



## Raymond C. "Ray" Hendricks

March 23, 1947 - December 12, 2024

Raymond C. "Ray" Hendricks, age 77 of Novelty, OH, passed away Thursday, December 12, 2024 at David Simpson Hospice House, Cleveland. He was born March 23, 1947 in Cleveland.

Mr. Hendricks was a middle school math teacher for over 50 years at the Shaker Heights City School District and the Agnon (Mandel) School in Beachwood. He enjoyed recalling that he had, as a student, the child actor who played Charlie in the movie "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory".

Ray and his wife had been proud owners of many corgis and cats, and he was an avid fan of Cleveland's professional sports teams. But above all, his passion was tending to his land in Geauga County as summed up by his e-mail address, "farmeray@aol.com".

Survivors include his sisters: Gayle (Emil) Schauer and Karen (James) Popovic; nieces & nephews: Marc (Krista) Matlock, Christopher (Thomas Livingston) Matlock, James (Beverly Booher) Popovic, Patricia Popovic, Michael (Sarah) Popovic and Steven (Joni Kimmel) Popovic and 10 great nieces & nephews.

Preceding Raymond in death are his wife: Julia Ann (nee Gokorsch) Hendricks and parents: Howard and Catherine Hendricks.

The family will receive friends from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060.

A private family inurnment will be held at a later date in Calvary Cemetery, Lorain, OH.

The family request contributions may be made to Geauga County Humane Society, P.O. Box 116, Novelty, OH 44072 or Hospice of the Western Reserve, P.O. Box 72101, Cleveland 44192, donate online at [www.hospicewr.org/](http://www.hospicewr.org/).

Offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery Lorain

555 N. Ridge Rd. W  
Lorain, OH 44053

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 18. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center  
8466 Mentor Avenue  
Mentor, OH 44060  
(440) 255-3401  
[ajs@brunners.com](mailto:ajs@brunners.com)  
<https://www.brunners.com/>

# Tribute Wall

BB

“ Ray was a close friend for 50 years. I will miss our calls and visits. He was a warm and caring person. Ray, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

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**Bonnie Busta** - December 25, 2024 at 03:47 PM

DM

“ Raymond was a good, kind, loving person. He was my ex-brother-in-law. We bowled together for several years and had season tickets to the Browns in 1964 when they won the championship.

He was a good friend and nice man. He was smarter than most of us, but very down to earth.

I wish that I had spent more time with him in the latter years of my life.

I could not make the funeral home since I had just got out of the hospital and live in Indianapolis. Thanks to my oldest son I was able to Facetime with the attendees and pay my respects and say goodbye.

I will be donating to the Hospice and the ASPCA.

We loved you Raymond.

Dave Matlock, 12/22/2024.

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**Dave Matlock** - December 22, 2024 at 04:01 PM

“Mr. Hendricks left a lasting impression on hundreds of students and I was one of them. Who could forget his trademark leather double-prong belt, dutifully tucked-in plaid shirts, or that wonderfully quirky sense of humor? Come test-day he would remind us that the act of taking an exam was a learning experience. He would say, “Hey, it’s not a test, it’s a quest!” Which would invariably elicit groans from the commentariat.

*In the 8th grade Mr. Hendricks tutored me after school for twelve months in algebra, allowing me to make the jump up to Level 4 mathematics at Byron Junior High. Then I had him again for geometry in the 9th grade. Believe it or not but I can recall some of those sessions quite well. Echoing through the hallways of my memory I still hear his voice explain the real number system and the Cartesian coordinate system for the first time. Years of experience gave him a delivery that was both fluid and comprehensive.*

*I remember asking one afternoon: “But Mr. Hendricks, how can you multiple two negative numbers together and end up with a positive number? Aren’t negative number less than nothing?” The truth is that negation is a matter of direction, not quantity, as my mathematics sensei told me with a smile.*

*This laid the foundation for studying physics as an undergraduate as well as a Master’s Degree and then PhD study in the hard sciences. In short, Mr. Hendricks in no small part shaped the course of my life. Honestly I feel like I kicking myself for not trying to get in touch with him earlier to thank him personally.*

*Teachers in general have to maintain boundaries with their students as a matter of professionalism. But near the end of my year-long tutoring odyssey Mr. Hendricks started to offer a glimpse of who he was (that is, when he wasn’t standing in front of a black board). One day he proudly showed me pictures of his garden. Looking back, that was indeed one fairly extensive garden and I can only guess how many weekends he spent kneeled under the hot sun.*

