



Darvin Ray Bott, II

November 5, 1972 - May 2, 2022

Darvin Ray Bott, II, age 49, formerly of Franklinton, Louisiana, who resided in Covington, Louisiana passed unexpectedly on May 2, 2022 due to a heart attack.

He attended Bowling Green School and graduated from Franklinton High School in 1990. He was certified in HVACR repair and radio and television repair. He competed in and received a bronze medal in the 1990 Louisiana Technical State Vocational competition aka VICA and participated in the apprenticeship program of television and radio repair. He began his career by working with his brother, Reggie Welsh at Welsh's Refrigeration before taking over ownership of the family business, Bott's TV Repair and Satellite Shop. He also graduated Sigma Cum Laude from Southeastern Louisiana University with a Bachelor of Science with dual certification in Special Education mild/moderate disabilities grades 1-12 and Elementary Education grades 1-6. He was a member of Gamma Beta Phi, SCEC (Student Council for Exceptional Children) and the recipient of The 'National' Dean's List 2001–2002 and 2004–2005. An honorary award in which only ½ of 1% of the nation's college students receive. He touched the lives of many children while working as a special education teacher at Abita Springs and Folsom Elementary School before becoming the Senior Pre-ETS transitional instructor and employment specialist at TEEM Academy, in which he mentored students with exceptionalities, assisted the director in decision making and curriculum design.

Ray was a devoted husband who met and fell in love with his childhood sweetheart at the age of 14 in 1987 and married her in 1992. He loved taking summer road trips across the country with his wife, Wendy and furbaby, Bijoux. Together they explored the deserts, oceans, glaciers, rainforest and giant redwood trees in 23 national parks, 41 states and 2 countries. He glided over a 2,200 foot canyon in a gondola, walked over the world's highest suspension bridge at 1,053 feet, hiked a 14,000 foot rocky mountain, crossed the Rio Grande and Continental Divide 11 times, drove the United States most dangerous and treacherous road aka The Million Dollar Highway, drove the highest paved highway, boondocked on the streets of a real life Old West town, got his kicks on Route 66, stood on a corner in Winslow, Arizona, painted a Cadillac on Cadillac Ranch, saw the world's

largest meteor crater, witnessed Old Faithful erupt, got lost in Yosemite, and hiked The Narrows in Utah, The Grand Canyon, Rocky Mountains, Smoky Mountains, etc. He also walked through the gates of Graceland and biked under the full moon in the swamps of Louisiana. Ray enjoyed kayaking, camping, bushcrafting, reading, drawing, painting and experimenting in cooking delicious exotic meals. He also received a first degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

Ray is survived by:

His Wife of 29 years: Wendy Riley Bott

Sister and Brother in law: Janet Welsh Bistes and Joseph Bistes

Brothers and Sisters in law: Mark Bott and Melissa Whaley Bott,
Reginald "Reggie" Welsh and Amy Welsh

Brothers in law and Sisters in law: Ward Burton,
William and Jennifer Riley,
John Eric Riley,
Joshua Riley and Jennifer Green,
Ashley Riley and Jonathan Thompson,
Todd and Michele Fields,
Shane and Carey Jenkins

Nephews and Nieces: Greg Burton,
William "Trey" and Taylor Riley,
Devin Riley,
Valerie and David LeBlanc,
Debra and Josh Budde,
Lizzie Riley and Felicity Howard,
Mariah Jenkins,
Spencer Jenkins,
Nikki and Cory Carlos,
Callie and Chase Anderson

Also numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, great-nephews, great-nieces and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Darwin Ray Bott and Yvonne Cox Bott, brothers Gregory Frank Welsh and Ronald Frank Welsh.

Visitation will be at Crain Funeral Home (1109 Bene Street, Franklinton, LA) on Thursday May 5th from 5:00 pm until 9:00 pm. Visitation will continue on Friday at Bogalusa First Church (14532 Hwy. 21 S, Bogalusa, LA) from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. A funeral service will be held in the church at 2:00 pm Friday with Rev. Travis Houston, Rev. Aldon Morse, and Rev. Earnest Reilley officiating. Burial will follow in the Ellis Cemetery in Franklinton.

Pallbearers: Greg Burton, Trey Riley, Christopher Morgan, Wayne Jenkins, Shane Jenkins, Josh Budde

Comments



“ I'm so sorry to hear bout Ray, I'll keep family and friends in my prayers. I knew Ray from school, he rode bus with us.



Charlotte Morrow - May 06 at 09:50 AM



“ I am deeply sorry for you loss. May God keep you safe.

Terrie Calamusa - May 06 at 08:52 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Ray's passing. Praying for the family . God bless you in your time of grief.

Paul and Ruth Bailey - May 06 at 12:30 AM



“ So sorry Wendy my prayers are with you.

Kimberly Nielson Flynt - May 06 at 08:43 AM



“ O Wendy, my heart is so saddened to read about Ray's passing!! Prayers for God's grace and mercy!



Sharon Beckett - May 05 at 10:23 PM



“ Ray II was a great person enjoyed working with him and Mark when their dad had the TV repair shop

Michael Dufrene - May 05 at 06:44 PM



“ My heart is breaking for Wendy and Liz and Ray 2's family. He will be missed by so many people. He was the definition of "A Good Man". May the Lord give Wendy the strength she will need. Love to all

Jill Bryant Corkern - May 05 at 05:55 PM



“ You will be missed my friend. I truly enjoyed our talks. Rest In Peace



Robert Pierce - May 05 at 04:57 PM



“ Praying for you during this most unexpected time of sorrow. You have wonderful memories to cherish.



Rebecca Becnel and family - May 05 at 04:01 PM



“ There are so many fun, loving memories of Ray, most were when we were in high school, but the memories are scattered throughout the years.

There is one memory that I have that stands out, several years back, at the fairgrounds. The four of us ran into each other, Ray, Wendy, Teddy, and me, we hung out for hours on the camper site. We talked and reminisced about old memories, while making a new memory.

Ray was loved by everyone and will be missed dearly. I was blessed to have had the opportunity to call him my friend. Rest in peace.

Jennifer Wallace - May 05 at 03:16 PM



“ Jennifer Wallace lit a candle in memory of Darvin Ray Bott, II



Jennifer Wallace - May 05 at 02:51 PM



“ Wendy, Sorry to hear of your great loss.

Ann Dickinson - May 05 at 02:46 PM



“ Melissa Miller Hickman lit a candle in memory of Darvin Ray Bott, II



Melissa Miller Hickman - May 05 at 02:12 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Darvin Ray Bott, II.



May 05 at 01:24 PM



“ Susan Barber lit a candle in memory of Darvin Ray Bott, II



Susan Barber - May 05 at 12:56 PM