



Ray Bontrager

March 13, 1937 - November 11, 2017

Ray Bontrager, 80, of Sarasota, FL passed away November 11, 2017. Born in Hartville, OH, to the late Levi and Elva Miller Bontrager, he is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mary, sons Mike (Gaye), Merle, Daryl and Richard; grandchildren Rich (Danielle), Tim and Summer; great grandchildren, Saradi and Colt.

Ray retired from Paver Development in 1999 as the vice president for Kensington Park Utilities where he worked for 40 years. He was an avid stock car driver, racing on local and regional tracks where he was a fan favorite. Ray also enjoyed deer hunting, riding on his 4-wheeler, and spending time with his dog Lucky.

For many years, he and Mary traveled extensively in their RV and spent summers in their home in North Carolina. Ray loved the mountains, and couldn't wait to return each spring to a place he cherished deeply.

His favorite saying, while in North Carolina, was "God knows I love this place."

Visitation will be held at Ashton Community Fellowship, 2895 Ashton Road, Sarasota, FL from 9 to 10am, with the memorial service to immediately follow, from 10 to 11am, on Tuesday November 14, 2017.

Memorial contributions may be made to Heartland Ministries, 6417 Shelby CR 150, Suite A, Bethel, MO 63434, or www.heartland-ministries.org.

Tribute Wall

FS

“ *My heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to Ray's family. Always enjoyed watching him race at Golden Gate along with so many other great drivers.*

Frank Swartwood - November 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ *Our deepest sympathy and condolences to all the family*

Richard and Dawn Chapman - November 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HJ

“ *Always enjoyed watching Ray race at Golden Gate and Sunshine Speedways. Condolences to his entire family. Loved seeing the #12 Racing for Jesus Chevy in the field. Tough competitor every week. Thanks for the memories*

Harry Jett - November 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ *We were so sorry to hear of Ray's passing. Like Billy Gill we use to cheer for both of them. The Harvey family in Sarasota use to know the very young Ray.*

Patricia & Jerry Harvey - November 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ *My grandfather and I attended the stock car races at Sunshine Speedway, Golden Gate Speedway and other Florida suncoast tracks throughout the 1970's. Mr. Bontrager was one of the top drivers, and one of our favorites. Thanks for the memories!*

James King - November 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM