lives and our hearts in such a special way: working our professional jobs together, coaching, scalloping, boating, hunting, and projects at our home and ranch - for all of our adult lives. We will sorely miss doing these activities without him. We realize that when he was gravely ill over 40 years ago, God allowed him to stay in our lives for a while longer and we are grateful. We always talked plainly about how we appreciated each other, the memory of which we are thankful. Our main reprieve from the pain of missing him is knowing we will be with him in Heaven with Jesus. "You were a loving brother to us, Ben."

*Charlie and Pam Patterson*

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**Charlie and Pam Patterson** - January 26, 2018 at 07:04 PM

GF

“ I haven't seen Benny Ray since high school so it's odd that the mere mention of his name brings back memories so vivid. Benny had an underlying intensity that came through the moment he stepped on a baseball field. You could tell he almost hated to leave the diamond when the game or practice was over. As someone else alluded to on here, 'he was one of the good ones'. So true. I'm glad I got to share a portion of my formative years with a person whose upstanding character and good nature were just part of who he was. My thoughts and prayers remain with his family and friends. Thanks Benny.

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**Greg Feustel** - January 25, 2018 at 10:16 PM

CP

“ My family and I loved Benny Ray. We have so many great memories with him. I will always remember the times that we went hunting and scalloping together. I am grateful that he was such a great friend to my Dad. I also value the fact that Benny truly loved our family. My wife and 3 boys will miss him dearly, however we are encouraged that we will see him again. We will never forget you. Thank you Jesus that you gave us time with Benny in this life, however I am looking forward to the time with him in Your presence.

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**Clint Patterson** - January 25, 2018 at 09:03 PM

CP

“ Everywhere we look at our home and recreational activities we see Ben's fingerprints. He has been woven into our lives and our hearts in such a special way: working our professional jobs together, coaching, scalloping, boating, hunting, and projects at our homes and ranch - for all of our adult lives. We will sorely miss doing these activities without him. We realize that when he was gravely ill over 40 years ago, God allowed him to stay in our lives for a while longer and we are grateful. We always talked plainly about how we appreciated each other, the memory of which we are thankful. Our main reprieve from the pain of missing him is knowing we will be with him in Heaven with Jesus. "You were like a loving brother to us, Ben."  
Charlie and Pam Patterson



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**Charlie and Pam Patterson** - January 25, 2018 at 08:00 PM

LM

“ Absent from the body, present with the Lord!!  
No more suffering!!



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**Linda McAllister** - January 25, 2018 at 03:09 PM

LM

“ Family and friends trust that Ben is absent from the body and present with the Lord!! No more suffering!!

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**Linda McAllister** - January 25, 2018 at 03:05 PM

SG

“ I first met Ben over a decade ago as a vendor for Besco Electric Supply. Ben and I got along terrifically and he always got a kick out of calling me when we had made an error on one of his orders. He would always joke about having to find a new vendor that would service him better, but of course he continued to be a loyal friend and customer throughout it all. He was one of the good ones and he will be missed dearly.

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**Stephen Guyer** - January 25, 2018 at 11:12 AM

RC

“ I was so shocked to see that Benny had passed. My thoughts and prayers for the family.

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**Robert Cook** - January 24, 2018 at 09:23 PM

KH

“ We're deeply saddened to hear about Benjamin's passing. I hope your family receives much support and love during this time. May Jehovah God grant you strength as you reflect on the future hope he's given us. Revelation 21:3,4. Our thoughts are with your family.

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**K. Hope** - January 24, 2018 at 08:50 PM