



## Ray (Tobe) Depew

July 16, 1930 - March 25, 2025

Ray (Tobe) Depew, 94, of Massillon, Ohio, passed away on Monday, March 25, 2025, at Mercy Hospital, Canton, Ohio. Ray was born in Rose Hill, Virginia, on July 16, 1930, to the late Mack and Mary (Shell) Depew.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 69 years, Ruth (Bledsoe) Depew; four sisters, Lily Burgan, Eva Hall, Elizabeth Depew, and Wilma (Willie) Hair; three brothers, Edward, Homer, and Charles and grandson, Steven Depew. He is survived by five children: Gary Depew, of Canton, OH; Mary (John) Frank, of North Canton, OH; David (Lori) Depew, of North Canton, OH; Mark (Tara) Depew, of Massillon, OH; and Tim Depew, of Massillon, OH. Grandchildren Israel (Nicole) Depew, Mathew (Christine) Ferrell, Daniel Depew, Emily (Jason) Sigala, Renee (Carlos) Madrid and Jessica Depew. Great-grandchildren Joshua Depew, Abigail Depew, Cassidy Sigala, Lily Sigala, Leonardo Madrid, and several nieces and nephews.

Ray really enjoyed his work assignments with the military, and although he was employed by civilian employers such as the Louisville & Nashville Railroad (L&N) in the Jonesville, Virginia area and as a blacksmith with Cleveland Crane in Willoughby, Ohio, Ray really valued his vast military service in the U.S. Army.

1951-1953 - U.S. Army's 503rd Regimental Combat Team, 11th Airborne

Division, served in training missions in Alaska and participated in atomic testing in Nevada.

1954 – 1960 - Served with 179th AAA Gun Battalion as 1SG. with the Ohio Army National Guard in Willoughby, Ohio.

1960 – 1964 - 1st. Missile Battalion in Warrensville Heights, Ohio. Also Employed as a federal technician in support of the Nike Hercules Missile System. Where he much appreciated the camaraderie of all the Nike Site personnel reunions.

1964 – 1970 - Served as MSG position as Electronics Material Chief and Federal service for the Cincinnati/Dayton Nike Hercules Missile Battalion.

1970 – 1989 - N Troop 107th Air Cavalry Regiment, served as 1SG and worked as an aviation mechanic for Army Aviation Support Facility number 1 at the Akron Canton Airport. Served within Army Aviation for the 416th Engineer Group in Toledo, Ohio.

1989 Retired as Master Sergeant from 416th Engineer Group as a Helicopter Maintenance Supervisor, with 38 years as a federal technician.

Ray was a 60-year member of the American Legion.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 PM Saturday, March 29 at the Robinette Funeral Home in Jonesville, VA with a funeral service to follow with Rev. Cameron Cope officiating. Family and friends to meet at the funeral home at 1:00 PM Sunday (March 30) to proceed to Van Huss Grove Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Legion Post 221 Massillon, OH or Stark County OH Pet Food Pantry. To leave condolences for the family, please visit [www.robinettefuneralhomes.com](http://www.robinettefuneralhomes.com) Robinette Funeral

Home of Jonesville is serving the family of Ray H Depew.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR **29.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Robinette Funeral Home (Jonesville)  
146 Maple Drive  
P.O. Box 238  
Jonesville, VA 24263  
(276) 346-1196

## Funeral Service

MAR **29.** 7:00 PM (ET)

Robinette Funeral Home (Jonesville)  
146 Maple Drive  
P.O. Box 238  
Jonesville, VA 24263  
(276) 346-1196

## Graveside service

MAR **30.** 1:30 AM (ET)

Van Huss Grove Cemetery  
Rose Hill, VA 24281

# Tribute Wall



“ So sorry to read about Ray's passing. He was a long time member of NARFE (National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association) Chapter 341 in Canton, Ohio.

Diana Iuliano-Chan - March 31, 2025 at 10:00 PM



Thank You for your kind words.  
The Ray Depew family

The Ray Depew family - April 02, 2025 at 05:32 PM



“ We will always remember TOBE AS AN OUTGOING FRIENDLY KIND MAN, WHO LOVED HIS Family dearly. We want to extend our condolences at this time to the Family. May TOBE REST IN PEACE WITH HIS LORD IN HEAVEN AND MAY HIS FAMILY KNOW HE IS THERE. ...FROM AARON DEPEW AND FAMILY, FREMONT OHIO

AARON DEPEW - March 30, 2025 at 04:03 PM



Thank You, for your kind words. He always loved his extended family 🙏

uncle, Tobe and family - April 02, 2025 at 05:22 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ray (Tobe) Depew.



March 28, 2025 at 11:09 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ray (Tobe) Depew.

March 28, 2025 at 11:09 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Ray (Tobe) Depew.



March 27, 2025 at 10:26 AM



“ I will always remember Uncle Tobe with that twinkle in his eyes as he was telling one of his great stories. He had the best sense of humor & loved to laugh & have a good time with family & friends. Whenever I saw him, he would say, Lynn tell me a funny one. Your absence will be greatly felt & the world will become a little sadder without you in it. Rest easy Uncle Tobe knowing that you are loved by all. ❤️

Linda McNamara - March 26, 2025 at 06:21 PM



“ In loving memory, Linda (Lynn) McNamara planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ray (Tobe) Depew.

In loving memory, Linda (Lynn) McNamara - March 26, 2025 at 05:34 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Ray (Tobe) Depew.*



March 26, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ray (Tobe) Depew.

March 26, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ Great picture💖 Blessings are in the many memories! A life well lived filled with love and caring for all who shared in his life! My heart and thoughts are with all. 🥹🥹🥹🥹



**Debbie** - March 26, 2025 at 01:57 PM



*Rip uncle toby*

**Annie** - March 26, 2025 at 05:27 PM



*RIP Ray. You were a fantastic leader at the 416 Engineer Group. I know I tested your Managerial skills, but we always laughed about it and had a beer when the whistle blew. you will be missed. Until we march again.*

**Randall Richmond** - March 27, 2025 at 12:37 PM



*Thank You for your kind words. He always loved his work and friends.*



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**The Ray Depew family** - April 02, 2025 at 05:30 PM