

## Mr. Raymond "Ray" Murray, Jr.

April 3, 1950 - April 25, 2024

Mr. Raymond "Ray" Murray, Jr. (74) of Pittsfield passed away peacefully at his home on April 25, 2024, with his family lovingly by his side. Born in Pittsfield, MA on April 3rd, 1950, son of the late Raymond and Marian Lynch Murray. He graduated from St. Joseph's High School in 1968 and later attended Bentley College and served as an Army Reservist.

For the majority of his career, Ray was employed by the former Sheaffer-Eaton Company in Pittsfield, MA and Crane & Company in Dalton, MA. It was at Crane & Company where he dedicated his last 30 years of employment before retiring in 2019.

Ray was known for his kind heart, selflessness, and wonderful sense of humor. He always had entertaining stories and amazing memories to share which filled the room with laughter. He impacted the lives of many by coaching his children's teams and being a trusted adult for the countless teens who spent time at the Murray home.

Among many things, Ray had a lifelong passion for horse racing. As a long-time owner, handicapper, and fan, he enjoyed sharing his love for the sport with family and friends. Later in life, he was dedicated to cheering on his grandchildren at their youth, high school, and college games. He enjoyed traveling and looked forward to annual Cape Cod vacations. He also enjoyed

following the Boston sports teams and Duke Basketball. He played the violin during his childhood and rekindled this hobby in more recent years.

Raymond is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, the former Donna Venturini, whom he married on September 22, 1973. He leaves behind two children, Jeffrey Murray (wife Joan Murray) and Erin Murray Gaiero (husband David Gaiero), five grandchildren, Brandon Murray, Sierra Murray, Jacob Gaiero, Owen Gaiero, and Mason Gaiero, two brothers, Michael Murray (wife Joanne Galvagni Murray) and Edward Murray (wife Maureen Ryan Murray), Sister-in-laws, Diane Venturini Manns (husband Francis Manns) and Susan Venturini Kelly (husband Timothy Kelly), fourteen nieces and nephews and their growing families. He also leaves behind his close friends Joseph and Sandra Ramsey who were like family to him.

#### Funeral Notice:

Calling hours for Ray will be Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 4pm to 7pm at the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201. Funeral services will be Friday, May 3, 2024, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 11am at St. Charles Church, celebrated by the Rev. Christopher Malatesta, Pastor of St. Agnes.

In support of Ray's passion for horse racing and the many benefits his grandchildren and other children receive through youth sports, in lieu of flowers, donations in Ray's memory can be made to the Retired Thoroughbred Foundation or the Ashland Clocker Club in care of Dwyer Funeral Home.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 2. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

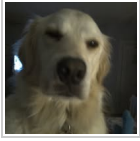
Dwyer Family Funeral Home  
776 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
(413) 442-5094  
info@dwyerfuneral.com  
<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

## Service

MAY 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Charles Church  
89 Briggs Ave.  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
<http://stcharlespittsfield.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Ray was my softball coach and such a great guy. Many good memories with the whole family at the games. RIP my friend.  
Marilyn Lonabocker

Marilyn Lonabocker - May 02, 2024 at 03:03 PM

DH

“ Donna, Erin and Family,  
So very sorry to read of Ray's passing. My deepest sympathies to you and your entire family.  
Dave Hinkell Class of '68 SJHS

DAVID E HIINKELL - April 30, 2024 at 12:25 PM

TM

“ Tom and Sue Murray purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mr. Raymond "Ray" Murray, Jr..



Tom and Sue Murray - April 30, 2024 at 08:04 AM

TM

“ Tom and Sue Murray planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Raymond "Ray" Murray, Jr..

Tom and Sue Murray - April 30, 2024 at 08:04 AM

TF

“ The Moore Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Raymond "Ray" Murray, Jr..

The Moore Family - April 29, 2024 at 10:57 PM

TF

“ The Moore Family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Mr. Raymond "Ray" Murray, Jr..



The Moore Family - April 29, 2024 at 10:57 PM

MP

“ There were no better times during my years at Crane&Co than the years I worked with Ray. We worked a few years on second shift at Stationery. Then we moved to day shift. The best of times on second shift were filled with hard work but most of all with fun and laughter. Ray was the best supervisor I ever had. We would do anything for him. This world is definitely a little less bright with-out this wonderful guy! I'll never hear the Secret Garden mix by Springsteen from The movie Jerry McGuire without thinking of you my friend. He knew we loved that song and he would come running when it was on the radio to make sure we didn't miss it. Rest easy now my friend! You were one of the best!!

Mary Ellen Palmer - April 29, 2024 at 08:18 PM

GM

“ So very sorry, ray was a great guy, never a bad word. Condolences to the entire family. 🥹🥹❤️❤️❤️🌹

greg mosca - April 29, 2024 at 07:24 PM

RL

“ *Sending our prayers and love to the Gaiero/Murray family. May you find comfort in and always cherish the memories that keep Ray alive in your hearts.* ”

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**Rob Lopez** - April 29, 2024 at 03:58 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Mr. Raymond "Ray" Murray, Jr..* ”



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April 29, 2024 at 02:57 PM