

## Mr. Ray Hartenstein

March 11, 1934 - March 4, 2022

Mr. Ray Hartenstein, 87, of Laneville, passed away March 4, 2022, at UT Health in Tyler. He was born March 11, 1934 in Belleville, Illinois to Erwin K. and Viola (Huling) Hartenstein. Ray served his country in the United States Navy. He had a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland. Ray was an Aerospace Engineer for NASA for 30 years. He was a member of The Kiwanis Club of Henderson where he loved delivering books to children as well as reading those books to them. The Little One's Literacy Program held a special place in his heart. Ray also enjoyed growing trees on his tree farm and was a Master Tree Farmer through the Texas Forestry Service. He was a member of First Methodist Church of Nacogdoches and enjoyed singing in the Praise Band at church. He helped build houses for Habitat for Humanity all over the country and also volunteered for mission trips with the Baptist Men and Volunteer Christian Builders organizations. Ray performed in many musicals and dramas while in Maryland with the NASA Music and Drama Club. He enjoyed running long distance races. He ran in 23 marathons, which included four consecutive Boston Marathons, 5k and 10k races.

He was preceded in death by his father, Erwin K. Hartenstein; mother, Viola (Huling) Hartenstein-Janney; brother, Douglas Hartenstein; sister, Viola "Rusty" Clements; and step-grandson, Connor Adams.

Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Judy Hartenstein; sons, Larry Hartenstein, Phil Hartenstein, Chris Hartenstein, J.D. Hartenstein and wife Lena; daughter, Lynn Carter and husband Bob; step-son, Scott Adams; sister, Helen Laws-Wilson; brother, David Hartenstein; seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and a host of nieces, nephews, other family, and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Little Ones Literacy Program, P.O. Box 1206 Henderson, Texas, 75653 and to the Foundation for Peripheral Neuropathy, 485 E Half Day Rd Ste 350, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-8808

A memorial visitation for Ray will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Saturday, April 9, 2022, at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at [www.crawfordacrim.com](http://www.crawfordacrim.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

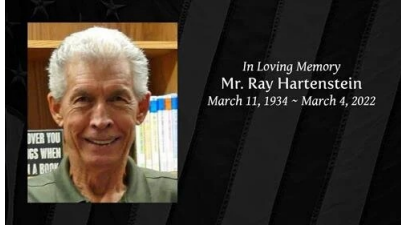
APR 9. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 S. Main St  
Henderson, TX 75654

# Tribute Wall



“ *Crawford A.Crim Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Ray Hartenstein*



Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home - April 05, 2022 at 05:42 PM

JO

“ *I had the pleasure of sharing the stage with Ray in Music and Drama (MAD) at Goddard 2 or 3 times, most notably 1983's Fall Dinner Theater show, "Anything Goes".*  
*Ray was funny, charming, down-to-earth, and so humble. He was always cutting up and cracking me up. And what a winning smile. I have thought of him many times over these years. Though I'm sad to see him pass, I am glad to see he had a long and full life.*

Jerry Olson - June 05, 2022 at 12:07 AM



“ *Paula Sweeney lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ray Hartenstein*



Paula Sweeney - April 06, 2022 at 07:35 AM

KH

“ *Ray,*  
*I miss you. I'll never forget the time you, Kenny and I went running. The family reunion you helped organize in Edwardsville. The encouragement you gave me as a kid to consider a diving scholarship to college. And, how much you look like me and my Dad. The genes are strong! I hope and know you are where you want to be for you led a good life. I hope to see you again some day to share a similar smile and twinkle in the eye together. Love you uncle Ray forever and ever and always. Your niece, Kristie (Hartenstein) Hess*

kristie hess - April 04, 2022 at 07:23 PM

SH

“ Sue Henderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ray Hartenstein



Sue Henderson - April 04, 2022 at 11:32 AM

AB

“ Ray was an intelligent and caring man, and I truly enjoyed our conversations. Judy, I'm so very sorry for your loss, and I hope that your faith, your family and friends, and your wonderful memories of time spent together will help you through this time. Love you very much, and we are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.

Audrey Bullock - March 12, 2022 at 01:37 PM

WS

“ Ray and I shared many roles in the Music and Drama (MAD) at the Goddard Space Flight Center including “Lancelot, Aristide in Can Can and a number of lesser roles). I am saddened by his passing. I will cherish my memories of Ray and our good times together.  
Bill Struthers

William Struthers - March 11, 2022 at 08:26 AM

JA

“ Judy, I am so sorry for loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and family. Ray was a blessing to everyone he met. He was good and kind to Scott's Memaw and Pop-pop. They loved you both. I am sure they were part of the welcoming party for Ray when he entered Heaven door.

