



Raymond L. Terrian

January 14, 1939 - January 6, 2026

Raymond L. Terrian of Mesick passed away January 6, 2026, at home surrounded by his family. He was 86.

Ray was born in Saginaw on January 14, 1939, to Thelma (Payne) Mike Billy and Alfred "Jim" (Millie) Terrian. Ray had four siblings: Joe (Gloria), Jerry, Billy, and Jeannette (Bob) Boyd; all have predeceased him.

Ray attended Saginaw High School. He married his one and only love, Sandy Sebenick at St. George's Catholic Church in Saginaw on July 26, 1958. Ray and Sandy had four children, all in Saginaw, Randy, deceased (Beth), Craig (Mary), Renee, Kevin (Kelly).

Ray worked at McDougall's gas station, Ted Burnowski Pure Oil Co., ADT, Saginaw Steering Gear Plant #6, and was a milkman in the Saginaw area. Ray also worked at Rick Ford in Hemlock where he received a certificate for Service Manager of the Year.

Upon completion of Law Enforcement Studies at Delta College, he worked with several agencies in the Saginaw area. Ray, Sandy and their youngest son, Kevin, moved to Cadillac in 1978. Ray began working as an auxiliary officer in Wexford County in 1979. He was hired full time with the Wexford County Sheriff's Department in 1981 until 1992. Even after 1992, Ray

continued as auxiliary, working snowmobile and marine patrol until the mid-90's. He also opened Ray's Auto Service on Boon Road during this time.

Ray was a devout Catholic, a member of St. Ann Catholic Church in Cadillac with Sandy. He was an avid fisherman, in all types of weather. He enjoyed camping, black bears and raising his granddaughters, Brandi Hayes and Tiffany (Hayes) Moyer. He loved music, taught himself to play the guitar and banjo. Ray enjoyed karaokeing country music with his sons, Randy and Craig as well as great-granddaughter and great-grandsons. Ray was as good on the computer and Nintendo as any youngster today. Ray also had race cars and raced several tracks, namely, Merritt Speedway.

Ray built a house outside Mesick, where they resided together for the past 30 years. The house began as a hunting cabin, a getaway; together, they made it their home.

Ray is survived by his wife, Sandy of 67 years; three children and spouses; a daughter-in-law, 14 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

In addition to Ray's parents, siblings and son, Randy he was also preceded in death by a granddaughter, Megan; mother and father-in-law, Sally (Bob) Hilts and Ken (Ruthie) Sebenick; brothers and sister -in-law, Gary Sebenick, LeRoy (Norrine) Hilts and Debbie Farrand.

Funeral services will be held 1:00 PM, Friday, January 9, 2026 at Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services in Cadillac. Deacon Kevin Hughes will be officiating. Friends may meet the family one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Cadillac Moose

Lodge #531/ Chapter #298 (7461 E 34 Road, Cadillac, Michigan 49601). An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 9. 1:00 PM (ET)

Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services
205 East Cass Street
Cadillac, MI 49601

Tribute Wall

BB

“ Uncle Ray was my Godfather and Aunt Sandy my Godmother. We kept in touch at Christmas with cards. Reading about the full life Uncle Ray lead, it sounds amazing. He lived a life full of drive, enjoyment and love with family BUT MOST importantly with GOD❤️ ... a very meaningful life. GOD BLESS

Bonnie Boyd - January 08 at 07:04 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Raymond L. Terrian.



January 08 at 11:34 AM

WE

“ With Love, Bluewater Energy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Raymond L. Terrian.

With Love, Bluewater Energy - January 08 at 11:34 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Raymond L. Terrian.



January 08 at 09:30 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Raymond L. Terrian.*



January 08 at 07:01 AM



“ *Jan G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Raymond L. Terrian.*

Jan G. - January 08 at 07:01 AM

JR

“ *My condolences to Sandy and the family.*

Ray was the best neighbor a guy could ask for.

We first met when I was a just little toddler tagging along behind my dad and him at the property, as early as I can remember.

