



Raymond M. "Ray Ray" Koneski

FEB 16, 1995 - OCT 19, 2012



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Raymond M. "Ray Ray" Koneski

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Raymond M. "Ray Ray" Koneski of Tavares, Florida passed away on Friday, October 19, 2012 at the age of 17 years. Ray Ray was born in Gainesville, Florida. He was a gold medal winner in the Special Olympics and a Shands Children's Miracle Network Ambassador. Ray Ray attended Lake Hill School in Howey-in-the-Hills. He loved the outdoors, hunting and fishing. He also enjoyed watching DVD's. Ray Ray was larger than life and brought joy to all who knew him. He would light up the room with his loving smile. He was a proud uncle to Ethan, Eric, Scott and Malorie. He will be remembered and dearly missed by his parents, Raymond and Mary Koneski of Tavares; his brother, Adam (Tabitha) Koneski of Astatula, FL; his sisters, Emily (David) Long of Winter Park, FL and Michelle Koneski of Tavares; nephews, Ethan Koneski, Eric Koneski, and Scott Long; niece, Malorie Koneski; great aunt, Frances Deem of Lady Lake, FL and several special aunts, uncles and cousins. If you so desire, in lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to Shands Children's Hospital, UF and Shands Office of Development, PO Box 100386, Gainesville, FL 32610; (352)265-7237 or online at www.giving.ufandshands.org Ray-Ray's celebration of life took place on Friday, October 26, 2012 at Adventure Christian Church, 3701 N. Eichelberger St., Tavares, FL 32778. A viewing was held from 4 to 6pm on Friday, with the life celebration ceremony immediately following at 6:00 pm. Arrangements were entrusted to Steverson, Hamlin & Hilbish Funerals and Cremations, Tavares, FL. Condolences and memories may be shared by signing the guestbook below. The family would like everybody that was moved by an experience with Ray-Ray to have an opportunity to share their story. Because of the multitude of people Ray-Ray touched, we are unable to open the floor to everybody during the memorial service, due to time restriction. So we are asking that you share your stories here, as a written testimony for the family to cherish forever. Thank you so much for all of your love and support!



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

ray ray what a light he was to us all just in florida with him he was finding pumpkins in family room and looking for marbles in clay matching shapes getting pretzel from renee showing me a picture of his girlfriend in a magazine he surely touched us all in his special way i am praying for all sure wish i was there am with you in spirit at this time love barb##imported-begin##barbara steck##imported-end##

October 26 at 2:14 PM



Anonymous posted:

Mary, Ray, Emily, Adam, and Michelle, I have met each of you, even if just briefly, my heart is heavy for you all. I had the pleasure of sharing 2 years with your lil' Ray of sunshine, at Triangle Elementary Pre-k. He and Mary left a memory so deep in my heart, I will never forget. Your family was picked by our loving God to love & keep Ray and I was always in "awe" at how special you all were. Of course, our God does not make mistakes! Now that he is resting in Heaven it is time for you to relax and live the rest of your lives knowing that your job is done and done so perfectly. May you soon have peace. Mary, I love you and your kind soul will always be a special part of my life! 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 * The soul would have no rainbows~ If the eyes had no tears. With all my prayers & Love, Debra Priester##imported-begin##Debra S. Priester##imported-end##

October 26 at 12:37 PM



Anonymous posted:

To the family and friends of Ray-Ray, what a special young man. I remember when he was very young meeting him and thinking wow what a wonderful gift from God. Seeing him at Lake Hills and at graduations at Tavares High School was always a joy. Please know all of you are in our prayers and thoughts as you go through this very difficult time.##imported-begin##Bruce and Jill Hamilton##imported-end##

October 26 at 12:35 PM



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Anonymous posted:

I'm so sorry for your loss. I met Ray Ray & your family when I worked at Angelo's restaurant. When your family visited, everyone was excited and very happy to see you and Ray Ray. It's been many years since I've seen him but Julie & Angelo have shared the best stories with me about the field trip to make pizzas with his classmates and his olympic adventures. We have all been blessed by knowing Ray Ray. Pepperoni pizza with (lots) of extra pepperoni!!! What an angel.##imported-begin##Susan Hoskinson##imported-end##

October 25 at 1:36 PM



Anonymous posted:

My memories of Ray-Ray are very precious to me. I can't remember exactly when, but I know David and Emily were in high school when they brought Ray-Ray to me. David said, "Ray-Ray, this is my grandmother." Ray-Ray looked at me very seriously for a moment, then broke into a wide smile and gave me a big hug. Your "little man" had won my heart for all time and that smile was right there each time he saw me. As he was special to me, I know he is special to our Heavenly Father and I see Ray-Ray wrapped in Jesus' arms and that smile beaming love and great happiness. Your "special little man" has been in my prayers and I'm so thankful for his loving presence and place in our extended family. With love and deep sympathy for your loss, Grandmother Mrs. Thomas B. Long Jr.##imported-begin##Mrs. Thomas B. Long Jr.##imported-end##

October 25 at 12:43 PM



Anonymous posted:

