



Edgar Robert Ray

March 13, 1934 - September 10, 2025

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Edgar Robert “Bob” Ray, 91, passed away peacefully on September 10, 2025. Born in Buffalo, New York, on March 13, 1934, he was the son of Edgar Phillips Ray and Loretta Florence (Okoniewski) Ray.

On April 6, 1957, Edgar married the love of his life, Patricia (Wisnet) Ray. Together they built a family rooted in faith, love, and tradition. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather who believed deeply in the importance of faith and family.

Edgar is survived by his beloved wife Patricia, and their children: Patricia (Carl Dunn), Robert (Patricia), Thomas (Darlene), James (Lina), Jacqueline (Jim) Mondt, Michele (James) O’Rawe, and Michael (Jennifer). Edgar’s legacy also lives on through his 17 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren, who brought him endless pride and joy. He was a cherished brother to Rita (John) Zak, Dolores (Joseph) Dinella, and Kathy (Gary) Giovino. Known affectionately as “Bob” or “Uncle Bob” to his many nieces and nephews, he was loved by all who knew him.

A proud parishioner of St. Bonaventure Church in West Seneca, NY, Edgar’s life was grounded in faith. He served his country in the U.S. Army from 1957–1959, receiving his honorable discharge in 1963. He worked for Conrail for 40 years before his retirement. Beyond work and service, Edgar found great joy in the outdoors and respected the beauty of nature. He also gave of his time as a Scout Master for Pack 635 with the Boy Scouts of America, guiding young men with the same values he lived by.

Edgar will be remembered as a man of integrity, faith, and devotion, whose love for his family and appreciation of life’s simple joys will continue to inspire all who knew him.

Family and friends are invited to his Funeral Mass Friday, October 10, 2025 at 10:30am at St. Pius Tenth Church, 3000 Chili Ave. Rochester, NY 14624. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Alzheimer’s Association, Rochester and Finger Lakes Chapter, 200 Meridian Center Blvd. Suite 110, Rochester, NY 14618 or www.alz.org.

The family gives special thanks to the dedicated and compassionate staff at The Leo

Center of St. Ann's Community for the wonderful care and support they provided in Edgar's final months.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

OCT **10**. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Pius Tenth Church
3000 Chili Ave
Rochester, NY 14624

Tribute Wall

“ *My Dad – he was my rock, my protector, my role model, my friend. His passing left a void that no one else will ever fill. It’s been six months since my Dad passed and I miss him every day.*

Dad’s birthday is Friday, so as I remember him and reflect on his life, it’s important to me that I take this time to share who my Dad was to me.....

A loving husband and father. My Dad had a fierce love of and commitment to family. One of his greatest joys was spending time with Mom, us kids, his grandchildren, and our extended family. When once asked about his dream vacation destination, my Dad responded “Long Beach... because that’s where my family is all together”. My fondest memories are family times when I heard my Dad’s belly laugh and saw his happy tears as he joked with my brothers. Dad was a humble man who taught us to always cherish your family and your roots.

A man of integrity. My Dad’s honesty and strong moral compass was evident in everything he did. He always believed in doing the right thing and, as importantly, walking away from a bad situation. He taught us that if you were there, even if not participating, you were just as guilty. I learned from him that integrity is more than honesty. It is being true to yourself and your beliefs.

A source of strength and wisdom. My Dad was typically a man of few words and he was tough when it came to discipline. As kids, we always knew that we had crossed that line when Dad’s eyes bulged. But he was always there when we needed him. I didn’t appreciate the extent of my Dad’s love, resilience, and wisdom back then. As an adult, I have been constantly impressed with Dad’s understanding of the world, wealth of practical knowledge, and ability to share advice without judgement. I will especially treasure the quiet conversations we had later in life.

A lover of nature and animals. Whether he was camping, hiking, or gardening, he was truly in his element when outdoors. It was his happy place. He would wonder what music the flowers listened to when they danced in the wind, saw countless shapes in the clouds, and was in awe of a good lightning storm. He loved all animals and his face would especially light up whenever he would cuddle one of our dogs. He taught me not only to love nature but to truly respect it.

