



## Darrell Ray

September 17, 1933 - April 19, 2022

Ray, Darrell E. Age 88, of Robbinsdale MN passed away peacefully surrounded by his children the morning of April 19, 2022 due to cancer complications. Darrell was raised in Thompson ND, graduating from the Thompson High School. He served his country in the army during the Korean war. Darrell dedicated his professional life to the building trades and labor movement. This included 30 years promoting the apprenticeship program, building benches at the MN State Fair. Those who met Darrell left the experience richer, usually with a \$2 bill. He was preceded in death by his wife, Darlene, of 61 years, his parents Bernard and Hazel Ray, brothers Ron and Roy, sisters Dorothy and Rhea. Darrell is survived by six children: Darla (James) Robeck, Delayne (Brent) Dubbin, Denise Ray (Rick Pedginski), Darren (Candy) Ray, Danielle (Tony) Smith, and Damon (Katie) Ray. Sixteen grandchildren: Alicia (Tony) Exsted, Amorette Robeck, Whitney (Rick) Rasmussen, Forrest (Jamie) Robeck, Tyler (Shannon) Dubbin, Samantha (Ryan) Dennenberg, Afton (Matt) Hooper, Dominic (Abby) Ray, Mackenzie Ray, Duncan Ray, Dawson Ray, Kiersten (Tyler) Retzer, Brooke Smith, Owen Ray, Anna Ray, and Ethan Ray. Ten great grandchildren: Nola, Parker, Kemper, Victor, Odin, (Iris on the way), Zoe, Liam, Calvin, Franklin, and Theodore. Sisters: Betty Useldinger and Darlene Mykelby. Brother: Kenneth Ray. A visitation and memorial service for Darrell will be held on Sunday May 15, 2022, at Washburn-McReavy (5125 W Broadway Ave, Crystal) from 10:00am - Noon. Please also join us in a Celebration of Life for both Darrell

and Darlene Ray at Elsie's (729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis) from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **15**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Glen Haven Chapel  
5125 West Broadway  
Crystal, MN 55429  
(763) 533-8643  
[info@washburn-mcreavy.com](mailto:info@washburn-mcreavy.com)

# Tribute Wall

CJ

“ Wherever there was a union event, there was Darrell smiling, dancing & selling tickets!! His benches were sought after by everyone. I am fortunate to have finally won a Viking bench at the State Fair a few years ago. I treasured my friendship with Darrell & Darlene & will miss his wisdom & humor. Rest in Peace, dear one.

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**Cheryl Jones** - May 05, 2022 at 10:59 AM

LC

“ I was very fortunate to have known Darrell for over 40 years. He always had a smile and words of wisdom about the importance of organized labor. He will be missed a great deal. The work he did at the Minnesota State Fair is legendary. Please try to keep in mind that as long as you have a memory of Darrell he will never be gone.

*Larry Casey, Building Trades Programs, University of Minnesota*

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**Larry Casey** - May 02, 2022 at 08:22 AM

LA

“ I've seen this guy at the Labor Centre over 17 yrs in my time there. Always had the biggest smile with a compliment to boot. I still have one of his MN Vikings benches in my foyer from one of those first years. Dearly adored and will be dearly missed.

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**Laura** - April 28, 2022 at 10:26 PM

P3

“ *Painters Local 386 purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Darrell Ray.*



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**Painters Local 386** - April 26, 2022 at 09:26 AM