

Raymond A. Donnelly

April 16, 1942

December 28, 2011 (Rockford, IL)

Raymond A. Donnelly, 69, passed surrounded by family on December 28, 2011, at Rockford Memorial. He was born April 16, 1942, to Joseph and Josephine Donnelly.

Ray attended Rockford public schools and proudly graduated with the West High School Class of 1961.

The proud United States Air Force veteran received many commendations for his military service.



After honorable discharge, he worked at Estwing Manufacturing Company where he became legendary for designing and building machines; in August 2003, his creative talent was recognized with the presentation of his first "Gold" C.H.A.M.P. award. Ray was a master at building, racing, and repairing cars; he received much recognition for a jet engine truck he hand-built and designed. He also operated Donnelly T.V. Repairs.

Ray loved steak. He had a tender heart his grandchildren and a soft spot for his dog, Kiya. He is survived by his Girlfriend of 23 years, Coleen Piliponis; Sons, Kevin, Christopher, and James (Sheanna) Donnelly, all of Rockford; Daughter, Donna Donnelly Gilley; and their Mother Joan Donnelly; Grandchildren, Taylor, Emma, Noah, Charlie, Abigail, Rissa, Tessa, Evan, and Michael (Jennifer) and Ryan (Jeani) Piliponis; Brothers, Rudolph (Carol) Donnelly (Pennsylvania); Sisters, Nieces and Nephews. He was predeceased by his

Parents; Brothers, Joseph, Richard, Glen, Roland, and Patrick; and Sisters, Mary Donnelly Salvi and Ruth Donnelly Edge.

Visitation is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Saturday, December 31st at Honquest Family Funeral Home with Crematory, 4311 N. Mulford Road. Rockford. The 10:00 a.m. funeral service be immediately followed by interment at Arlington Memorial Park, 6202 Charles Street. Condolences and memories may be expressed at www.honquestfh.com.



References:

<http://www.honquestfh.com/notices/Raymond-A-Donnelly>

[Raymond Donnelly \(A\), 69 - Rockford, IL Background Report at MyLife.com™](#)

[Raymond Donnelly Obituary - Rockford, Illinois - Tributes.com](#)

The obituary was featured in *Rockford Register Star* on December 29, 2011.

[Raymond Donnelly Obituary \(2011\) - Rockford, IL - Rockford Register Star \(legacy.com\)](#)

DONNELLI, RAYMOND A. was born 16 April 1942. He received a Social Security number indicating Illinois. The Death Master File says he died 28 December 2011.

[DONNELLI, MACKENZIERAE thru DONNELLON, CATHERINE \(sortedbyname.com\)](#)