Joyce Adams - March 10, 2022 at 10:54 PM

BR

“ We had the pleasure of meeting and getting to know Ray on a skiing trip to Mount Sutton in 1983. He was a fellow runner at the time and we shared a lot of stories. He was a great guy and we will miss him dearly.

Bob & Jean Rosenberg

Bob & Jean Rosenberg - March 10, 2022 at 06:57 PM



“ *What a great man!!  
He brought books to our students at Wylie Primary!  
I always enjoyed our visits.*

Deana Griffith - March 10, 2022 at 06:12 PM

SB

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Keith and I enjoyed our friendship with you and Ray. We often thought of you and the fish pond and the view.*

Sue and Keith Brooks - March 10, 2022 at 07:58 AM

TJ

“ *Judy, we are truly heartbroken for you and all who knew and loved Ray. What a profound loss for the family and the community. He was a shining example of what it means to use our gifts to serve God and others. We are sending all our love to you from MD, cousin, and pray that your faith, friends, family, and many happy memories will bring you peace and comfort. We are here for whatever you need. Love you! David & Theresa XOXO*

Theresa Johnson - March 09, 2022 at 09:08 PM



“ *The kids were always excited to see Mr. “H”. They loved his stories and enjoyed his humorous one liners. “Happy trails to you until we meet again!” Mt Enterprise Kindergarten Class*

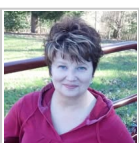
Wyndi Vaught - March 09, 2022 at 08:42 PM

GT

“ *Ray is singing in heaven!! He had such a beautiful voice!  
Will miss seeing him*



Gail Thomas - March 09, 2022 at 03:24 PM



“ *Becky Hammett Rountree lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ray Hartenstein*



Becky Hammett Rountree - March 09, 2022 at 09:44 AM

BH

“ *Barbara & Joel Hale sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Ray Hartenstein*



Barbara & Joel Hale - March 09, 2022 at 08:55 AM

BB

“ *Truly an exemplary life. Judy, my heartfelt sympathy. Prayers for V Gods comfort.*

Barbara Brooks - March 08, 2022 at 09:31 PM



“ *Judy I am so very sorry for your loss. Ray was such a force to be reckoned with and did much good for his community. He will be missed.*  
*Mart and Cathy Hooper*

Cathy Hooper - March 08, 2022 at 07:24 PM

HB

“ *Dear Judy, my prayers are covering you in every way possible.*



Holli Bridges - March 07, 2022 at 10:01 AM

CF

“ *I always enjoyed visiting with Ray when he came in the church office. He was a genuinely kind man. He will be greatly missed.*



Cliff & Krista Furtick - March 07, 2022 at 07:28 AM

ES

“ *Elwanda Sheridan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ray Hartenstein*



Elwanda Sheridan - March 06, 2022 at 03:51 PM

JP

“ Judy I am so sorry for your loss. Praying for you and your family. Johnnie Parker

J Parker - March 06, 2022 at 10:58 AM

VB

“ Ray, we've always admired your smarts and hard work. You cared about the kiddies having books to read and education. You were a wonderful brother-in-law and family man...we loved visiting and hanging out with you and Judy on your beloved pine tree farm. Love, Val and Larry

Valorie Butler - March 06, 2022 at 07:18 AM

PS

“ Prayers for you Judy during this time. So sorry for your loss.



Peggy Silvey - March 05, 2022 at 02:56 PM

CW

“ Johnny and I are so sorry to hear of Ray's passing. He was a special friend. We treasure our times with y'all at beautiful JudRay Mountain. God's comfort to you in the days ahead.

Cyndi Walker - March 05, 2022 at 02:44 PM

SA

“ Ray was truly an amazing man, that lived a full life. He impacted so many people in a positive way. I'll never forget seeing the news report on how the children of East Tx loved Ray reading them stories and donating hundreds of books. I am definitely a better person for having Ray as my stepdad and I've even taken up running 5k's, which I attribute to him. Rest In Peace Ray ❤️🙏

Scott Adams - March 05, 2022 at 01:56 PM

RT

“ Rick Thompson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ray Hartenstein



Rick Thompson - March 05, 2022 at 01:22 PM

SK

*We enjoyed our friendship with Ray. What a kind man.*

**Suzanne kinard** - March 06, 2022 at 09:01 PM

KH

“ *I new Ray through his work to help children and their reading needs. He was selfless in his efforts to help all children and he leaves this world better for his time.*  
*Ken & Mollie Hale*



**Ken Hale** - March 05, 2022 at 12:02 PM

LM

*Denzil and I were so impressed by Ray's desire to help people in need. He had a warm heart and soul. Our prayers are with you and know that we love you.....Denzil and Louise Mobbs*

**Louise Mobbs** - March 06, 2022 at 04:48 PM