



## Charlie Oliver Ray

August 29, 1928 - July 1, 2013

Charles Oliver “Charlie” Ray, 84, of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, passed away in to the arms of his Savior, July 1, 2013, at Siloam Springs Regional Hospital. Born August 29, 1928, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, he was the son of George Edwin Ray and Laura Louise Schneider Ray. He was a peacetime Army Veteran serving in Augsburg, Germany. On July 4, 1953, he married Anita Barney. Charlie raised broiler for Peterson Industries, and drove a bus for the Siloam Springs Public Schools. He was a member of First Baptist Church, Siloam Springs.

Survivors include his wife Anita of the home; two sons, Ted Ray and wife Jamie and Terry Ray, both of Siloam Springs; two daughters, Brenda Sartell and husband Kevin of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Joey Thurman and husband Darrell of Siloam Spring, 11 grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; and one sister, Carolyn Miller of Edmond, Oklahoma.

Memorial services will be 2:00 p.m., Monday, July 8, 2013, at Wasson Memorial Chapel, Siloam Springs, with Pastor Tim Estes and Steve Avery officiating.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home

441 U.S. 412

Siloam Springs, AR 72761

(479) 524-5131

[wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com](mailto:wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com)

<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

NC

“ Crazy I’m here thinking of Charlie in 2026. He was my bus driver and he made an announcement in the bus that if anyone got straight A’s on their report cards, he would give them 5 dollars. Back then you could spend a 5 like you would a 20 nowadays. I really wanted a pair of boots I saw at Walmart so I when I got a B in 4th grade I cried so hard bc I knew my family couldn’t afford them. I got on the bus that day holding back the tears with my report card in my hand, he wanted to see, I think he knew looking back why I was sad. My B grade was an 89, he saw how disappointed I was and snuck me a ten dollar bill when the other kids weren’t watching and said, “you’re gonna bring that up next semester” and I did. I never forgot his generosity and compassion and I eventually got more Bs in school but every time I did I thought of Charlie and how he inspired my success and it made me strive for prosperity . He literally changed my world view that day. I will never forget Charlie.

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Nicole Crawford - May 22 at 01:43 AM

HT

“ Hi Papa, Your family misses you very much! Its almost been a year, But its not getting better! I want you to come back but I don't understand why you never do! In the picture of you in the stripes at the top, I was in it with you, They just cropped me out! Aunt Elaine passed away 3 days ago! 1-6-14! I'm loosing everyone! Please talk to me somehow, I need it! I love you so much! Jesus is taking care of you I know! But I need someone down her for when I get bullied or something bad happens because you was always there! I know you are watching over all of us! I can picture you calling me "Hailey Baby"! Thank you for giving me the best 9 years of my life! I love you!

Your Granddaughter,  
Hailey

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Hailey Thurman - February 09, 2014 at 07:31 PM

TR

“ Hey dad I just want you to know you are so very missed!!! You told me about a week before you passed, "DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME JUST TAKE CARE OF YOUR MOTHER" Your request has been filled by Terry---Brenda---Joey---and me. You have a lot of family and friends that love you. Your oldest son Ted

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Ted C Ray - October 02, 2013 at 10:27 AM

HA

“ Hailey lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray



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Hailey - September 28, 2013 at 01:20 PM

SH

“ Anita - I am just now hearing of Charlie's passing. I loved him so. He was my first bus driver, and I can remember falling asleep in your lap on the way home! I pray that you will receive the comfort and peace you need during this difficult time. Love you all. Shannae (Riley) Rippey

Shannae - August 20, 2013 at 11:00 AM

LR

“ Liz (Scism) Reading lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray



Liz (Scism) Reading - July 09, 2013 at 01:36 PM

AS

“ Anita, we were so saddened to hear of Charlie's passing. He always had a smile every time we saw him. He will be missed by so many! Charlie and Ann Smythe

Ann Smythe - July 09, 2013 at 08:33 AM

TE

“ Joey, Ted, you are all in my thoughts & prayers. Know what kind of people you two are, your father must have been a great man. Best wishes to all of you.

