



Rayburn "Ray" Rowe

May 4, 1955 - February 13, 2026

Rayburn "Ray" Rowe, age 70, of Leesburg FL, passed away on February 13 2026 of natural causes; just shy of his 71st birthday. He was born May 4th 1955 in Pulaski, Giles County TN. Seeking adventure and new opportunities, Ray enlisted in the United States Air Force shortly after graduating high school. His first great adventure took him overseas, where he developed a lifelong love for Thai food and sushi in Southeast Asia. Ray proudly served his country for 23 years ultimately retiring as a Master Sergeant (E7). His service included combat operations during the Vietnam War, Cold War, and peacetime. Originally an ammo troop where he stacked bombs (leading to his nickname with his biker brothers of Stacker), he transitioned into a unique program at Eglin AFB where exceptional NCOs took on program management and logistics management duties for then in-development classified projects, a job and career field typically filled by commissioned officers.

He retired with numerous accolades and the deep respect of those who served alongside him. The award he was most proud of was the German Armed Forces Badge for Weapons Proficiency (Schützenschnur) from his time in Germany where he won several marksmanship competitions with the Bundeswehr while stationed in Germany. Following his military retirement, Ray transitioned into civilian life, leveraging his expertise as a military loggie, working in warehouse logistics. Beginning in the 1980s, he devoted many weekends to the Society of Creative Anachronism (SCA) building many

lifelong friendships. Those friends knew him as Roland, or if mischief was afoot as Baron Skippy. In the past ten years, he re engaged with his love of motorcycling and became an active member of his local chapter of the United States Military Vets Motorcycle Club (USMVMC) He cherished riding cross-country with his brothers and participating in club charity events.

Ray loved a good sci-fi movie (Godzilla), was a voracious reader, and an avid gamer. Always a social man, he made many a friend gaming with them online or around a game table. Ray is survived by his sisters, Nancy Reid, Louise Durrance, and Evelyn Dean (Jim Dean); his nieces and nephews; his lifelong friend Albert Garcia; his godson, Captain Calvin Garcia, USAF; and his great-godson Frederick Garcia. He was preceded in death by his parents, Etta Mae Cottongim and Raymond Sanford Rowe Sr. and his brothers, Raymond S. Rowe Jr. and Robert A. Rowe (Judy Rowe).

Ray has taken his final ride. He loved the thrill of speed and the feeling of freedom — just the wind on his face and not a worry in the world. He believed life was meant to be lived to the fullest, and for him, that meant two wheels, a roaring engine, and the camaraderie of fellow riders. His spirit will ride on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Lake County USMVMC, VPresident@usmvmc.org

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home of Leesburg, Florida.

Cemetery Details

Florida National Cemetery

6502 SW 102nd Ave
Bushnell, FL 33513-8914
(352) 793-7740

Previous Events

Graveside

FEB **25**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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Bushnell, FL 33513-8914
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Tribute Wall



“ *Beyers Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rayburn "Ray" Rowe*



Beyers Funeral Home - February 17 at 03:42 PM

KA

“ *Karl, Robert, & Ava planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rayburn "Ray" Rowe.*

Karl, Robert, & Ava - February 20 at 06:08 PM

KA

“ *Karl, Robert, & Ava purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Rayburn "Ray" Rowe.*



Karl, Robert, & Ava - February 20 at 06:08 PM

KM

“ Ray traveled across the country to meet some of his gaming friends, one that he had known for over 22 years, as part of his bucket list. We had a lot of fun going out to eat, showing him around, and gaming. I was very happy to finally meet my friend face to face after so many years of playing games and late night conversations. Our gaming group will never forget him as he will live on in our hearts, thoughts, and future game sessions.



Karl Marrs - February 20 at 02:58 PM

KW

He always wanted to meet his gaming family. It makes my heart smile he finally did so ! You all meant so much to him and he had mad respect for his worthy opponents! - his niece, Kimberly "Kim" Woods

Kim Woods - February 24 at 09:35 PM

BC

“ Evelyn ; Nancy; Louise I am so sorry for your loss of Rayburn my heart and prayers are with you all praying God will give you comfort and peace during this sad time lots of love and hugs to all 3 of yaw



Brenda Rowe Collins - February 18 at 10:07 PM



“ *Nan Lanson lit a candle in memory of Rayburn "Ray" Rowe*



Nan Lanson - February 18 at 08:38 PM



“ *33 files added to the album Memories Album*



Beyers Funeral Home - February 17 at 03:29 PM