



Howard Roy Candelario

July 15, 1936 - July 15, 2026

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Friends in Chattanooga remember Howard Roy Candelario, who died on July 15, 2026 at 90. Born July 15, 1936 in Chattanooga, carrying Laotian-American stories that arrived without footnotes. He grew up believing that showing up was the first craft.

He checked holds that never held still. A checker tally board wiped dry outlasted two captains. Colleagues still mention a checker tally board wiped dry.

He married Clara in 1961. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised a son and a daughter through public schools and ordinary weather. After Clara died in 2019, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember a wave from the driveway that meant you were seen. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Chattanooga, among streets he never needed to explain. The extra coffee is still in the thermos.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. His life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

A memorial gathering in Chattanooga with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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