



Rollan Lee "Ray" Kennedy

June 10, 1928 - August 14, 2015

Rollan Lee "Ray" Kennedy passed away peacefully at his home with family by his side on August 14, 2015. He was 87 years old.

Ray was born on June 10, 1928, the son of Gertrude (Gertie) Lucia of Flint, Michigan. He was raised by his dearly loved Grandma and Granddad Decker.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Merle and his 2 bothers Jack and Pete. He is survived by his brother Jim Kennedy of Alabama. Ray's 6 children include Jim, Bob (Terry), Janet, Nancy, Mike (Cheryl), and Sue (Dave) Gruber. He was blessed with 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Ray grew up in Flint, Michigan. After graduation, at age 17 he enlisted in the US Navy and served 3 years as a Seabee (a member of the Naval Construction Forces). He later served an additional 3 years in the reserves. He married the love of his life, Merle (Woodford) Kennedy on February 5th, 1950. They shared the joys and wonders of life together for 65 years. Ray was employed at Cross Company of Fraser, Michigan for many years as a machinist. He finished his career there as a mechanical engineer after receiving his Bachelors Degree from Wayne State University and Lawrence Institute of Technology. After his retirement, Ray continued to work as a consultant/advisor and also taught several classes related to the tool and die industry. Learning was a life long goal of Ray's and he encouraged his children and grandchildren to follow in his footsteps.

Ray had a passion for woodworking and he found pleasure sharing his talents with his family during countless sessions in his workshop. He also enjoyed working in his yard and watching Tiger baseball and golf. Ray had a great sense of humor and loved to laugh. He was totally committed to his family.

The family is at peace knowing Ray is now in the arms of our Lord, Jesus Christ and that he is reunited with his bride Merle. We wish to thank Hospice of Cadillac for their outstanding support. Donations to Hospice of Cadillac are welcomed and appreciated.

A memorial to celebrate his life will be held at his home in Cadillac at 2:00 p.m. on September 19th, 2015. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

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“ Know that your extended family and friends lift you in prayer and surround with love. Always.

Boike family - September 01, 2015 at 11:31 AM