



Tommy Lee "Ralph" Rice

December 2, 1954 - March 15, 2026

Tommy Lee "Ralph" Rice of Gray Court, SC, passed away, unexpectedly, at his home on Sunday, March 15, 2026, at the age of 71.

Tommy was born in Laurens County on December 2, 1954, to his father, the late Oscar John Rice and his mother, the late Linda Elma Whitmore Edwards.

Tommy found joy in the simplicity of the outdoors, dedicating many years of his life as a lawn care specialist and operating his own landscaping business. He was a man who valued both his faith and a strong work ethic. Throughout his life, Tommy was actively involved in several faith-based youth organizations, especially those focused on mentoring young men in his community. He taught the importance of hard work and essential life skills, such as career readiness, meal preparation, and maintaining a strong connection with faith. As a Mason, Tommy cherished the friendships he formed at the Masonic Lodge.

Tommy leaves behind cherished memories for his beloved daughter, Timika Rice of Travelers Rest; his son, Joseph Gary; and three grandchildren, Zyan Rice and Ambreia Lewis of Travelers Rest, and Josiah Gary; he is also survived by his younger brother and sister, Johnny Rice of Laurens and Lisa Whitmore of New York; his aunts and uncles, Shirley Redmond of Laurens, Dean Redmond of Laurens, Jannie Rice of Laurens, Pearl Whitmore (James),

James Arthur Rice, Bobby Rice and a host of cousins.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. until 2:45 p.m. at The Howze Mortuary, 6714 State Park Road in Travelers Rest. A service to celebrate Tommy's life will follow in the Chapel at 3:00 p.m. officiated by the Reverend Carl Allmond.

Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.thehowzemortuary.com.

The Howze Mortuary, Travelers Rest, is in charge of arrangements. (864) 834-8051.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **24**. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (est)

The Howze Mortuary, Inc.
6714 State Park Road
P.O. Box 369
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
(864) 834-8051
thehowzemortuary@yahoo.com
<https://www.thehowzemortuary.com/>

Celebration of Life

MAR **24**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (est)

The Howze Mortuary, Inc.
6714 State Park Road
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Tribute Wall

TA

“ Our family loved Tommy! My brother and I don't know what we would have done without all the support and love he showed to my Mom and Dad, Tom and Betty Cox. Tommy will be missed by us all.



Teresa Cox Asman - March 27 at 06:43 PM

TC

“ Teresa C. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tommy Lee "Ralph" Rice.

Teresa C. - March 27 at 06:38 PM

RG

“ Ty for loving me and I know your in a better place now and I'll see you there ☐



Rachelle Gary - March 24 at 03:48 PM

JG

“ Joseph Lee Gary lit a candle in memory of Tommy Rice



Joseph Lee Gary - March 24 at 01:10 PM

MJ

“ I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Tommy Lee he loved his his Church family and his family and friends he will be truly missed by his family friends and Love ones.rest well Nephew 🌹

Mattie P James - March 23 at 10:24 PM

SC

“ Sabrina I Carwise sent a virtual gift in memory of Tommy Rice



Sabrina I Carwise - March 23 at 03:48 PM

MC

“ Michael Carwise lit a candle in memory of Tommy Rice



Michael Carwise - March 23 at 03:46 PM

AC

“ Ashley Carwise lit a candle in memory of Tommy Rice



Ashley Carwise - March 23 at 03:45 PM

CC

“ *Chery Carwise lit a candle in memory of Tommy Rice*



Chery Carwise - March 23 at 03:43 PM

SC

“ *Sabrina Carwise lit a candle in memory of Tommy Rice*



Sabrina Carwise - March 23 at 03:40 PM

RM

“ *Robert and Lucy McGowan lit a candle in memory of Tommy Rice*



Robert and Lucy McGowan - March 21 at 03:04 PM

WF

“ *WHITMORE FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Tommy Rice*



WHITMORE FAMILY - March 20 at 07:58 PM

TR

“ *Tris lit a candle in memory of Tommy Rice*



Tris - March 20 at 02:26 PM

WF

*The Family of Tommy,
It is with sadness that we learned of the passing of your and our beloved Tommy. Our thoughts are with all during this difficult time. We extend our deepest sympathies to each member of his family.*

Tommy's presence touched countless lives, and his loss will be deeply felt by all who had the privilege of knowing him. In the midst of grief, may we find comfort in the beautiful memories shared and the legacy he leaves behind.

May these cherished recollections bring strength, peace, and comfort to all in the days, weeks, and months to come.

*With heartfelt condolences,
"The Whitmore Family"*

WHITMORE FAMILY - March 20 at 07:57 PM