



## Ray Emerson

October 23, 1930 - June 8, 2020

Ray Emerson, 89, of Leesburg peacefully passed away on Monday, June 8th. He was born in Coleman FL on October 23, 1930 and lived his entire life in Lake & Sumter Counties. Ray attended area schools and graduated from Leesburg High in 1948. He briefly attended Florida State until he saw the light, and became a lifelong Gator fan.

Ray was a devoted husband to Sara Jane for 56 years, until her passing in 2009. As a dedicated family man he was always available to lend an ear, share his wisdom, and spin a story. He is survived by two sons, Bill (Denise) Emerson of Ocala, Bob (Joyce) Emerson of New Port Richey; two daughters Terri (Roger) Beck of Tallahassee and Kay (Mark) Palmer of Leesburg. Ray is blessed to have 12 grandchildren and 8 great grandkids. He also has two brothers, Cecil (Gail) Emerson of Leesburg and Jerry (Charlene) of Ocala.

Those who knew Ray, understood he was passionate about a number of things, specifically, faith, family, friends and fishing. He loved gardening and closely followed sports (especially the Gators). Through many years of selling insurance, Ray developed close relationships throughout the community. He loved his family and his friends.

At this time, the family is planning a private interment in the Memorial Gardens at St. James Episcopal Church. For those who wish, memorial contributions

may be made to St. James Episcopal Church at 204 Lee Street in Leesburg.  
Condolences may be left at [www.beyersfuneralhome.com](http://www.beyersfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

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“ Love and prayers to you all! Teri, Bill, Bob and Kay. I always thought your father was such a nice man. You are lucky to have had him as your Dad. 💕🙏

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**Fran Herlong McDonald** - June 13, 2020 at 05:16 AM

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“ ALWAYS appreciated Mr. Ray Emerson. He was always about youth and supporting youth. A great piece of Leesburg has passed. Boy Scouts, youth events, you name it, always had his support. Great, great guy. Glad had the opportunity to talk about two months ago at the Leesburg Library historical presentation.

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**Art Ayris** - June 11, 2020 at 10:47 PM