



John Ray Garrett Jr.

June 24, 1933 - November 5, 2020

John Ray Garrett Jr., beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, uncle and friend passed peacefully from this life into the presence of Jesus in the early morning hours of Thursday November 5, 2020. A proud native of Morton, Mississippi, he was born June 24, 1933. He grew up in Memphis, Tennessee, where he met and married the love of his life and wife of 64 years, Shirley Ferguson Garrett. He was a 1951 graduate of Bartlett High School and served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War.

A career in the trucking industry brought him to Alabama in 1958, where he and Shirley eventually settled in Center Point to raise their family of four children. They have been residents of Trussville for 14 years. He was employed in a variety of capacities at Gordon's Transports, Cowin Equipment Company, and SEPCO/Birmingham Rubber and Gasket.

He was a member of First Baptist Church Trussville. Throughout his life Ray served in many churches, including Hildale Baptist, First Baptist Center Point, Carson Road Baptist, Clearview Baptist, First Baptist Helena and Deerfoot Baptist. His leadership roles included Sunday School teacher, Sunday School Director, Church Training Director, Deacon and numerous committees.

Ray is survived by his wife Shirley; sons Danny Garrett (Carol), Don Garrett (Lisa), David Garrett (Scott Michelfelder); daughter Diane Giddens (Steve);

grandchildren Brooke Harris (Marcus), Jake Garrett (Maddie), Brett Williamson, John Garrett (Jenny), Everett Garrett (Leann Cross), Nick Garrett (Hope), Joseph Garrett; great granddaughter Carrie McRae Garrett; sisters Mary Louise Vassar and Elizabeth Nobles; and a large host of family and friends. He was preceded in death by parents John Ray Sr. and Ina Mai Garrett, and brother Harmon Garrett.

Called Ray, Daddy, Grangi, and Uncle Jute, this humble man was known mostly for his deep faith and reliance on the watchcare and providence of God. Even after a successful career of many years, he often applied and shared life lessons learned from humble beginnings as the son of a sharecropper. His family will often smile and lovingly remember the many times he jokingly said, "I was born during the Depression..." John Ray Garrett Jr. was so greatly loved and admired, and we will miss his stories, his sense of humor, his prayers, and his faith every single day.

The family will receive friends on Monday, November 9, 2020 at Deerfoot Memorial Funeral Home from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Funeral service will follow at 12:00 pm at the funeral home with burial to follow at Jefferson Memorial Gardens. Rev. James Long will be officiating.

Cemetery Details

Jefferson Memorial Gardens

1591 Gadsden Hwy
Birmingham, AL 35235

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 9. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Deerfoot Memorial Funeral Home
5360 Deerfoot Parkway
Mailing Address PO Box 118
Trussville, AL 35173
(205) 655-3444
<https://www.deerfootmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Service

NOV 9. 12:00 PM (CT)

Deerfoot Memorial Funeral Home
5360 Deerfoot Parkway
Mailing Address PO Box 118
Trussville, AL 35173
(205) 655-3444
<https://www.deerfootmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

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“ God bless you all with peace and comfort. May your funny, heartwarming memories come often, as you remember Mr. Ray. Ms. Shirley, may the presence and peace of God be near you. Mr. Ray was such a kind, gracious, wise man. He has left you all with a great heritage to carry on.

Kathy Salter - November 07, 2020 at 06:22 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of John Ray Garrett Jr..



November 07, 2020 at 04:37 PM

BF

“ This is my favorite Ray Garrett story, and pardon me if I don't get all the facts exactly correct: In the early 70s, Ray was working for a trucking company, scheduling and coordinating the truck runs. This was before they had computers. When they got computers and were first linked up to other sites, they were encouraged to learn the software by playing around with it. It was very quiet for the first few days, when notice of a shipment of university football gear came across, going to a college that UofA plays. Ray was supposed to route the shipment, which he did, then added that it would take more than new gear to beat UofA. That opened the floodgates, and strangers at other sites all had something to say about it.

Ray was so much fun, a wonderful storyteller, and a very good man! He will be missed.

Becky Ferguson - November 07, 2020 at 04:19 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Ray Garrett Jr..*



November 07, 2020 at 01:47 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of John Ray Garrett Jr..*



November 07, 2020 at 11:44 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Ray Garrett Jr..*



November 07, 2020 at 11:37 AM



“ *Sending positive thoughts and prayers to everyone. I am so sorry for your loss. Love Vicki Goldstein*

vicki goldstein - November 07, 2020 at 11:18 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of John Ray Garrett Jr..*



November 07, 2020 at 10:21 AM



“ *Vassars-E Nobles-Simmons-Dorris family purchased the Divine Light for the family of John Ray Garrett Jr..*



Vassars-E Nobles-Simmons-Dorris family - November 06, 2020 at 08:11 PM