



## Mr. Laurence Roderick Gray Jr.

August 28, 1930 - June 1, 2019

Laurence R. Gray, 88, of Mitchell County, GA went to his Heavenly home Saturday, June 1, 2019.

Larry was born August 28, 1930 in Charlottesville, VA to L.R. Gray, Sr. and Mary Elizabeth Gray. He was an Army Officer, serving during the Korean Conflict. Upon his return home, he continued to serve as a police officer where he retired from the Albany Police Department in 1990 as a Captain of Detectives. After his retirement he continued to contribute to the betterment of the Albany community as a professor at Meadows College.

Larry's greatest source of joy and responsibility after retirement was to the Boy Scouts of America, where he volunteered countless hours to shape future generations. He served as Scout Master of Troup 51 out of Camilla. He was an active member of the Order of the Arrow and the Fox Patrol for wood badge, where his nickname was Old Fox. As the Quarter Master, he staffed the wood badge courses. He also served as the Shooting Sports Director at Camp Osbourne and in 2005 the archery range was named in his honor. In addition to his local support, he made many donations to Brookfield Pack 41 in Missouri.

To those who knew him best, Larry was most lovingly known as Papa. Pa was preceded in death by his wife, and our Mama, Carrie J. Gray. Together they enjoyed fishing, camping, motorcycle riding, bowling, dancing, attending bluegrass festivals, and woodworking. During their lives together, they built a family.

Papa was survived by his four daughters and their families as follows: Carla S. Thibeault and her husband Robert H. Thibeault, their children Cricket Dowdy and her husband, Michael Dowdy, and Robert L. Thibeault, Pa's namesake, affectionately known as Little Larry, Lorinda F. Frock and her husband Rob Frock and their children Kristin Keck and her husband, Jason Keck, Jessica Foster and her husband, David Foster, Cassie Schmidt and her husband, Edward Schmidt, Dace Frock and his wife, Heather Frock, Latisia L. Wiggins and her daughter, Lorinda M. Webb, Shonna Kae Wiggins and her children, Tracy O. McDonald and Seth Griffin.

Papa was also survived by his many great-grandchildren: Tyler Fernandez, Rylee Frock, Dane Frock, Madison Foster, Bradley Foster, Allyson Foster, Kadie Foster, Chloe Schmidt, Madeline Schmidt, Nate Frock, Weston Frock, and Myles McDonald.

We are forever grateful to have had Papa in our lives. He was so much to so many and his amazing love and kindness will live on in each of us until we meet again. Donations can be made to the South GA Council Boy Scouts of America in remembrance of our beloved Pa.

To share your thoughts with the Gray family, you may visit our website at [www.kimbrellstern.com](http://www.kimbrellstern.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Laurence Roderick Gray Jr.*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mr. Laurence Roderick Gray Jr.*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mr. Laurence Roderick Gray Jr.*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *This world is a better place because of Larry. We lost a good man with his passing. I spent many hours at Camp Osborn with him. We went through Wood Badge together, served on staff together, and participated in many Scout outings and events. We'll never know the number of lives were positively impacted by Larry.*

**Joe Najjar** - June 14, 2019 at 03:37 PM



“ *I work with Larry at APD, he was a wonderful person, prayers for the family.*

**Gail Mitchell** - June 11, 2019 at 12:29 PM

GM

“ *Gail Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Laurence Roderick Gray Jr.*



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**Gail Mitchell** - June 11, 2019 at 12:27 PM

SJ

“ *THANKS for his service. My he rest in service.*

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**Smitty Johnson** - June 11, 2019 at 09:17 AM

BL

“ *Bobbie Leggett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Laurence Roderick Gray Jr.*



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**Bobbie leggett** - June 11, 2019 at 07:28 AM

LW

“ *LATISIA WIGGINS lit a candle in memory of Mr. Laurence Roderick Gray Jr.*



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**LATISIA WIGGINS** - June 10, 2019 at 06:26 PM

LW

“ PAPA AND I HAD MANY THINGS IN COMMON INCLUDING THE FACT THAT WE SHARED THE SAME BIRTHDAY. I LOVED THIS MAN DEARLY AND HE WAS ALWAYS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY WHEN I NEEDED HIM. HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO WORK WITH WOOD AND MADE ME ALMOST EVERYTHING IN MY HOUSE THAT IS MADE OF WOOD. I LOVED GOING FISHING WITH HIM AND MAMA CAUSE HE WOULD TAKE US TO LAKE BLACKSHEAR AND HE WOULD SPEED THE BOAT UP JUST TO SCARE ME AND HE WOULD LAUGH AT ME. LAST SUMMER I WAS ABLE TO VISIT HIM AND I TOOK HIM LUNCH AND WE SAT AND ATE AND TALKED BUT MOSTLY I LISTENED TO STORIES HE TOLD OF HIS TIME AT CAMP OSBOURNE AND HOW PROUD HE WAS OF THE ARCHERY RANGE HAVING HIS NAME ON IT AND HOW HE PASSED HIS FOX ONTO ROB FROCK .HE HAD A HEART THE SIZE OF TEXAS AND ALWAYS ASKED HOW EVERYONE WAS NO MATER WHAT HE WAS GOING THROUGH.I SURE WILL MISS HIS CALLS ON MY BIRTHDAY CAUSE WE WOULD SEE WHO COULD SAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY THE FASTEST TO EACH OTHER AN THEN LAUGH ABOUT IT. NOW HE CAN FLY WITH THE ANGELS AND KEEP AN EYE ON US ALL KNOWING HE IS DEARLY MISSED HERE.I REMEMBER THE STORY HE TOLD ME ABOUT KEEPING MY FORK AFTER A MEAL BECAUSE THAT MEANT SOMETHING BETTER WAS COMING SO I GUESS HE KEPT HIS FORK AND NOW HE HAS HIS BETTER .

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**LATISIA WIGGINS** - June 10, 2019 at 04:41 PM

LL

“ *The last day I ever saw and talked to pa, I went to the hospital and he had been in the room by himself every day and I knew he was bored. So I was able to get a wheelchair with an oxygen tank and walk him around the hospital and outside. We talked about lots of things but what meant the most was him saying that no matter what happened to him that I should know he’s proud of me and everyone else.....that he felt like he had done the best he could at getting everyone where they needed to be.*

*With everything he was going through he was still more worried about everyone else.*

*My pa was the best man I’ve ever known and my life is never going to be the same without him.*

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**little larry** - June 10, 2019 at 03:13 PM