

Raymond Carl Roach

September 25, 1928 - August 30, 2016

Raymond Carl Roach, age 87, of Faribault, died on Tuesday, August 30, 2016 at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, September 3, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Faribault with the Reverend Dr. Michael J. Nirva, officiating. Interment will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetery, Minneapolis with military rites provided by the Rice County Central Veteran's Association.

Visitation will be at the Boldt Funeral Home, Faribault on Friday, September 2, 2016 from 4 to 7 p.m. and also at the church for one hour prior to the services on Saturday.

Raymond Carl, the son of John and Dora (Kelm) Roach, was born on September 25, 1928 in Faribault. Ray was married to the love of his life, Barbara Knauss, for 66 years and God blessed this marriage with four daughters.

Ray was baptized and confirmed into the Lutheran faith at Trinity Lutheran Church and was a lifetime member. He also attended Christian Day School, kindergarten through eighth grade at Trinity. Ray graduated from Faribault High School in 1946. He was active in baseball, having started four years on the high school varsity team. He also, played American Legion Baseball and was instrumental in getting Legion baseball restarted again during World War II in 1943.

Shortly after graduation from high school, Ray joined the United States Marine Corp. After completing boot camp, he was stationed at Marine Barracks, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He played baseball for the Pearl Harbor Marines in both 1947 and 1948 in the 14th District Navy League.

In 1948, Sub Pac was the 14th District Champions and selected Ray and three other Marines to join their team. The Sub Pac team flew back to the states to play in a Navy West Coast Tournament in San Diego. After winning this tournament, Sub Pac then flew to the East Coast to play the Quantico Marines for the All Navy Championship. After being honorably discharged, Ray had the opportunity to sign a professional baseball contract with the Cardinals or the Dodgers. However, Ray chose to sign with the Boston Red Sox. He reported to the Seattle Rainiers of the Pacific Coast League in 1949. In 1950, Ray was ordered back into the Marine Corp during the Korean War.

Later in life, Ray coached the VFW Post #1562 team that played in the VFW First District League for 16 years. Ray was responsible for converting Mike Johnson from an infielder to a pretty good pitcher. Mike went on to pitch for San Diego in the majors.

Ray retired from the Faribault Regional Center after 37 years of employment. He and his wife then bought the Janesville, MN Dairy Queen and worked there for ten years.

Ray served as chairman of the Faribault VFW Loyalty Day parade Post #1562, and then earned national recognition for its Loyalty Day Celebrations that were sponsored nationally by VFW Posts in response to

Russia's May Day celebrations.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; four daughters, Kathryn (and Gary Lynn) Elliott of Sun City, AZ, Patricia (and Ronald) Hendrickson of Prior Lake, Julie (and Peter) Wigersma of Mankato, and Roberta Roach (and James) McHugo of Lyle; seven grandchildren, Jamie (and Jeremy) Feucht, Jill (and John) Anderson, Ronald Jr. Hendrickson (and fiancé, Jolene Robertson), Tami Keilen, Cassi (and Kory) Michalke, Sam Wigersma (and fiancé, Megan Norton), and Tegan McHugo; 15 great grandchildren, Haeley, Maile, Malia, Leighton, and Lane (Keilen), Victoria and Laynie (Feucht), Jackson, Jonni, and Jarett (Anderson), Lana and Landen (Hendrickson), Alexa, Brooke, and Lauren (Michalke); and one sister, Berniece Paquette of Henderson, NV.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two siblings, Margaret (and Joel) Haugh and Harold (and Delores) Affeldt.

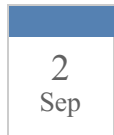
Cemetery



**FT. SNELLING NATIONAL
CEMETERY**

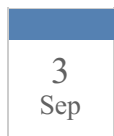
7601 34th Ave South,
Minneapolis, MN 55450

Events



VISITATION
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Boldt Funeral Home 300
Prairie Avenue,
Faribault, MN 55021
Visitation will also be
held at the church for one
hour prior to the services
on Saturday.



SERVICE
10:00 AM

Trinity Lutheran Church
530 4th Street N.W.,
Faribault, MN 55021

Tribute Wall



Greg Neymeyer

So sorry to hear of Rays passing late. He was a very good friend of my father, John, and spoke very kindly of him after he'd passed. A true gentleman.
