



## James "Buddy" Ray

February 11, 1947 - July 9, 2025

James "Buddy" Ray, 78, of Myrtle Beach, SC, passed away peacefully on July 9, 2025, at Grand Strand Regional Medical Center.

Born in Philadelphia on February 11, 1947, Buddy was the beloved son of the late James and Dorothy DiAmore Ray. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War aboard the USS Enterprise.

Buddy spent many years as a business owner with his brother Bobby, and together they ran B&R Auto Body in Philadelphia before moving to Myrtle Beach, where he continued serving his community as a school bus driver. A lifelong sports enthusiast, he loved coaching and mentoring others in almost every sport.

Buddy was known for his fun-loving nature and quick sense of humor and was a devoted family man.

He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Anita Sharkey Ray; his children, James Ray, Theresa Ray (Robin Pierce), and Steven Ray; grandchildren, Jessica Heaton, Anthony Ray, and Jennifer Ray; great-grandchildren, Atticus Pott and Harper Pott; his brother and best friend, Robert "Bobby" Ray (Barbara); nieces, Cindy and Melissa; and his cousins, Frankie, Michael, Carol, Rosemary, Jeanie, Denise, Maria,

Buddy's legacy of love, laughter, and strength will live on in all who knew him.

There will be a catered reception to remember Buddy from 12:00-3:00 PM, Sunday, July 13, 2025 at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel with a message and time of sharing at 2:00 PM.

To sign an online guestbook, please visit [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com).

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is serving the family.

# Previous Events

## Reception

JUL 13. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel

11528 Highway 17 Bypass

Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

<http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Buddy" Ray.



July 11, 2025 at 10:49 PM



“ My Buddy how I will miss our greetings each time we go to visit. Cuz it will not be the same with out you. Heaven just gained an angel. In love and light until we meet again.

Maria Agostino - July 11, 2025 at 04:28 PM



“ Denise and Maria Agostino planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Buddy" Ray.

Denise and Maria Agostino - July 11, 2025 at 04:23 PM



“ Denise and Maria Agostino purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of James "Buddy" Ray.



Denise and Maria Agostino - July 11, 2025 at 04:23 PM

BD

“ Brian and Aly Denison purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James "Buddy" Ray.



Brian and Aly Denison - July 11, 2025 at 10:46 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Buddy" Ray.



July 11, 2025 at 07:49 AM

JS

“ My Buddy was the most kindest funniest man I ever knew I will keep you in my heart forever until we see each other again love my cousin forever

Jean Sarne - July 10, 2025 at 09:50 PM

JE

“ i'll never forget how excited he was to find out he became a great-grandfather. my only regret is not being able to visit more often. i'll miss you forever PopPop. 💕💕



Jennifer - July 10, 2025 at 07:39 PM