



## Raymond J. "Ray" Claussen

November 10, 1919 - January 4, 2012

Raymond J. Claussen, age 92, of Rensselaer passed away Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at the Rensselaer Care Center. Ray was born in Chicago, Illinois on November 10, 1919, the son of Charles T. and Anna (Schroeder) Claussen. Ray moved to Rensselaer with his family and attended the South Barkley School. Ray entered the U.S. Army in October, 1942, during World War II. He served in the European Theater Medical Collecting Company in Normandy, North France, Central Europe and Rhineland. He went ashore at 6 a.m. on D-Day, was in the Battle of the Bulge and earned a total of seven battle stars. He was the recipient of the EAMET Service Medal. Ray returned to the states in October, 1946. He farmed in Goodland until becoming an Allis-Chalmers implement dealer in 1959, opening Claussen Equipment in Rensselaer and continued in that until his retirement in 1990.

Ray enjoyed being active in his community where he was past director of the former Farmer's and Merchant's National Bank, past member of the Jasper County Board of Health and the Rensselaer Board of Zoning Appeals, a member of the American Legion Post #29 and was past director of the Indiana 4-H Foundation where he served on the board for 15 years. He was affiliated with the First Christian Church of Rensselaer.

On July 16, 1942, in Goodland, Indiana Ray married Margie Re McCollough and she survives. Ray was a caregiver for his wife for the last fourteen years. Ray is survived by his wife of 69 years, Margie, two daughters, Linda (Lee) Emerson and Beverly (Paul) Dunlap and one son, Charles "Butch" (Mary)

Claussen, all of Rensselaer, five grandchildren, Shelley Sigman, Angela Patton, Christopher (Stacy) Claussen, Cary (Amanda) Claussen and Melissa (Daniel) Fleming, and eleven great-grandchildren whom he loved dearly, and one sister, Lucille (Richard) Kanney of Muncie, IN. Ray was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Charles G. Claussen, and one sister, Mildred Riehle.

Pastor Woody Slade officiating. Military rites will be at the cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to the First Christian Church of Rensselaer or the Fountain Park Chautauqua.

# Cemetery Details

## Memory Gardens of Rensselaer

Memory Gardens  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5125  
info@jacksonfuneral.com

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 6. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
info@jacksonfuneral.com  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

## Service

JAN 7. 10:00 AM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
info@jacksonfuneral.com  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>



# Tribute Wall

SR

“ Steve & Bobbie Randle lit a candle in memory of Raymond J. "Ray" Claussen



Steve & Bobbie Randle - February 03, 2012 at 03:21 PM

JL

“ Jim & Dorrie Lefler lit a candle in memory of Raymond J. "Ray" Claussen



Jim & Dorrie Lefler - January 08, 2012 at 02:26 PM

RH

“ To the Claussen Family:  
we are saddened to hear about the loss of your loved one..Ray was an awesome neighbor...He was a great man and always had a smile on his face...He wil be missed by everyone that had known him.....



Richard & Dale Huhn - January 07, 2012 at 03:01 PM

DH

“ Dale Yvonne Huhn lit a candle in memory of Raymond J. "Ray" Claussen



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Dale Yvonne Huhn - January 07, 2012 at 02:55 PM

JS

“ Butch, Mary, Chris & Cary,

*Sending prayers and thoughts your way. So sorry to hear about Ray's passing. If you need anything please contact us. I called and let Mom and Dad know about Ray's passing as well and they also send prayers your way.*

*The Smiley's and the Burman's families*

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Jason Smiley - January 07, 2012 at 01:42 AM

DS

“ We honor Mr. Claussen for his service to our country. May he rest in peace! Our prayers and thoughts are with his family.

