



Mr. Rayfield Ruffin

March 23, 1952 - December 31, 2025

Rayfield Ruffin, affectionately known as “Ray” was born March 23, 1952 to the late Rudolph Ruffin and Frances Smith. On March 14, 1977, he was joined in holy matrimony to Frances Knight and transitioned from his earthly home to his eternal home with his beloved wife on December 31, 2025.

Ray graduated from East End High School in 1970. In 1973 he joined the United States Army. Ray was a sergeant during his time in the army. Joining the military came with much sacrifice as well as many rewards. Ray, his wife and children had the opportunity to do a lot of traveling from Ft. Hood, Texas to Ft. Lewis, Washington to Germany to Fort Dix, New Jersey to Ft. Benning, Georgia. Rayfield was Honorably discharged from the Army in 1987.

Ray worked in transportation driving long distance trucks after leaving the military. When moving back to Martin County he became a mechanic at Perdue and later the head mechanic at Collins and Aikman. He left Collins and Aikman in 2007. Later in life he went back to driving dump trucks and 18 wheelers for various companies.

Ray furthered his education by obtaining his Associate Degree in Electrician in 2010 from Pitt Community College.

Rayfield started his own lawn care service called Ruffin’s Grass and of course

his wife worked right by his side.

Ray was a hardworking man, he couldn't stop working because his wife always wanted "stuff", he made sure he got everything her heart desired.

Ray was the jack of all trades, if he didn't know how to do it he would find someone that did. Ray loved working on his lawn mowers, cars and things around the house. In his leisure time he loved playing cookie jam on his phone, shooting pool, fishing and most of all grilling.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents, Rudolph Ruffin and Frances Smith; grandchildren, Zy'Torious Ruffin, Tiair Wooten and great grandchildren, Karter Rosenboro, A'Raeya Boyd, Jeanniy Wooten; brother, Adolph Ruffin.

Ray leaves to cherish her memory her five daughters, Trivia Pierce (Micheal), Tomecker Jones (Bobby), Duchess Chance (Tyrone), Jawanda Ruffin (Douglas), Sha'Inga Cherry (Walter); one son, Edon Rodgers (Adrienne); his sister, Joy Smith of Greenville, NC; brother, Johnny Smith of New York; four sisters- in- law, Teresa Knight of Robersonville, NC, Helen Guy (Don) of Jacksonville, NC, Thelia Brown (Don) and Ida Rollins of New Jersey; five brothers in law, Future Knight of Greenville, NC, Phillip Knight (Cynitha) and Gerald Knight of Robersonville, NC, Bobby Knight (Priscilla) and Earnest Rollins of New Jersey; a special aunt, Jean Morning; twenty-nine grandchildren, Martinez, Carnesia, Jacoby, Nijewel, Jaidyen, Jhayna, DeNautica, Ne'Adiquade, Niasia, Nehemiah, Neshyah, London, Bobby III, Du'Zuan, Aalyiah, Imani, Ta'Essence, I'Zayzuwon, Mi-Kyi, Ta-Zion, Infinity (Arshaun), Gyan, Jazmine, Isaiah, Allanah, Walter Jr., Ta'Lyiah and Dy'Terrion; twenty-one great grandchildren, Khalijah, Jacint, Gionni, Zuri, Nylah, Amiyah, Kolton, Khloe, Khyla, Don'Tayvion, Jamaría, Aubrey, Yashlynn, Akari, Aiden, Massiah, Ta'Zion, Braylen, Nolan, Elania and Aveonna; a host of other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Homestead Memorial Gardens

4251 E. 10th Street
Greenville, NC 27858

Previous Events

Viewing/Visitation

JAN 16. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church
1001 Hooker Road
Greenville, NC 27834

Celebration of Life Service

JAN 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church
1001 Hooker Road
Greenville, NC 27834

Tribute Wall

DL

“ *Donny Lynch lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Donny Lynch - January 17 at 11:30 AM

TF

“ *The Chapman Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



The Chapman Family - January 16 at 10:51 PM

JW

“ *James Russell & Karen Wallace lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



James Russell & Karen Wallace - January 16 at 02:50 PM

LK

“ *Uncle love u !*



Lovely Knight - January 16 at 09:51 AM

PB

“ Pamela Joseph Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Pamela Joseph Brown - January 15 at 11:38 PM

RB

“ Rep. Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Rep. Brown - January 15 at 01:52 PM

BP

“ Betty Privott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Betty privott - January 14 at 11:47 AM

BW

“ Ben Wooten lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Ben Wooten - January 13 at 11:44 PM

SH

“ *Shelby Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Shelby Hopkins - January 13 at 11:01 AM

LW

My condolences to you and your family 🙏🙏🙏

Linda W.Dickens - January 16 at 09:47 PM

MH

“ *Mona Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Mona Harris - January 13 at 07:02 AM

