



## Ray Robert Heckel

November 21, 1951 - October 8, 2018

Ray Robert Heckel 66, of Bradley passed away October 8, 2018 at Riverside Hospital in Kankakee. Ray was born in November 21, 1951 in Kankakee, the son of Glenn and Hazel Dement Heckel.

Ray worked 35 years as a social worker at Shapiro Developmental Center before retiring. Ray had an immense love of music and enjoyed playing his beloved guitars for many years.

Ray never married but spent 40 happy years with the love of his life Debra Mear. Surviving are the other loves of his life, his inherited daughter Tyesa Mear of Kankakee, daughter Layna Brannock and son in law Craig of Bradley, and son Aaron Heckel and daughter in law Rachel from Champaign. He is also survived by two grandchildren Sydney Lauridsen and Parker Heckel, as well as his brother Jon Heckel and sister in law Cathy. He had many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death are both parents.

Visitation for Ray will be from 5-7 pm on Saturday October 13 and a memorial service will follow at Jensen Memorial Chapel in Bourbonnais.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the families wishes.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ray Robert Heckel*

October 08, 2023 at 04:39 PM



“ *Ray was the coolest cousin a great sense of humor sharing his love of music as far back as I can remember rest in peace Suzi Leake Randolph*

**Susan Randolph** - January 31, 2019 at 11:26 AM



“ *Barbara Geisler lit a candle in memory of Ray Robert Heckel*



**barbara geisler** - October 13, 2018 at 01:52 PM



“ *Rest in peace Ray. I'll always remember you and the unit 4 staff. Condolences and prayers to the family. Dalia Vakselis*

**Dalia Vakselis** - October 12, 2018 at 07:16 PM

PC

“ *Paula, Kenny, George, Stephanie, Jared, Courtney purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Ray Robert Heckel.*



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**Paula, Kenny, George, Stephanie, Jared, Courtney** - October 12, 2018 at 01:54 PM

JB

“ *I knew Ray since January 1986. He was a very unique person who made our years of working together a pleasure. Sincere sympathy to his loved ones. RIP*



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**Janice Bonnell** - October 11, 2018 at 10:00 PM

PS

“ *Ray Ray can't believe you're gone man, another one taken too soon. The good times we had working together on Unit 4 all those many years ago and our monthly card parties... let's not forget The Low Budget Basement Band. Good times Ray Ray. Praying for peace and comfort for Debbie and your kids. RIP my friend.*

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**Patti Osenga Shidler** - October 10, 2018 at 10:53 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ray Robert Heckel.*



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October 10, 2018 at 10:53 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Ray Robert Heckel.*



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October 10, 2018 at 10:40 PM



“ *Ray was one of the first persons I met when I started at Shapiro 32 years ago. He was always so helpful and I will always remember his great sense of humor. Rest peacefully, Ray. Sending prayers of comfort to his family now and in the days ahead. Beth Poen*

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**Beth Poen** - October 10, 2018 at 06:59 PM



“ *I shared an office with Ray for many years. He was a pleasure to work with and learn from. I still have some of the CDs he left with me. His musical collection was beyond anything I've ever seen!! His stories of the old Shapiro days were great to listen to. He will be missed. I hope he's enjoying boy's club with Mike now❤️❤️❤️. My condolences and prayers to his family. Roseanna Autman*

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**Roseanna Autman** - October 10, 2018 at 06:38 PM



“ *My wife and I worked with Ray for many years. We had lunch together almost every week for years. We will miss him. Our prayers to his family. John & Judy Cooper*

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**John Cooper** - October 10, 2018 at 12:38 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ray Robert Heckel.*



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October 09, 2018 at 11:26 PM



“ *Rest In Peace Ray! Praying for all of his love ones. He was taken to soon*

*Sincerely  
Lexie S. helm*



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**Lëxië Suë** - October 09, 2018 at 10:44 PM



“ *Your love for music was Impeccable .  
Your memories of Bands , Songs , and Musicians was Incredible !  
Sure gonna miss you Ray !  
Hugs and Prayers for you Debby*

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**Carl Irps** - October 09, 2018 at 10:23 PM



“ *Loved listening to you sing and play the guitar around the campfires at Carl & Becky's out on 17 East. The good ole days! ❤️ My condolences to Debbie & Family 🙏*

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**Karen White** - October 09, 2018 at 10:10 PM