As I would go up to the family property throughout the years, we would spend time together sharing stories and talking about the woods and the wildlife. Most of the time Ray would stop by once he knew I was there, just to say hello. He always knew how to tell a story. He had a great story voice, deep and booming. Although we only saw each other when I was at the property, I know we always considered each other really good friends.

There are so many memories with Ray and Sandy that it is hard to share one, so I am going to highlight some:

The times spent around the camp fire with Ray and Sandy petting their old dog.

The first time I could hunt alone he let me sit in his blind.

The time he took me and my dad's picture on his fence for my first turkey hunt.

The times spent telling me where to try fishing the creek.

The times spent partridge hunting on his property with my dad after he would tell us some good spots to walk.

The times he would plow for us to get back to our property so we could go snowboarding, and would never take a dime.

The times he would let me use the house phone to call home because we didn't have cell phones yet.

ALL the times were had friends up to party at the property and he would stop by just to make sure we weren't getting out of hand haha.

The times he would come over during bow and gun seasons to shoot the breeze with all the guys, hang out, and check out our deer.

The time we got to check out my new cabin together and I gave him

an honorary key.

The time I asked my wife to marry me in the creek and we walked right over to Ray and Sandy's to tell them the good news minutes after.

The time I dislocated and broke my arm and shoulder and Ray and Sandy came and got me from the hospital and brought me into their home and took care of me like family.

There are too many memories to list.

Ray was a good man, and he will be missed. May he rest in peace with God in heaven.

Joe and Megan Rogalski - January 07 at 09:53 PM

TR

“ Ray was a good man ,who loved to talk and tell tales about his life. My wife and I own the property next to his and Sandy's. We met him when they first bought thier property . He stopped by and introduced himself as we sat around our campfire.He would stop by often,and talk about Sandy,Sons,and Daughter. He was proud of his sons military service.



He loved the outdoors and fishing.

He told me about a time he was fishing the creek and a mother bear charged downhill and confronted him. He was in the middle of the creek. He was uncertain about what to do. He stood his ground and finally the bear left. He said he couldn't wait to get out of that creek.He was a funny man. We all laughed.

Over the years he would help me and my sons out in many ways. My son's took up snowboarding. Them and thier buddies would stay in the trailer. Ray always had the road plowed for them. Before cell phones they let them use thier house phone to let us know they made it OK

We will miss him alot and his laugh.

What a good man!

Rest in peace Ray

Jerome and Theresa

Theresa Rogalski - January 07 at 07:23 PM

TC

“ Sandy and family, Tony and I are so saddened to hear about Ray. We've always considered you some of the finest people are family has ever had the privilege of knowing. You're all in our prayers.

Tony and Vicky Cech - January 07 at 08:54 AM

JJ

“ I have known Ray for more than 40 years- worked with him at the Wexford County Sheriff Dept. He always had a great smile & laugh. May he rest in peace

Janet Jameson - January 06 at 09:12 PM

RW

“ My wife Liz and I are neighbors of Ray and Sandy. When we first moved to Mesick (20+ years ago) they made us feel very welcome to the area. Many times over the years Ray would stop as he was driving by and we would discuss many things from fishing, hunting, Bears in the yard and camping. I will miss these conversations with Ray, as he always had a good tale to tell.

Sandy if you need anything please feel free to reach out to Liz and I.

Rob Walker - January 06 at 08:54 PM

FH

“ Working with Ray (Wexford Co) was always enjoyable. Always a chuckle and beaming smile. We could always depend on Ray as a great deputy on the road, and working snowmobile patrol and marine patrol. During his assignment as marine patrol, he was outstanding with the boats when working with our dive team during recovery's. Ray was an asset to the department and will be greatly missed. Rest in peace RT.

Fred Harris - January 06 at 08:34 PM

SB

“ Ray was a great guy. I worked with him at the Sheriffs Dept. He always had a big smile. Very kind man. Thoughts and prayers to Sandy and his family. 🙏

Sandy Bengelink - January 06 at 07:07 PM