Terri - July 08, 2013 at 10:06 AM

TH

“ *Terri & Tim Harrison lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray*



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**Terri & Tim Harrison** - July 08, 2013 at 10:02 AM

DF

“ *Dusty Fountain lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray*



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**Dusty Fountain** - July 08, 2013 at 09:46 AM

TE

“ *Dear Family,*

*Just a note to let you know you are in my thoughts and prayers. Charlie was well respected by all who knew him. His legacy of taking excellent care of thousands of students will be long remembered. He was the quintessential bus driver! I pray God will surround you with His strength as you move forward. Know that Trish and I are here for you if we can be of help in any way. Blessings to your entire family.*

*Sincerely,*

*Tim Estes*

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**Tim Estes** - July 08, 2013 at 09:26 AM

NH

“ Anita, Ted, Terry, Brenda and Joey: I am saddened to hear the loss of Charlie. He was my bus driver throughout all of my school years. Had many good memories of those days. May God give you strength and comfort during this very difficult time.

Nancy Hebert - July 07, 2013 at 10:12 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Charlie Oliver Ray.



July 05, 2013 at 12:16 PM

BS

“ Bill And Donna Selvidge lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray



Bill and Donna Selvidge - July 05, 2013 at 11:47 AM

CB

“ Cheryl Burns lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray



Cheryl Burns - July 04, 2013 at 06:45 AM

JF

“ *Jan Farmer-Russell lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray*



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**Jan Farmer-Russell** - July 03, 2013 at 10:48 PM

KT

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Kenny Thurman** - July 03, 2013 at 12:40 PM

BS

*The only person I know that retires from a job only to go back and retire a second time. You are the greatest Daddy I could have asked for. Love and miss you!!!! Your oldest daughter Brenda.*

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**Brenda Sartell** - October 10, 2013 at 05:58 PM

PC

“ *PJ And Rianna Cooper lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray*



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**PJ and Rianna Cooper** - July 03, 2013 at 12:39 PM

KD

“ Anita, Teddy, Terry, Brenda and Joey: I was so sad to hear that Charlie passed away. I have many memories of us all growing up next door to each other. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Karen Davis - July 03, 2013 at 12:33 PM

PS

“ PAULA STILL lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray



PAULA STILL - July 03, 2013 at 12:23 PM

DC

“ Joey and family, so very sorry. You are in my prayers. Danette Cripps

Danette Cripps - July 03, 2013 at 11:45 AM

JD

“ Jo Lynn Dixon-Roberts



Jo Lynn Dixon-Roberts - July 03, 2013 at 11:12 AM

LG

“ LISA GALLOWAY lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray



LISA GALLOWAY - July 03, 2013 at 09:52 AM

KT

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Kenny Thurman - July 03, 2013 at 09:18 AM

BS

*That's my Daddy. Love and miss you.*

Brenda Sartell - October 10, 2013 at 06:01 PM

TM

“ Teresa Mason Martin lit a candle in memory of Charlie Oliver Ray



Teresa Mason Martin - July 03, 2013 at 05:40 AM

TM

*Anita, Ted, Terry, Brenda & Joey: Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.... Roy Mason, Darla Mason Scott & Teresa Mason Martin....*

Teresa Mason Martin - July 03, 2013 at 05:42 AM

TM

*Charlie was the first bus driver I remember having. He was always such a kind person. As I grew up I would see Charlie around town and he would always stop to talk to me. He is going to be missed by many. I pray God give you strength and comfort as you all face this difficult time and start a new chapter in life!*

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**Tonya Roberts Myrick** - July 03, 2013 at 09:48 PM

RV

*Charlie was the 'real-deal' when it came to a friend. ALWAYS had a smile and most times had a story to go along with it. A good father and gentleman farmer! He Will Be Missed.*

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**Randy Vohs** - July 08, 2013 at 07:00 AM