EM

“ *Ellen Moyer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Ellen Moyer - January 12 at 10:35 PM

GO

“ *My condolences to the family. Rayfield we first met in Robersonville along time ago. We always ran into each other different stores, we would pull up at the same time. You would always greet me with a smile. I last saw you at Family dollars. You had the smile. I will always remember that big smile of yours. Take your rest Ray.*



Gwen Outlaw - January 12 at 04:29 PM

LC

“ *Linda B. Chapman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Linda B. Chapman - January 12 at 03:42 PM

DS

“ *Ray was a really nice man, with a good sense of humor, he was a great dad, who was loved so much by his family, he will be missed*



Dawn Sullivan - January 12 at 02:50 PM

BG

“ *Continued prayers for the family during this difficult time .*



Belinda Givens - January 12 at 01:40 PM

MC

“ *Melissa Cannon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Melissa Cannon - January 12 at 01:33 PM

SE

“ *Sondra Early sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Sondra Early - January 12 at 10:44 AM

GB

“ *Gloristine Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Gloristine Brown - January 11 at 09:39 PM



“ *Joyce Purvis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Joyce Purvis - January 11 at 04:18 PM

EF

“ Heartfelt Sympathy..so sorry



Evangelist V S Moore & Family - January 10 at 09:33 PM

JN

“ JEROME & GLORISTEEN NICHOLSON sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



JEROME & GLORISTEEN NICHOLSON - January 09 at 07:09 PM

LD

“ Lisa Duggins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Lisa duggins - January 09 at 05:41 PM

CS

“ Connie Speller lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



connie speller - January 09 at 04:00 PM

MC

“ *May your soul rest In Paradise. Collins & Aikman.*



Monique Rush Carmon - January 09 at 01:16 PM

GE

“ *RIP FAMILY* 🙏🌹



Gigi Ebron - January 09 at 11:04 AM

JP

“ *My deepest condolences to the Ruffin family.*



Juanita Purvis-Brown - January 08 at 09:45 PM

FL

“ *Freddie Lynch lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Freddie Lynch - January 08 at 07:24 PM

OK

“ Odessa Keel-Pugh lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Odessa Keel-Pugh - January 08 at 08:07 AM

JA

“ Judy Andrews lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



judy Andrews - January 06 at 11:28 PM

MH

“ Mona Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Mona Harris - January 06 at 06:53 PM



“ Sending my deepest condolences to the family



Annette Goddard - January 06 at 03:27 PM

BP

“ *Brenda Purvis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Brenda Purvis - January 06 at 01:23 PM

PM

“ *Patricia McNeil Modica sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Patricia McNeil Modica - January 06 at 12:59 PM

KP

“ *Kay Peele lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Kay Peele - January 06 at 11:23 AM

CW

“ *Telephone buddy and cuz mine Favorite cuz in law Ray*



Cuz Ruby wooten - January 06 at 08:40 AM

CW

“ Cuz Ruby Wooten lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Cuz Ruby wooten - January 06 at 08:32 AM

CW

“ Cuz Ruby Wooten lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Cuz Ruby wooten - January 06 at 08:31 AM

MH

“ Mona Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Mona Harris - January 06 at 07:32 AM

BW

“ Ben Wooten lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Ben Wooten - January 06 at 01:00 AM

DS

“ My prayers are with you at this time of bereavement. 🙏🕊️😊🕯️



Donte Crowell, Sr. - January 05 at 11:21 PM

CS

“ Cecily Sene lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Cecily Sene - January 05 at 09:32 PM

PM

“ Patricia McNeil Modica sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Patricia McNeil Modica - January 05 at 09:29 PM

HD

“ Hazel Brown Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Hazel Brown Davis - January 05 at 07:07 PM

JL

“ James Lyons lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



James Lyons - January 05 at 06:21 PM



“ Annette James lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Annette James - January 05 at 03:47 PM

AC

“ Sending my deepest condolences to the family & friends.



ALONA CHANCE - January 05 at 02:11 PM

DM

“ Darlene Morning lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Darlene Morning - January 05 at 01:00 PM

CP

“ Christina Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Christina Phillips - January 05 at 12:03 PM

JC

“ Prayers and condolences go out to the Ruffin family 🙏



Johnny & Bernadette Chance - January 05 at 11:34 AM

EH

“ My Deepest Sympathy Are With The Family 🙏



Evangelist Gwen Hudson - January 05 at 09:46 AM

JH

“ Jaunese Hines lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin



Jaunese Hines - January 04 at 07:42 PM

RE

“ *Regina Edwards lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rayfield Ruffin*



Regina Edwards - January 04 at 03:50 PM

CS

“ *Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolences on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.*



Congleton Funeral Home and Staff - January 04 at 02:04 PM