



## Sheldon L. Ray

April 11, 1932 - October 20, 2017

Sheldon L. Ray, 85, of Huntsville, TX passed away October 20, 2017. He was born in Caldwell Parish, LA on April 1, 1932 to Lometa Owens and Jack W. Ray.

After graduating from Northeast LA University in 1956 and receiving his commission, he served in the U.S. Army Infantry, both active and reserves, attaining the rank of captain. In Monroe, LA, before moving to Huntsville in 2006, Sheldon served as scoutmaster of Troop 231, was active on YMCA Board, Optimist Club, Y's Mens Club and Rotary. He served his church as Deacon, Sunday School Director, Teacher and several committees. Sheldon began his career as an insurance adjuster, then established his own casualty and property insurance agency, and retired in 1994.

Moving to Huntsville in 2006, he developed a passion for golf, and was an active member of Elkins Lake Mens Golf Association. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Huntsville.

His parents, and his brother, Malcom, preceded Sheldon in death. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Patsy R. Ray, sons: Sheldon, Jr. (Mary Beth) of Washington, D.C. and Lanny Ray of Huntsville. Grandchildren: Betsy, Alex, Zachary, Nathaniel and Samantha. Brother, Jack O. Ray (Hilda), sisters-in-law, Velma Miller, Mable Ray, all of W. Monroe, LA, and brother-in-law, Guy E.

Farley of Shreveport, LA.

A special thank you to Creekside for the tender, loving care from the CNAs and nursing staff.

The will receive friends October 28th at First Baptist Church, 10:00 a.m. prior to the Memorial Service at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to First Baptist Church, Huntsville, TX.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **28**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Huntsville  
1229 Ave J  
Huntsville, TX

## Memorial Service

OCT **28**. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Huntsville  
1229 Ave J  
Huntsville, TX

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sheldon L. Ray*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *I adopted 'Daddy Ray' as my own when my father passed away suddenly at a young age. I figured that if I couldn't become their daughter-in-law, becoming their 'daughter' would be the next best thing. Daddy Ray was there to guide me through divorces, marriages, the births of grandchildren and many other life events. His advice was always sound, but kind. He could be stern, but always with compassion. He was grounded in his faith and lived his life as an example to others. Whether near or far, I drew comfort in simply knowing he was there. I had planned to attend the funeral, but upon further consideration and upon the advice of my family, I will be unable to do so.*

*Ms. Pat, you are in my thoughts and prayers always and especially during this dark time. And Lanny, I wish I could be there to reminisce and comfort you in person; but as that is no longer a possibility, please feel the warmth of my hugs and brush of my kisses being sent to you long-distance.*

*Forever and Always,*

*Carolynn Morgan Collier*

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Carolynn Collier - October 26, 2017 at 03:43 PM

BB

“ Dear Pat,  
We were saddened when we discovered that Sheldon had passed away. He was a fine man, loved by a lot of folks. We remember many good times with the group on Amalie Drive - Sam and Puddin', Dot and Ward, and of course Glynn and Carol Ann (and others). Sheldon prepared some fine Blackened catfish one of those times at your home and we all had a great time! We think about y'all and do miss those years. We wish you the very best!

*Bill and Marsha Bourn*

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**Bill and Marsha Bourn** - October 25, 2017 at 08:53 PM

BK

“ Pat, Sheldon and Lanny,

*I just read in the Monroe paper that “Red” had passed. I recalled many happy memories of the times we shared. Old Scout Troop 231 and all the our camp outs and hikes (with full packs!), our many fishing trips and our sons attaining Eagle Scouts. I remember the big red head I first met on a bus going to Fort Hood for basic training. I called my son, Bill, and you should hear from him. God bless you all!*

*Bob Kostelka*

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**Bob Kostelka** - October 25, 2017 at 03:19 PM

CH

“ Good man. Good memories. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.

*Grace and peace,*

*Craig Henry*

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**Craig Henry** - October 25, 2017 at 01:37 PM

MH

“ My prayers to the family of Sheldon Ray that our Lord give you comfort during this time.

*M. Hyvl*



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**M. Hyvl** - October 25, 2017 at 12:51 PM

BK

“ Mrs. Pat, I am sorry to learn of my former Scoutmaster's passing. He was a true inspiration to me in my life and was proud to call you all my friends. Loved my times in Scouting with Lanny and Sheldon, Jr. and had my son earn his Eagle Scout badge during my tenure as a Scoutmaster.