*Here's something that stuck with me:*

*On the last tutoring session back in the spring of 1984 he had ended class early. We were waiting for my Mother to pick me up and shooting the breeze in his classroom. It was around 4:30pm and Byron Junior High had gone quiet. He looked at me and offered a stern warning, "your generation is going to have some serious problems to work through and it's probably something you need to start thinking about." Being a clueless teenage, and perhaps not fully grasping the gravity of what he was telling me, I chuckled and shrugged my shoulders. He continued, "No, I'm not kidding, there will be issues that your generation will have to confront." It was an odd departure from his normally endearing Dad-humor.*

*And, now, in my 50s, I finally understand what he was referring to. God bless you Mr. Hendricks.*

*-Bill Blunden*

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**Bill Blunden** - December 19, 2024 at 07:31 PM

MM

*Dear Bill,*

*What a wonderful tribute to my uncle. He was a remarkable man in so many different ways. We will miss him greatly. Thank you for taking the time to fondly remember Raymond.*

*Sincerely, Marc Matlock*

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**Marc Matlock** - December 25, 2024 at 10:35 AM

BB

*I've known Ray for over 50 yrs. We were both Collinwood Railroaders and very close friends  
Ray was kind and generous and always there for you. Even though we lived far apart from each other, we stayed in touch. I will miss our calls and our visits over the years. May God keep you in the palm of His hand*

**Bonnie Busta** - December 25, 2024 at 03:42 PM

MK

*I just now learned of Ray's passing. My late husband and I were neighbors of Ray and Julie for 40 years. To Ray's family, I am so very sorry for your loss. He and Julie were such good neighbors and so kind to our daughters when they were growing up. They have lovely memories of them both. We need more people like him in the world. He will be missed.*

*Mary Kudasick*

**Mary Kudasick** - March 16, 2025 at 12:12 PM

SS

*I just heard of Ray's passing from Mary Kudasick. We lived as neighbors for 24 years. He and his wife, Julie, were kind, loving and such a big part of our life in Russell. He left us way to earlier but left his mark. Ray you lived a life to be proud of. You and Julie will not be forgotten but thought about fondly.*

**Sus & Billi Skuski** - March 29, 2025 at 08:19 PM

NE

*“ Ray was a kind, gentle soul. I had the please of meeting Ray years ago. Rest in peace friend. Nancy A.*

**Nancy E.Alvarez** - December 17, 2024 at 10:34 AM



*“ Ray was always willing to talk math education with me always reaching out to see if I needed a job as I was also a math teacher. He was a very kind and warm person.*

**Mandy Rosplock** - December 16, 2024 at 01:57 PM

BA

“ I remember Ray as a fellow teacher from Mandel Jewish Day School. A fine, fine gentleman whose patience with his students set a standard for us all. Sincerest condolences on your loss.

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**BatSheva A.** - December 16, 2024 at 11:48 AM

AD

“ Ray was a tremendous teacher and an even better person. He built special connections with his students and was well-liked by all of his colleagues. May his memory be a blessing.

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**Adam** - December 16, 2024 at 11:40 AM

JO

“ I will miss our lunches, poker, and friendship. Until we meet again my friend. Joe



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**Joe** - December 16, 2024 at 11:02 AM

MF

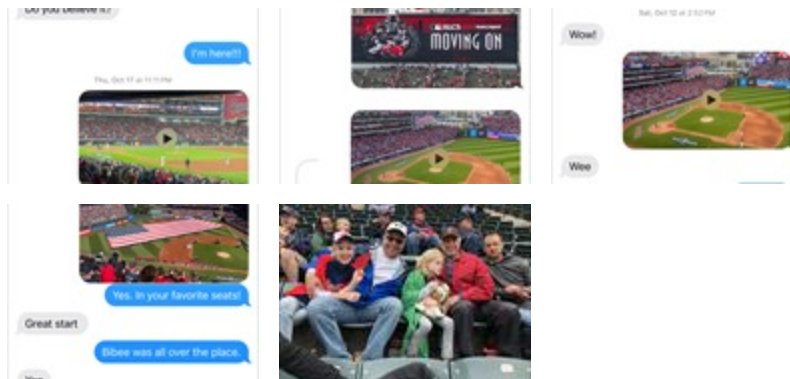
“ Will miss you bowling buddy. Keep on practicing until we meet again.  
Marie Frank

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**Marie Frank** - December 15, 2024 at 07:46 PM

MM

“ Raymond's favorite perch - Section 558, Row G at Progressive Field. We sat up there many times over the years; he loved it up there for the view and the fact that you were always in the shade. I tried to take him to the playoffs this year, but all he could muster was a text message.



Marc Matlock - December 15, 2024 at 05:24 PM

BB

“ So saddened to hear of Uncle Ray's passing. Many wonderful memories sharing holidays and family picnics with him. He was a kind man and I know he is resting peacefully in no pain. My love to all the family during this difficult time.



Bev Booher - December 15, 2024 at 04:53 PM