



## Reynaldo Lososo Evangelista

November 23, 1952 - December 12, 2021

Reynaldo (Ray) Lososo Evangelista age 67 of Anoka, MN, passed away on December 12, 2021 after a courageous battle with Covid pneumonia.

Ray was known for his superb musical talents and was known as "the little Santana". Born in the Philippines, Ray was a musical prodigy. Starting at age 5, he was performing on both radio and television and then toured with the USO with music legends during his teenage years. He then went on to graduate from Gamma Musical Conservatory. Since coming to the United States, Ray has been a very active and highly regarded professional musician, performing with numerous bands and groups throughout the Twin Cities and Midwest. He is best known for his one-man band, incorporating a catalogue of over 2,000 songs. Ray is perhaps best known for his positive spirit, kindness, and devotion shown to others.

Ray is preceded in death by his father, grandmother, and grandfather. He is survived by the love of his life and life partner of 38 years, Kelly Cornelius; his mother, Remedios Evangelista-Verena (Virgilio Verena); adult children, Theresa King of Chandler, AZ, Ray L. Evangelista Jr. of Loveland, CO, Natalie R. Evangelista of Milwaukee, WI; and 10 grandchildren: Jessica (25), Elicia (22), Wesley (21), Alesea (18), Ryan (18), Daniel (15), Santana (12), Samuel (7), Javier (4), and Emilio (3).

A celebration of Ray's life will take place at a later date when people can gather safely together outdoors.

# Tribute Wall

PD

“ *This is Peewee dread - Ray called me up to the stage in 1992 in hunan garden and we became friends - we played at the State fair in 1996-97 and Ray was a great musician and great person. It was rare for Ray not to smile as he sang out classics- He was a one man band - God bless your Ray  
Love peewee dread*

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**Peewee dread** - January 11, 2022 at 11:50 AM

CM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Carlo James La Manna** - December 21, 2021 at 04:29 PM

WF

“ *I met Ray years ago through my good friend Howard Labelle who performed with him as Rice and Beans. I feel so blessed to have been lucky enough to have crossed paths in life with such a wonderful guy. The most talented guitar player ever and yet the most humble human being. Never one to brag or act pretentious he made everyone he met feel like a lifelong friend. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. My heartfelt condolences go out to his family. You will never be forgotten Ray. Rest in peace my brother!*

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**Wade Foss** - December 19, 2021 at 09:46 PM

PQ

“ *Loved Ray. I was blessed that he allowed me to share his stage and harmonize on classics. He was kind, thoughtful and extremely gifted.*

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**Paul Quin** - December 19, 2021 at 05:48 PM

RD

“ *Dear Kelly and everyone,*

*I worked with Ray at JCPENNEY from 1987-2005. It was a great time. We had a lot of fun working in the maintenance dept. and the loading dock. I remember writing the words for a retirement song for the store manager. Ray was able to take the words and formulate a nice melody overnight and preform the music the next day. He had tremendous talent for creating original songs and playing cover music to perfection. We worked on some original recordings at his trailer in Vadnais Heights. I ended up buying his drum set in 1999. He was a polite and modest person. All he wanted to do was make people feel good through his music and performances, and that he did. What a great guy! he will be missed by many.*

*~Sincerely, Ron and Sheryl Dixon*

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**Ron Dixon** - December 19, 2021 at 11:09 AM

BG

“ Dear Kelly & Family,

*Bruce & I were heartbroken to hear that your beloved Ray has passed away. We have wonderful memories of Ray and his music. In 1998 we discovered The Chart in Lakeville & Asian Society. We spent many good times over the years dancing to Asian Society. We became friends with Ray, as did most people he met. When we would walk into the dining room Ray would always greet us via his microphone with a Bruuuuuce! We loved to dance and they played great dancing music. Ray would always play Mustang Sally as he knew that was one of Bruce's favorite songs. We were so disappointed when the Chart House discontinued having music on the weekends.*

*We missed Ray and Asian Society.*

*We did see Ray at Hunan Garden and at Sawatdee in Maple Grove. There was not much room at these venues to dance, but we did manage a couple dances in the small spaces. Ray always seemed to enjoy it when people danced.*

*One summer we went up to Breezy Pointe to see Asian Society play there. It was a little bit louder and wilder performance than at the Chart House! The last time we saw Ray perform was at The Chart House this past summer. He was to play out on the patio, but due to inclement weather he played in the lounge. Again a very small dance floor, but we did manage a couple dances. So the first and last time we saw Ray perform was at The Chart House. We were looking forward to many more of his performances...*

*Ray was an incredibly talented musician and we are heartbroken that he is gone. He will be greatly missed by all.*

*A quote from Prince.. "Music is healing. Music holds things together." We loved Ray's beautiful rendition of Purple Rain.*

*Ray's music will live on forever and will hopefully comfort you and*

*keep Ray's spirit close to you.*

*I have attached the photo I took of Bruce with Asian Society at The Chart House, on June 14, 2002. We were celebrating Bruce's retirement from the Minneapolis Public Schools.*

*We treasure many fond memories associated with Ray Evangelista. The other two photos I took of Ray at Sawatdee in Maple Grove on June 22, 2018.*

*We send our love and prayers to you, Ray's family and your dogs. We know how much he loved them, too.*

*Sincerely, Bruce & Elona Graff*



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**Bruce & Elona Graff** - December 18, 2021 at 03:25 PM

CM

“*As a musical theater musician based in Seattle, on our nights off while playing at the Ordway in St Paul and hanging out at the Hunan Garden, Ray was always kind enough to let us sit in with him and cleanse our palette from the tedium of doing the same show over and over! He was always gracious and a great player and I'm so sad I won't get to hear him one more time! My condolences, love and prayers to him, his family, loved ones and fellow musicians! ❤️*



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**chris monroe** - December 17, 2021 at 05:34 PM

LW

*There will never be another Ray Evangelista. He was an awesome musician and a great friend. I often wondered how a body that small could hold a heart that big. I will, truly miss him. Thanks Ray for sharing your incredible gift of music and your warm smile. Sleep well and please look down and take care of us from Somewhere Over The Rainbow.....*

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**Lynn Wilkes** - December 18, 2021 at 08:21 AM

RS

*I knew Ray for over 20 years as a entertainer and musician. I have played Bass guitar off and on at Hunan Garden where I became a regular. Ray took me and other just starting out musicians under his wings and showed us how to be a professional and let us sit in with him as he performed. Some musician was new to their instruments but Ray still would call them up to the stage to perform with us. Ray opened his heart and home to me where I got to see his amazing home studio and meet his family. Kelly his life partner and Vera his Mother and others who always treated me with respect. I am deeply torn inside as I live near Hunan's and always think of Ray as I pass it daily. Can't stop in to play with and watch one of my favorite guitar players of all time. So many memories through the years and I will cherish and hold close every interaction we shared which was many. Ray is playing in the most highest band of all time now. That heavenly band where he will leading an all star cast! Rest well my musician brother. I will tell my stories about us to all that would listen. Thank you for allowing me and sharing a part of your amazing life stories. I can't ever forget my dear musician brother and true friend Ray Evangelista!!!!!!!*

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**Roy Jackson Sr** - December 18, 2021 at 02:03 PM