*He was a great ping pong player and had a stomach as hard as iron (you scouts will remember).*

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**Bill Kostelka** - October 25, 2017 at 12:10 PM

EC

“ Patsy: I want to express my sincere condolences to you and your family in the death of Sheldon. He was a great man, for sure. Sorry I can't be at the funeral. You will be in my prayers and thoughts.  
*Elaine Chapman*

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**Elaine Chapman** - October 25, 2017 at 08:55 AM

SB

“ Mrs. Pat Ray many great memories from First Baptist Church Monroe, Louisiana! I am so sorry for your loss. Your husband made me laugh a lot. Much love to you and your family. Prayers for you and the rest of your family. *Susan Passman Biggers*

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**Susan Biggers** - October 24, 2017 at 10:24 PM

BH

“ *Big Shelodon was one of my second Dads. And husband to a great Lady and father of my friend.  
Also a great fisherman. When he took me with him we weren't fishing, we were catching.  
A good man.  
He made a difference in my life.*

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**Bryan Horton** - October 24, 2017 at 09:00 PM

ND

“ *Miss Pat, I am so sorry about Sheldon. I think about all so often.  
Know you are in my prayers.  
Nancy Davis*

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**nancy davis** - October 24, 2017 at 08:50 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Sheldon L. Ray.*



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October 24, 2017 at 06:50 PM

LF

“ Not only was he my last surviving uncle, this gentleman was my most dashing uncle. Uncle Sheldon was most intriguing, being a golfer and avid fisherman, as well as a head full of red hair. And one joke after another. Plus he was a military man, which was impressive and admirable. Next thing I know he was making and selling frozen pie shells...big time businessman. Impressive, but the most impressive thing was that he had somehow won the hand of our beautiful Aunt Patsy! Wow...a salesman he was indeed.

Uncle Sheldon was certainly a good role model for a lad twelve years junior. And he took the time to take me camping and fishing several times, and I learned more than a few things about life from him. He was good at catching and frying fish. Had his own recipe and knack. A friend of all that knew him, God-fearing, family-oriented, and a true American. Another tall timber tree has fallen, and the woods have thinned substantially.

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Ladell Farley - October 24, 2017 at 05:56 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Sheldon L. Ray.



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October 24, 2017 at 04:10 PM

SJ

“ I grew up across the street from the Ray's on Amalie Drive in Monroe and those were the best times of my life. He was my scoutmaster in Troop 231 and we had some great times camping and turning over canoes. LOL We also started the famous Christmas Card Lane on Amalie Drive in the 70s and you could not even get out of our driveways for the traffic. Mr Ray was an avid fisherman, and we always looked forward to the neighborhood cookouts he would provide quite often in his backyard. That was some good eating and good times. Those kind of days are gone forever, but the memories will last. I miss the good visits we would have before they moved on to Texas. So glad to have known him and the Ray family. May he rest in peace, and condolences to the whole Ray Family... Skip Portman Jr and the Portman Family

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**Skip Portman Jr** - October 24, 2017 at 03:46 PM

KR

“ Uncle Sheldon was one of the first of the Ray clan I met while dating Kerry. Aunt Pat was always so sweet, kind and a gentle woman. Well Uncle Sheldon ALWAYS had that sneaky eye, and a smile that spoke volumes even though he didn't say a word. I knew from the beginning he would be the one for me to watch out for and oh how right I was. Always joking, laughing and giving hugs. I am thankful for the times we were able to share, and for the sweet fun memories I have of him and Aunt Pat. Much love and hugs being sent to you and the entire family during this difficult time. Kerry and Kathy Ray (Malcolm Ray's son and daughter in love)

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**Kathy Ray** - October 24, 2017 at 02:13 PM

BT

“ Pat, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers at this time. May you find comfort in your memories, and peace knowing Sheldon is resting in the arms of our loving Lord. He was a fine Christian man. Pat, you are a special friend from our days in Monroe. God bless you..... Bev Tolar, Hot Springs Village, AR

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**Bev Tolar** - October 24, 2017 at 01:38 PM



Malcolm Jones

“ Sheldon Ray was my scoutmaster at Troop 231. There were many great and fond memories I will hold dear from those days. He will be missed.

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**Malcolm Jones** - October 24, 2017 at 08:43 AM

TA

“ I knew Sheldon all of my life. He was good friends with my Parents Marian & George Slavent. I went to school with Sheldon Jr .. great memories

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**tieise Ardito** - October 24, 2017 at 01:53 AM

TB

“ Red was a great man. Patsy Sheldon and lanny y'all are in our prayers  
Tom Brown

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**tom brown** - October 23, 2017 at 11:08 PM

WW

“ Many many many great times had when "Red" Ray was our Boy Scout leader ...troop 231. He and my Dad, Bill Wilson were hilarious cutting up on campouts. My sincere thoughts and prayers go out to Sheldon Jr, Lanny and Miss Patsy ! Love to ya'll... Sheldon Sr. will be missed ....

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**William Wilson** - October 23, 2017 at 08:30 PM

JB

“ I am deeply sorrowed by this news. Sheldon was more than just my scout leader but was also my insurance agent and a wonderful and trusted friend. Many times I would stop by his office or house and just shoot the breeze with him and his wife. We always had some great laughs and shared many a memory of our “glory days” in the scouts. Thank you, Mr. Ray for always caring and being a great leader and example

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**James Back** - October 23, 2017 at 08:26 PM

JT

“ I have so many happy memories that include the Rays! Mrs. Pat, Sheldon Jr., Lanny and families, know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Jo Anne Tiller** - October 23, 2017 at 08:20 PM

DE

“ Sheldon was a man who loved his family and our Lord. He will be missed by many. My love and prayers are with Pat and her family.

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**Delta English** - October 23, 2017 at 10:06 AM