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David & Robyn (Risner) Schaetzel - January 06, 2012 at 10:38 PM

JW

“ Our sympathy to the Claussens, especially our neighbors, Butch and Cary. We remember Ray coming into the FM bank and enlightening the whole atmosphere, being BFs with Bud P and Dick H. A lively discussion was had by all ! He will surely be missed but well remembered in a most pleasant way. Sincerely, Joe & Madalyn Wood



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**Joseph and Madalyn Wood** - January 06, 2012 at 08:27 PM

OA

“ Otis & zofia Anselm lit a candle in memory of Raymond J. "Ray" Claussen



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**otis & zofia anselm** - January 06, 2012 at 05:26 PM

MG

“ Rensselaer lost another of our treasure's. It's impossible to pick just one of the many fond memories to share, my deepest sympathies to all of you. He will be greatly missed.  
Marsha Gratner

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**Marsha Gratner** - January 06, 2012 at 01:52 PM

SR

“ To the entire Claussen family I am so sorry to hear about Ray. I always enjoyed his company and he would continue to make me laugh even on one of my bad days. I can only hope there is a ' Bazz's " in heaven. STEVE ROBERTS and family



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**Steve Roberts** - January 06, 2012 at 10:30 AM

“ January 6, 2012

*Dear Marge, Linda, Bev, Butch and families...*

*Please accept our heartfelt sympathy in the loss of your beloved husband, father and grandfather.*

*May you find comfort and hope from our thoughts and reassurances that others care and remember you in your loss and grief.*

*Although words from friends can't take away the sadness you have in your heart or ease the loneliness that comes when loved ones have parted. Our trust is that you will find that inner strength to carry on...as a tribute, to Ray's wonderful memories with you and with us!*

*Og Mandino, the famous author wrote, "So each of us in our own way, endures our loss, but cherishes the memories. Just as it should be."*

*However, when one's heart is frozen in shock from the loss of a loved one; its family and friends who share their expressions of compassion and friendship which help to sustain us and softens the painful grieving process.*

*We deeply regret seeing you all lose such a precious loved one. We mourn the loss for you and celebrate Ray's life in his memory...he was truly a wonderful man and respected friend.*

*Our thoughts and our prayers are with you. We hope our message will bring you some measure of comfort. May peace replace your heartache and bountiful warm memories remain.*

*In closing, "The nicest place to be is in someone's thoughts. The safest place to be is in someone's prayers. And the best place to be*

*is in God's hands."*

*With kindest regards...God Bless...*

*Cay and Norman*

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**Norman & Cay Long** - January 06, 2012 at 08:48 AM

LG

“ So sorry to hear of Ray's passing. He was always my favorite customer on the mail route - he was always waiting for me (and his newspaper) with a smile and a laugh. Rest in peace, Ray. I'll carry memories of your smile with me forever.  
*Lori Garcia, former USPS employee*

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**Lori Garcia** - January 06, 2012 at 07:49 AM

RW

“ We have lost a great friend and neighbor. As Ray would say "It takes one to know one". Rest in peace Ray.  
*Roger and Gayla Warran*

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**Roger and Gayla Warran** - January 05, 2012 at 05:40 PM

RW

“ Roger And Gayla Warran lit a candle in memory of Raymond J. "Ray" Claussen



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**Roger and Gayla Warran** - January 05, 2012 at 05:36 PM

RR

“ Thoughts and prayers are with your family....I have alot of great memories with the great guy - he will be missed



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**Ron and Vicki Robinson** - January 05, 2012 at 05:11 PM

TF

“ Profoundly saddened by your loss. We are praying for God to send you all love, hope and faith during this sad time.



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**The McIntyre family** - January 05, 2012 at 04:42 PM

TB

“ So sorry for your loss. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

*When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.*

*~author unknown*



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**Tammy Baker** - January 05, 2012 at 04:31 PM

MM

*Sorry to hear of Ray's passing. Worked with him on many extension projects in the past. Loved him dearly. He will be missed by sooo many. I will keep your family in my prayers. Marilyn and Calvin*

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**Marilyn Miller** - January 06, 2012 at 04:56 PM