Like so many members of David's extended family, I am very thankful to have met Ray-Ray. To quote Emily, he was a very special young man. When I first met Ray-Ray I was visiting Florida and David wanted me to meet his longtime sweetheart, Emily. They offered my children a chance to ride on her horse. Ray-Ray accompanied Emily as she led the children around the pasture again and again calling out encouragement and safety details to them. He was cheerful and loving. Each time I saw Ray-Ray after that on my Florida visits it was easy to see his love and affection for all of us, especially David, my nephew. Ray-Ray could have been jealous or possessive of his precious Emily, but instead I saw his open and loving heart. His relationship with David was so very special as I have been told and could see. His enthusiasm at David and Emily's wedding was indeed a gift to all of us. I know your loss is great and painful. I will be praying that your sweet and abundant memories will soothe your hearts and God will be your constant comfort. With my love, Aunt Marietta for all the Muchmores##imported-begin##Marietta Muchmore##imported-end##

October 25 at 10:25 AM



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Anonymous posted:

Dear Koneski family, Our deepest sympathy over the loss of your dear son Ray Ray. Our prayers and thoughts are with you all.##imported-begin##David & Gini Rankin##imported-end##

October 25 at 8:55 AM



Anonymous posted:

Ray Ray was a very special young man who will be remembered for his happy smile and for a big presence felt in the lives of all who knew him. I will always remember how loving Michelle and Mary were with him. Michelle's fellow students loved him too and saw how really special Ray Ray was. My love and prayers for peace and comfort go with his family. Kristie Walker##imported-begin##Kristie Walker##imported-end##

October 24 at 11:02 AM



Anonymous posted:

No 'special' story, but Ray Ray was sure a SPECIAL young man!! Remember that commercial that says, "Need a car? Call Cout...!!" ?? I think it would be appropriate to say that for most people, "If you needed a SMILE, call Ray Ray!!!". What a kid! What a family! May God bless you all.##imported-begin##Nancy Jo Davidson##imported-end##

October 24 at 8:38 AM



Anonymous posted:

Walking down the hall at Lake Hills School, it was always a special treat is I happened to see Ray, walking with his class or his teacher. Ray was never in my class, but, like everyone at Lake Hills, he made an impression on me. Just a short conversation with Ray brightened my day. He was a sweet boy who overcame many obstacles and touched everyone he met with his spirit. He will be missed. Bless you all. I pray for strength to get you through this difficult time.##imported-begin##Barbara Fairservice##imported-end##

October 24 at 6:54 AM



Anonymous posted:

I can see Ray Ray singing with the angels and hugging God!##imported-begin##Melissa Newman##imported-end##

October 24 at 5:17 AM



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Anonymous posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with each of you.##imported-begin##Renita Harbison##imported-end##

October 23 at 7:28 PM



Anonymous posted:

Sorry for your loss Tabitha. You and your family are in my prayers. God Speed.##imported-begin##Heather Tart Livingston##imported-end##

October 23 at 10:18 AM



Anonymous posted:

Ray, Mary & family,I was in shock to hear about Ray Ray and so deeply saddened for you. What a special blessing he was to you all!! Our thoughts and prayers are with you now and may you find comfort in all your wonderful memories of Ray Ray! Rest in Peace sweet child of God! With our DEEPEST Sympathy, Jodie, James & Dustin Covington##imported-begin##Jodie Covington##imported-end##

October 23 at 7:54 AM



Anonymous posted:

Ray, Mary and family. My prayers and condolences go to you all. I never met Ray Ray but felt like I have known him forever. Ray and Mary you have been the best parent a child could ask for. God chose you for a reason. Now RayRay is an angel up in heaven watching and taking care of you. Take care.##imported-begin##Joanna Rhoads##imported-end##

October 23 at 5:27 AM



Anonymous posted:

Mary, Raymond and the entire family, we are so sorry for the loss of your RayRay. He had the best parents and family in the world and he is now your own angel of God that will help you all get through this difficult time. God Bless all of you, you are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Lisa and Mark Roberts##imported-begin##Lisa and Mark Roberts##imported-end##

October 22 at 6:16 PM



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Anonymous posted:

It is difficult to think of Lake Hills without thinking of Ray Ray's smile, his laugh, his excitement for Santa, Special Olympics and special events; but also his kindness and caring about his friends there. His smile is permanently etched on all of our hearts. My prayers for all of his family as it is impossible to even think how much he will be missed by all.##imported-begin##Lynn Tacher##imported-end##

October 22 at 1:45 PM



Anonymous posted:

Hello Mary & Ray, I am so sorry about your loss of Ray Ray. I remember you carrying Ray Ray into Tavares High School as a very small baby. You even brought Ray Ray to ballgames. Ray Ray was a lucky boy to have had all your wonderful family in his life. And so were you to have had Ray Ray as a outstanding son, brother & uncle. God Bless all of you. Vickie Hurley##imported-begin##Vickie Hurley##imported-end##

October 22 at 1:12 PM



Anonymous posted:

RayRay you were a sweet soul. I was at Lake Hills for 13 years then I moved to Alabama 6 years ago. Know that a former teacher from Lake Hills is praying for you and your family. Rest in Peace dear one. ~Kim KeenaMentone, Alabama##imported-begin##Kim Keena##imported-end##

October 21 at 9:46 PM



Anonymous posted:

My prayers and thoughts are with all of you.##imported-begin##Christine Frew##imported-end##

October 21 at 1:32 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Raymond by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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