



Ray A. Rochau

November 9, 1942 - April 27, 2020

Ray. A. Rochau, age 77, of Grove, OK passed away Monday, April 27, 2020 at his home after battling cancer.

Ray was born on November 9, 1942 to Harley and Beth (Galbraith) Rochau in Los Angeles, CA. As a child, his family moved to Oklahoma and Ray graduated from Will Rogers High School in Tulsa in 1960. After high school, Ray attended Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, earning a Bachelor of Science in Biology.

In 1963, Ray enlisted in the United States Navy and proudly served his country for 4 years during Vietnam.

Ray was multitalented person and had several occupations in several fields. In the 1970's he worked as a Programmer/Analyst in the healthcare field and banking. In the 80's and early 90's Ray worked in the petroleum industry in Tulsa, Houston and Enid, OK. He then went into Chemical Management for oil fields and industrial companies in Springdale, AR, Dayton, OH and Clarksville, TN.

Ray and his wife moved to Grove 2004, where he began selling flotation for docks and marinas, until finally retiring in 2008.

On March 30, 1991, Ray married Arlene Jacobs in Tulsa, OK. After his retirement, the couple enjoyed traveling in their R.V. to all 50 states and Canada and traveling to the Caribbean.

Ray was an avid wood worker and also, enjoyed restoring a 1965 Mustang. He was active in the American Legion and a member of the Grove Veterans Ritual Team and the First United Methodist Church. Ray also served as the past President of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and was instrumental in raising money toward Heavenly Angel Hospice House.

Ray was a genuine and honest man that lived life to the fullest. He treasured his family and spending time with them and was known as practical jokester. Ray will be remembered for his willingness to help and as a leader at the American Legion of Grove.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

Left to cherish Ray's memory, wife Arlene Rochau, daughter, Lara Petersen and husband, Joel, of Grants Pass, OR, son, Robert Rochau of Olney Springs, CO, bonus daughters, Cindy Lynn Riddle of Bixby, OK and Debbie Outhier of Zena, OK, sister, Doris Moore of Albuquerque, NM and 6 grandchildren.

Ray was passionate about many causes and asks for donations in his memory to any of the following: American Cancer Society, National Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, American Legion Post #178, Grove OK, American Legion #178 Ritual Team, Grove OK and Heavenly Angels Hospice House, Grove OK.

Memorial services are planned for Thursday July 2 at 2 pm at First United Methodist Church, Grove, Oklahoma under the direction of Nichols-Stephens

Funeral & Cremation Services.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 2. 2:00 PM (CT)

Church on the Hill
1005 Leisure Rd
Grove, OK 74344

Tribute Wall



“ Nichols Funeral & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Ray A. Rochau



Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services - July 01, 2020 at 12:11 PM



“ Ray A. Rochau

October 04, 2023 at 03:23 PM



“ I never knew Ray, but Arlene lived up the street from me on South Oswego when we were less than 5 years old. I remember those days of fun, even now.

Arlene, what a lovely marriage and life that you have had with Ray. And I am so sorry for your loss. May God richly bless and surround you and your family, always. Ginny Lee Courtney Moss



Ginny Lee Courtney Moss - July 29, 2020 at 07:28 PM

ML

“ Our hearts were blessed to know Ray through our 9am church services these past 8 years. He was a tower of strength and a courageous warrior in his struggles with the relentless cancer battles that he fought. We respected him so much for his faith and devotion to God and Arlene. He will be greatly missed. So very sorry to miss his services due to this covid 19 pandemic. Our hearts were with you, Arlene and family. God bless, Bill and Margaret Little.

Margaret Little - July 03, 2020 at 01:47 PM

EM

“ Ray was a monster of a man. A true gentle giant. If you needed a smile in your day, Ray ALWAYS had one on his face. Probably due to his darling and loving wife Arlene. We were/are SO blessed to call them both friends. We love you Arlene.

Ethel Mayle - June 12, 2020 at 02:11 PM

AR

“ He was my life; he taught me how to live and enjoy life. So many wonderful memories. There is a huge hole in my heart but he's in the arms of God and not suffering any more. He will be missed terribly.

Arlene - May 05, 2020 at 09:00 PM

RB

“ I only knew Ray for a handful of years, but I knew the genuine Ray. What you saw was what you got, which was always his best. Even on his worst days, he was still ready to answer your call and rally the troops for a service or project or whatever. You sat up and took notice when Ray walked into the room; his mere presence commanded respect, largely because he always gave it. My life is all the richer because Ray Rochau was in it. May God bless you Arlene, all the family and his comrades.

Rick Bronson - April 29, 2020 at 11:25 AM

MH

I just have learned about Ray's death and offer sincere sympathy to you and your children Arlene. Although I have never met you really enjoyed the video you put together. Ray's dad, Harley, was my dad's first cousin. Ray's grandmother Nana Koch Rohlfs and my grandmother August Koch Rohlfs were sisters. We live in Davenport and I always remember when Ray, Doris, Harley and Beth would come and visit...what a great time we had and all the (boy) first cousins would get together....one grand time they had.

Several times my parents, Mark J and Leola Rohlfs took trips to Ok and stayed with Harley and Beth and Ray and Doris. Dors just sent pictures of our stay there. I remember it snowed one New Years when we were there...Oh my, the streets in Ok were closed down...we couldn't believe it, being used to snowstorms, etc. Doris and Harley came back for one of our huge family reunions (Wiese-Schneckloth) one year, but don't think Ray cam back. The video is just how I remember Ray.

Sincere sympathy to you once again. Margo Rohlfs Hancock

Margo Hancock - August 25, 2020 at 12:27 PM

 Ross Jones

Ray and I roomed together in an apartment in Tahlequah in the 60s. I've wondered many times what his life turned out to be. Looking at the pics attached here have given me a clue that it must have been great. So sorry to hear of his passing!!

Ross Jones
jrj@rossjones.net

Ross Jones - December 28, 2020 at 09:48 PM