A true sense of wonder and adventure. My Dad loved to “take the scenic route”. He was happiest when he could just roam and explore the countryside. Our family road trips were always an adventure! My Dad also loved to tinker. You never knew what he’d come up with as he happily brrruppted throughout his day! I fondly remember our canvas camping cupboard, our green spray-painted camping gear boxes with the rope handles, and especially the play kitchen he made for me from Rosinski furniture boxes when I was eight. My Dad taught me to appreciate the simple things in life and try to share that joy with others.

Dad was a big man with an even bigger heart. If the truest measure of a person is how much they loved and were loved in return – my Dad was a giant! Did he have flaws? Absolutely! Dad wasn't perfect, but he was always perfectly himself.

Dad – Memories of you are a constant source of comfort and guidance for me. Your influence is woven into who I am and I'm so thankful for that. I'm extremely proud to be your Georgia peach! And so grateful that my kids had you as a grandpa and poppa! I love you always! Patty

Pat Eberle - March 10 at 01:21 PM

JK

“ *The Rays were simply the best next door neighbors anyone could wish for. And Mr. Ray was one-of-a-kind. Always generous, ready to serve, and inviting. It's said you may choose your home but you can't choose your neighbors, which is true, but the good Lord provided, and our family was fortunate to spend many happy years living next to Mr. Ray and Mrs. Ray and their wonderful and loving family. Rest in peace, Mr. Ray. Yours was a life well-lived.*

With love,

Jeff Kwitowski and family

Jeff Kwitowski - September 17, 2025 at 01:04 PM

MI

“ *Daddy and I danced to the song Wind Beneath My Wings at some point on my wedding day. He sure was the wind beneath my wings, and carried me through many hard times and bumps on this road of life (literally and figuratively 😊). I am strong because of him! I am forever grateful that I have so many beautiful memories to cherish . I will continue to live by the love , faith and values he instilled in all of us. My heart is broken but I know he is at peace. I love you daddy - you are my hero!*



Michele - September 15, 2025 at 09:03 AM

BG

“ A cherished soul who filled our lives with joy, encouragement, and love Uncle Ray will always hold a special place in my heart. More than just an uncle, he was like a second grandpa to me — a steady presence full of kindness, wisdom, and an unforgettable smile that lit up every room. He had a unique way of making everyone feel seen and valued, always offering words of encouragement, not just to me, but to my son Andrew, our family, friends, and neighbors alike.

Some of my most treasured memories include growing up alongside the grandkids — swimming in their backyard pool, heading off on camping trips, and simply enjoying the warmth and laughter that always surrounded him. But one moment stands out above the rest: watching Uncle Ray dance with the love of his life at my wedding — a beautiful snapshot of the deep love and joy he carried throughout his life.

Though his absence leaves a space that cannot be filled, knowing I will see him again one day in heaven brings my heart peace. Uncle Ray, this isn't goodbye — just see you later. Save a spot for me up there.

Love you always,

Bonnie Gardner (Nadler)



Bonnie Gardner - September 15, 2025 at 08:29 AM

LR

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Lina Ray - September 14, 2025 at 08:02 PM

LR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lina Ray - September 14, 2025 at 07:56 PM

LR

“ We have countless beautiful memories here are a few we would like to share



Lina Ray - September 14, 2025 at 07:53 PM

JA

“ Although I was stubborn and never wanted help, Dad was always there, "steady Eddie". His gift to me is a lifetime of lessons cradled in his deep love for family, value of integrity, and respect for nature. He will forever hold my hand from beyond.



Jacqueline - September 14, 2025 at 08:26 AM

AM

“ Papa is a huge part of the reason I'm a vet today! Watching him with Jameson made my heart happy ❤️



amanda - September 13, 2025 at 06:15 PM

JR

“ So of my favorite photos of Dad



Jenny Ray - September 13, 2025 at 05:22 PM

MM

“ Grandpa visiting me during my 2nd year of teaching in Arizona! He was just excited to get a cupcake☐



Melissa Mondt - September 13, 2025 at 04:51 PM

JM

The simple things brought him so much joy.

Jacqueline Mondt - September 13, 2025 at 05:00 PM

TR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



thomas ray - September 13, 2025 at 04:20 PM

TR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



thomas ray - September 13, 2025 at 04:17 PM

DR

“ *A wonderful Dad who loved family and all life had to offer. Love you Dad!* ”



Darlene Ray - September 13, 2025 at 04:16 PM