



## Johnny Earl Ray

March 5, 1948 - January 19, 2023

Funeral Services for Johnny Earl Ray, age 74, of Monterey, Tennessee, were conducted on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 11:00 AM at Hope in Christ Fellowship. Caleb Looper and Pastor Steve Looper officiated and interment followed in the Ray Cemetery. Mr. Ray was born on Friday, March 5, 1948, in Monterey, Tennessee, to the late James Walter and Auda Marie Swack Ray. Mr. Ray passed away on Thursday, January 19, 2023, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. Mr. Ray was a truck driver and farmer. He loved the town of Monterey serving currently on the Civil Service Board and previously as Alderman, Vice Mayor, and Mayor. He was a Christian, an ordained deacon, and a member of Hope in Christ Fellowship. His lifelong ministry was driving his family who traveled the Eastern United States from Michigan to Florida singing the gospel message in song. He loved his family. He was survived by his wife of 54 years, Brenda Looper Ray of Monterey, TN; 2 daughters and sons-in-law, Michelle and Pastor Steve Looper of Monterey, TN, Shannon and Tim Davis of Monterey, TN; 1 son and daughter-in-law, Johnny Jr. and Tammy Ray of Cookeville, TN; 7 grandchildren, Curtis (and Leah) Looper, Caleb (and Leslie) Looper, Chelsie (and Dustin) Bowman, Emily and Tyler McCoy, Macey (and Jeremy) Flatt, Hunter Davis (and Ashley Barno), Logan (and Hailey) Davis; 16 great grandchildren; 2 sisters and brothers-in-law, Brenda and Dale McCloud of Ohio, Debbie and Mike Clevenger of Knoxville, TN; 1 sister-in-law, Drucilla Ray of Monterey, TN; and a host of nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, George Ray; and

infant great grandson, Teddy Looper. The family received friends at Hope in Christ Fellowship on Sunday, January 22, 2023, from 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM. Arrangements and Care provided by D.M. Goff Funeral Home, Inc., 205 East Cleveland Avenue, Monterey, Tennessee 38574, Phone, 931.839.2311.

# Cemetery Details

## Ray Cemetery

12611 Boswell Road  
Monterey, TN 38574

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **22**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Hope in Christ Fellowship  
315 East Peter Avenue  
Monterey, TN 38574

## Funeral Services

JAN **23**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Hope in Christ Fellowship  
315 East Peter Avenue  
Monterey, TN 38574

# Tribute Wall



“ Johnny Earl Ray

October 08, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ Our family has known the Ray/Looper family for years. They started coming to Ohio when we were kids, but John & Brenda's were young as well. As everyone has already said Johnny was always quiet, except when he was in the garage with my Dad, but then they was the ONLY ones aloud in there! LOL However, when they would come in they would all set up and sing and talk, cause when you got my Mom talking about the Lord, you were going to be setting up for a while, but they didn't mind. So, after a couple visits she would say well, the kids are on their way, so she kinda adopted them as hers. J♥ohnny was always obedient, humble, and one to mind the Lord, when the Holy Ghost hit him he knew to move. I know that when he made it to glory my Mother was thrilled to see him. I wondered what she would have said if she would have been here: she would have said he's Saved, Sanctified, Filled with the Holy Ghost and made it home! Love, & Prayers, your Ohio family Mary, Vickie, & Odell ♥ We do Love you 😊



Mary Berger - February 06, 2023 at 11:27 PM



John Ray - April 08, 2025 at 08:30 AM

BW

“ I knew Johnny since I was a teenager, always a fine man. 🙏

Brent Walker - January 24, 2023 at 01:18 PM

HB

“ Sending Prayers and thoughts for the whole family . God bless you Brenda .  
He will be missed by many , God gained an Angel Amen 🙏



Helen Blaylock - January 24, 2023 at 08:42 AM

MB

“ Johnny was a great man of God, and a good friend of our family, The Lambdins. We have enjoyed his family singing so many years in Georgia and had them at our churches and in our homes. Him and Brenda and their family are like family to us. We will surely miss him. He had a great smile and testimony. Praying for Brenda and the family. Love you all.  
Mary Lou Burney

Mary Lou Burney - January 24, 2023 at 01:09 AM

JD

“ Dear Brenda and family, we have a lot of great memories and blessings with your family in many church services over the years. All of you are in our thoughts and prayers. LOVE, Bro Bill & Joan Durham

Joan Durham - January 23, 2023 at 10:15 AM

MR

“ So sorry for your loss.



Melanie Richards - January 22, 2023 at 02:35 AM

PD

“ Polly Durham sent a virtual gift in memory of Johnny Earl Ray



polly Durham - January 21, 2023 at 09:53 PM

  
Darlene  
McKinney

“ If you need anything Please let me know I am here for you all.

Darlene McKinney - January 21, 2023 at 06:33 PM

DM

“ Oh Brenda I am so sorry for you and your Family my Prayers are with you all.

Darlene Lowhorn McKinney - January 21, 2023 at 06:32 PM

BW

“ Sincere prayers for all the family, loved Johnny, friendly and easy going, never heard of anyone who didn't like him...good Christian man...in our thoughts and prayers 🙏🙏🙏🕊️.....

Brother Ronnie Wilson - January 21, 2023 at 03:11 PM



“ 52 files added to the album Life Tributes



D.M. Goff Funeral Home, Inc. - January 21, 2023 at 02:49 PM

BB

*I Remember when you and Johnny started dating, so sorry for your loss cuz.*

BRENDA J Qualls Bilbrey - January 21, 2023 at 05:38 PM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Johnny Earl Ray.



January 21, 2023 at 10:39 AM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Johnny Earl Ray.



January 20, 2023 at 09:01 PM

FH

“ So so sorry for your loss. You are all in my prayers ❤️

Fran Hall - January 20, 2023 at 07:50 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Johnny Earl Ray.



January 20, 2023 at 06:52 PM

SC

“ Sorry for your loss,all are in my thoughts and prayers



Susan Clark - January 20, 2023 at 05:03 PM

FY

“ So sorry to hear that Johnny earl ray has passed away and Brenda I'm really gonna say prayers for you and all the families of you I love you all very so



Felecia Yates - January 20, 2023 at 04:17 PM

PF

“ *Brenda I love you dearly and Johnny was a wonderful man. I am thinking of you now and sending you love and hope. You have provided others so much comfort with your beautiful spirit and voice and I hope you are comforted now. Love, Paula (Parrott) Flowers*

Paula Parrott Flowers - January 20, 2023 at 02:50 PM

JA

*Brenda I Love you and Johnny very much so sorry to hear the sad news Johnny was a good man I'm praying for your entire family for peace and comfort I. Love you*

Jodi Andrews - January 20, 2023 at 04:42 PM

JO

“ *Jennings Family, Beaty Family & Orene purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Johnny Earl Ray.*



Jennings Family, Beaty Family & Orene - January 20, 2023 at 02:30 PM

KH

“ *Johnny was a wonderful man and one of Monterey's finest citizens. Many young people have learned from his example. He will be missed.*

Ken Hall - January 20, 2023 at 10:48 AM



“ So very sorry for your loss. Johnny was always a sweet man, smiling and laughing. Father in heaven, your Word is sufficient for our every need. Right now, my dear friends need your comfort.



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**Regina Buckner** - January 20, 2023 at 10:00 AM