



## Kenneth Ray

September 15, 1940 - March 21, 2017

Ray, Kenneth, age 76, of Chelsea, passed away on March 21, 2017. Visitation will be from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday, March 25, 2017 at Liberty Baptist Church. The funeral service will be at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, March 26, 2017 at the church with Dr. Randy Mann and Dr. Tim Cox officiating. Burial will follow in Liberty Cemetery. Bolton Funeral Home is directing.

As of Tuesday evening at 5:30 pm our Lord called one of his choice servants home. Kenneth Wayne Ray, born and raised in Powderly, AL, surrendered his life to Jesus Christ at the young age of 8 years old at Powderly Baptist Church. He lived as a faithful servant of his Lord and Savior from that day forward. A graduate of Jones Valley High School and Howard College (now Samford University), Ken worked his way from the mail room of First National Bank of Birmingham (later Amsouth Bank), to a Senior VP of Operations before he retired. He and his wife, Frances, retired at the same time in the early 90's where they could spend retirement living and raising all the kids that God would allow them, even if, biologically, not their own. In spite of his many earthly accomplishments, nothing meant more to him than leading someone to Jesus Christ. That's what he did up until his last breath - spread the Gospel of his Lord. Ken faithfully taught Sunday school for over 43 years, most of which were at Liberty Baptist Church in Chelsea, AL where he moved in 1972 - the hometown of the love of his life, Frances Blackerby Ray.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents: Elijah Friedman Ray, Sr. and Abbie Inez Ray. He is survived by Frances, his wife of 56+ years; two brothers: Elijah Friedman Ray, Jr. (Johnny) and Harold Ray; one sister: Donna Ray Mann; twelve nieces and nephews; and a multitude of other "kids" whose lives he impacted. His life touched so many and he will be greatly missed. However, this is not goodbye, but just "Until we see you again," this time in a new glorified body.

In lieu of flowers the family is asking that donations be made to Liberty Baptist Church.

Please sign online condolences at [www.boltonfuneralhome.com](http://www.boltonfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Liberty Cemetery

11050 Chelsea Rd  
Chelsea, AL 35043

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 25. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bolton Funeral Home  
207 Hwy 47 South  
PO Box 4  
Columbiana, AL 35051  
(205) 669-3179

## Funeral Service

MAR 26. 2:00 PM (CT)

Bolton Funeral Home  
207 Hwy 47 South  
PO Box 4  
Columbiana, AL 35051  
(205) 669-3179

# Tribute Wall

JT

“ Johnny T. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Kenneth Ray.



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Johnny T. - March 27, 2017 at 10:52 AM

WJ

“ Dear Frances

*It has been a long time since you, Ken and I were working together at The First National Bank. I was in the Auditing Dept. along with Ken delivering registered mail and auditing the branch banks ,and you were working for Frances Longshore in Collections. We did not have a Training Program under Bullet Lovlace. Ken learned operations from the ground up. I had the utmost respect for his knowledge. I was in the loan dept., proof dept. and Crestline Branch when I had the most encounter with Ken . What a wonderful Guy and a pleasure to work with. He was a Rock in the OPERATIONS Dept.*

*Please accept my deepest condolence to you and your family,*

*Willard McCall, Jr.*

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Willard McCall, Jr - March 26, 2017 at 05:45 PM

JB

“ We will always remember the great times we had with Sis, Ken, Joyce and Charles. Jim Birdsong

Jim Birdsong - March 26, 2017 at 05:44 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Kenneth Ray.



March 26, 2017 at 01:26 PM

SH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and especially Mrs. Frances. He will be deeply missed!!

Stacie Holloway - March 24, 2017 at 08:26 PM

LR

“ Frances: So sorry to hear of Ken's death. You two were my favorites at Powderly Baptist We know that your loss is heaven's gain. I will be remembering you during these days ahead. Lois S. Reeves

Lois Sizemore Reeves - March 24, 2017 at 07:51 PM

LR

“ *Lois Sizemore Reeves sent a virtual gift in memory of Kenneth Ray*



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**Lois Sizemore Reeves** - March 24, 2017 at 07:48 PM

LR

“ *Lois Sizemore Reeves lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Ray*



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**Lois Sizemore Reeves** - March 24, 2017 at 07:46 PM

JR

“ *It has been a long time since I have seen Ken, or his wife Frances "Sister". Military service and life itself took me far from my roots and I just never was back home very often.*



*I do have a special memory of Ken though that although I wont share it openly on here, I will say that at a young age in my life he helped me when I needed it most, and his words of inspiration and advise on that visit played a huge part in helping me get life straight again.*

*And I will say that both he and Frances went out of their way to make me feel a part of the family when my Mom married Kens brother in law. I remember Ken as a gentle and kind man and a man strong in his faith. He had a huge heart and knew no stranger. His door was always open to anyone he could help or share his love of the Lord with. He certainly did that for me.*

*I shall look forward to our next meeting and homecoming with the Lord. I look forward to that a lot.*

*Until then...Thank you Uncle Ken for the memory and being the man you were on this earth. I never had the chance to tell you, but you made a difference in my life at a crossroads.*

*Sister, I hope to get home soon and see you all. You are in our prayers as are all of the family.*

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joey ratcliff - March 24, 2017 at 12:13 PM

PR

“ *Pranoti lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Ray*



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**Pranoti** - March 24, 2017 at 10:56 AM

PR

“ *Although my acquaintance with Mr Ray was short, it was most certainly a sweet and a precious one. I met Mr Ray and Frances at Houston under the most unusual circumstance but he was always very welcoming and loving toward me. I loved his sense of humor. His graciousness and positive outlook in suffering struck a chord with me and spoke volumes of the kind of good man he was. Mr Ray will be forever missed. My sincere and deepest condolences to Frances and his family.*

*Pranoti.*

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**Pranoti** - March 24, 2017 at 10:54 AM

RE

*Frances, condolences on Ken's passing. I have many fond memories of working with you and Ken at The First National Bank of Birmingham during the 1970s. What great times and great people. Russell Enfinger; Panama City, FL*

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**Russell Enfinger** - April 02, 2017 at 01:48 PM