



Ray Barker Cole

December 11, 1938 - November 21, 2024

Ray Barker Cole passed away on November 21, 2024 in San Antonio, Texas. He was born December 11, 1938 in Syracuse, New York to Ray Roland Cole and Lois Barker Cole. Mr. Cole was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 61 years, Carolyn Demo Cole, his daughter, Tracy Cole Morones, and his sister Jane Casey. He is survived by his children Carrie Bond (Stacy), Darcy Watt (Edward), Ray Cole (Shelly) Jimmy Cole (Keelin), Chris Cole (Lori), son-in-law Daniel Morones, his sister Doris MacHaffie, and his partner Trena Havins.

He was blessed with grandchildren Christian Wood (April), Mark Wood (Lauren), Hannah Bond, Sarah Bond, Leigh Earp, Raymond Watt, Dylan Cole, Justine Cole, Mando Cole, Ashley Hernandez, Chandler Cole, Aubrey Cole; and great-grandchildren Elijah, Ezra, and Caleb Wood, Cole and Josephine Qualls, and Charlie and Oak Cole.

Ray is a graduate of Canton Agand Tech in Canton, NY; served as a Fireman in the US Navy and owned a Flying A gas station for a while. He had a long career in the HVAC industry, was an engineer for Carrier, obtained his degree in teaching, taught at a vocational high school, managed the testing laboratory for Friedich Air Conditioning, taught at St. Phillips Technical College, and was a service manager for Lennox. His career culminated in being named Best Service Provider in all of North America for Lennox.

He was a faithful believer, and longtime member of St. Anthony Mary Claret Catholic Parish, and obtained the rank of Sir Knight, 4th Degree in the Knights of Columbus.

He was raised in Syracuse, NY working after school as a soda jerk at his parents' drug store, Cole Pharmacy. His father, who passed away when he was very young, was an avid train enthusiast, and passed the hobby on to Ray. He found model trains a therapeutic hobby again after his wife's death.

His wife, Carolyn, was the love of his life. Together they loved to travel, visiting Rome, cruising the Caribbean and Alaska, and traveling the country with their RV to the occasional NASCAR race. Ray's greatest joy came from sharing life with Carolyn.

He enjoyed his family more than anything, especially camping trips in upstate New York, visiting the Adirondack Mountains, the shores of Lake Ontario, and Alexandria Bay. He happily attended sports games, dance recitals, band concerts, etc. for his children and grandchildren.

He was an avid NASCAR fan, and traveled the country, attending many races and collecting memorabilia. And he loved Longhorn Football.

Following his wife's death, he met his companion and partner, Trena Havins. She made his final few years very happy, despite his illness.

He was the kindest man most have ever met, and always saw the best in everyone. He is with our Lord, and with Carolyn and Tracy, and he is at peace.

In Lieu of flowers please donation the the Leukemia and Lymphoma Cancer Society

<https://www.ils.org/>

Cemetery Details

Resurrection at Cordi - Marian Cemetery

11624 Culebra Road
San Antonio, TX 78253

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **26**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Anthony Mary Claret Catholic Church
6150 Roft Road
San Antonio, TX 78253

Holy Rosary

NOV **26**. 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Anthony Mary Claret Catholic Church
6150 Roft Road
San Antonio, TX 78253

Mass of Resurrection

NOV **26**. 12:30 PM (CT)

St. Anthony Mary Claret Catholic Church
6150 Roft Road
San Antonio, TX 78253

Tribute Wall

FB

“ I have a lot of good memories about Ray, mostly from long ago when Chris and I were attending UT.

One summer I helped the Coles put a new fence around their backyard. Mr. Cole (I don't think I ever called him 'Ray'), Chris, and I were working to get some new posts set in concrete. We had dug the old posts out so the holes were pretty big. We had the string line up to keep the poles in line, Chris had a level, and Mr. Cole was there to hold poles up and supervise. Chris and I were mixing concrete thinking we're doing a great job, working quickly. We got the first pole up, probably using two bags of concrete. Ray got to work holding the pole. Chris and I got the second and third poles in, Ray dutifully moving down the line as we got the later poles up. Then Mr. Cole, a man of few words said, "Chris..." This got our attention. Mr. Cole gave the fisheye to one of the poles we had set, it was starting to lean. This, of course, was a huge disaster - if these poles get set wrong, we've got a ton of work to do to dig out even more concrete, etc. Chris and I are running around like chickens with our heads cut off, but Mr. Cole calmly stood there, he wasn't bothered about this at all.

That was a good lesson for me that day, and hopefully it made me a better husband and father - to be patient in trying situations, there's no need to yell. Thanks, Mr. Cole. You'll be missed.

Fritz Boehm - November 24, 2024 at 10:10 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ray Barker Cole.*



November 24, 2024 at 10:00 PM



“ *Robert & Christine Pearce. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ray Barker Cole.*



Robert & Christine Pearce. - November 24, 2024 at 09:24 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ray Barker Cole.*



November 23, 2024 at 09:14 AM



“ *Kara Griffin purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Ray Barker Cole.*



Kara Griffin - November 22, 2024 at 04:13 PM