



Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III

October 27, 1968 - January 11, 2025

Raphael Wallace Burch III, 56 years old, went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, January 11, 2025. Ray is survived by his wife, Julie Christine Burch, of 22 years. Ray is also survived by his children, Jesse Nathaniel Burch (Seany), Raphael Wallace Burch, IV also known as Buddy and Elizabeth Teddy Burch, grandchildren Sierra Diane Burch and Jesse Nathaniel Burch, II, stepfather Walter Everett Willett, sister Kimberly Ann Burch, brother Seth Everett Willett and nephew Zachary Ryan Mitchell. He also leaves many nieces, nephews, Aunts, Uncles and cousins behind. Ray was preceded in death by his parents, Raphael Wallace Burch, II, Christina Vera Willett, and his nephew Spencer Austin-Mitchell Burch.

Ray retired in 2019 after serving as an HVAC Mechanic and a Local 602 steam fitter for over twenty years. When Ray wasn't working, he enjoyed spending time with his family. During COVID, Ray would help Beth and Buddy with their virtual schoolwork whether sitting on the floor in the garage drawing the solar system or lying on the deck reading Edgar Allan Poe. He enjoyed listening to music with them; songs his mother would play for him and his sister like "Big Iron" and "El Paso". Ray loved his conversations with Jesse talking about his career, the joys and challenges of fatherhood, hearing what his grandbabies were doing, and everything in between. His greatest pride and joy were his children and grandchildren.

Ray's expression of love was through acts of service. It was not unusual for him to deliver leftovers of a home-cooked meal to his friend, often leaving it for when his friend arrived home from work. It was not uncommon for him to provide a ride to someone in need or take his stepfather to lunch. Ray was a caregiver and God often brought people into his life who needed their cups filled. Ray was Jesus to them. Ray was their person.

Julie, his children, grandchildren, stepfather and siblings are thankful for your love and support. Please keep Ray's stories alive by sharing them with people. We will miss his physical presence here on this earth, but his love and legacy will live on through all of us.

The family is working to set up a trust fund for Beth and Buddy and will share the link with friends and family when it becomes available.

"He's got a plan; this is part of it. He's gonna finish what he started. God's not done writing your story. No, He's not done. God's not done with you!"

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

FEB 1. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Service , P.A.
5635 Washington Avenue
La Plata, MD 20646

Celebration of Life

FEB 1. 11:30 AM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Service , P.A.
5635 Washington Avenue
La Plata, MD 20646

Tribute Wall



“ Julie, I hope this message finds you. I just heard about Ray and send you and your family my deepest condolences. I know how devoted you were to each other and that he will be missed forever. -
- jenny stone (odo)

j - March 04, 2025 at 08:39 PM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



January 31, 2025 at 02:29 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.

January 31, 2025 at 02:29 PM



“ We have known Ray & Julie for many years. We went to their wedding and watched their children grow up. It was evident that Ray & Julie loved each other very much! He was devoted to his wife and children, and we are so sad that he is gone.

Chris Bragg - January 30, 2025 at 04:02 PM

JM

“ John & Jennifer Marciano purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



John & Jennifer Marciano - January 29, 2025 at 10:40 AM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



January 28, 2025 at 09:14 PM



“ Forever Our Angel Bouquet was purchased for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



January 28, 2025 at 05:40 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



January 27, 2025 at 07:05 PM

CB

“ Commerce Buddies purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



Commerce Buddies - January 27, 2025 at 06:12 PM

CB

“ Commerce Buddies planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.

Commerce Buddies - January 27, 2025 at 06:12 PM

GL

“ Greg and Lisa purchased the Heavenly Light for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



Greg and Lisa - January 27, 2025 at 04:11 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



January 27, 2025 at 03:14 PM

KS

“ I knew Ray from Church and I remember thinking what a nice guy and a good match for Julie. Nice people make nice kids and they did just that. Ray was always ready with a smile and would talk about his beautiful wife and what a great mother she was. ray the world is a little lesser with you gone but we will see your again.

kevin sharp - January 27, 2025 at 01:09 PM

DF

“ David Amaya and Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



David Amaya and Family - January 25, 2025 at 09:52 AM

DF

“ David Amaya and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.

David Amaya and Family - January 25, 2025 at 09:52 AM

FA

“ From RoseAnn A. Alzona purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



From RoseAnn A. Alzona - January 23, 2025 at 09:39 PM

FA

“ From RoseAnn A. Alzona planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.

From RoseAnn A. Alzona - January 23, 2025 at 09:39 PM

LB

“ Laura Burruel purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Raphael "Ray" Wallace Burch III.



Laura Burruel - January 17, 2025 at 04:03 PM