



George Ricco Ray

August 10, 2018

George “Ricco” Ray, 73, of Charlotte, NC passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Friday, August 10th at Piedmont Henry Hospital in Stockbridge, GA. He was born June 21, 1945 in Atlanta, Georgia to the late John Ray, Jr. and Florine Conkle Ray. He is survived by his wife Janice Thompson Ray, stepmother Margie Ray, seven sons, five daughters, three brothers, five sisters and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and in-laws. He is preceded in death by two brothers and a sister.

Ricco was exceptional in every way. An innovative entrepreneur and retired boxer, Ricco made history when he opened the first black owned nightclub (Port Said) and shoe store (Miss L) in downtown Charlotte. Known around the city of Charlotte for his many business ventures, Ricco owned restaurants on Freedom Dr. and Beatties Ford Rd. In the early 1980’s, he launched Charlotte’s first and largest indoor flea market. As an athlete, he trained with boxing greats such as Joe Frazier, Andrew Golota, Héctor Camacho, Bernard Taylor and Kevin Seabrooks. Ricco often bolstered himself as the world’s oldest active boxer. As noted in official boxing records, Ricco’s final super welterweight fight was in 2002, at the age of 57. For many years, he served as a boxing coach at area gyms and the YMCA. A caring and compassionate citizen and proficient Spanish speaker, Ricco often dedicated time and service as a translator to Charlotte’s growing Latino community.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Cemetery

Charlotte, NC

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul Baptist Church
1401 N. Allen Street
Charlotte, NC

Home Going Service

AUG 18. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul Baptist Church
1401 N. Allen Street
Charlotte, NC

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Tracey Ray - August 17, 2018 at 10:09 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



A.E. Grier & Sons Funeral and Cremation, LLC. - August 17, 2018 at 09:23 AM



Will miss U Ricco. Long time acquaintance with U and your father. Leroy LITTLE

Leroy LittLI - August 18, 2018 at 10:43 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of George Ricco Ray.



August 17, 2018 at 08:18 AM