



Nelson Lee Ray

August 21, 1957 - January 9, 2026

Nelson Lee Ray, a very dedicated Christian who loved people very much, went to be with the Lord on Friday, January 9, 2026. Nelson, 68, of Hillsdale, was born on August 21, 1957, in Charlotte, Michigan, the son of Clyde and Violet (Nelson) Ray. He proudly earned two Master's Degrees, in K-12 Administration and Divinity. On August 18, 1979, Nelson married the love of his life Rochelle. He enjoyed hunting, working, and most importantly being engaged with people. Above all his family brought him the most enjoyment in life.

Nelson is survived by his wife, Rochelle; children, Adrian (Cassandra) Ray, Aimee (David) Cole, Aubrey (Lewis) Harper, and Emmillie (Jonah) Boot; 9 grandchildren; and his brother, Roger Ray. He was predeceased by his parents.

Friends are encouraged to support Nelson's family by attending services or sharing memories on his Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. Funeral services are on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 12 Noon at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte with Nelson's son, Adrian Ray officiating. A visitation will be held just prior to the service from 10:00 a.m. until noon. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Cemetery Details

Danby Cemetery

13122 Charlotte Hwy.
Sunfield, MI 48890

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 13. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W Seminary St
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral

JAN 13. 12:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W Seminary St
Charlotte, MI 48813

Burial

JAN 13. 2:30 PM (ET)

Danby Cemetery
13122 Charlotte Hwy.
Sunfield, MI 48890

Tribute Wall

LC

“ I am sorry I missed the service. We were neighbors many years ago. The Coopers, Southworths and Smiths all lived on the same block of Horatio and Shaw. However, in our younger days we weren't allowed to cross the street so Roger and Nelson were sometimes left out. Years later while passing on a Christmas tree, I met one of you who had moved into the Ray house. It brought back childhood memories. My condolences to all his family. May my old neighbor rest in peace.

Laura Cooper - January 14 at 10:09 AM

KM

“ My heart and prayers are with the Ray family. I remember lots of laughter with Nelson, a camping trip with teens that almost broke me, and ice cream around the table. He and Rochelle made adulting look good! My 21 year old self needed that.

Kelly McMeekan - January 13 at 08:24 PM

MF

“ Mat Freeman purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Nelson Lee Ray.



Mat Freeman - January 12 at 10:21 PM

MF

“ Mat Freeman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nelson Lee Ray.

Mat Freeman - January 12 at 10:21 PM

JH

“ Justin H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nelson Lee Ray.

Justin H. - January 12 at 10:53 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Nelson Lee Ray.



January 12 at 09:49 AM

CK

“ Catherine, Garret, and Kari purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Nelson Lee Ray.



Catherine, Garret, and Kari - January 11 at 07:50 PM