

Ray Donald Damitio

December 5, 1927 Born at Conway Hospital in Elma, WA

Father: Sylvester James Damitio

Mother: Fannie Cessna (Chambers) Damitio

Brothers: Ed Damitio older, Rick Damitio, younger

Childhood home was a log house on the bank of the Chehalis River in Cedarville, WA

1933 Started Cedarville Grade School

1937 Moved into new house on same property

1940-1945 Attended and graduated from Oakville High School, graduated mid-term
Senior year

1945 Joined U.S. Army Transport Service

1946 Left U.S. Army Transport Service to join U.S. Merchant Marine

1948 Left U.S. Merchant Marines

1948 Married Lena Maxine Davis (September)

1948-1949 Traveled with the Western States Fair Show Carnival

1949 Drove Laundry Truck

1949-1950 Worked in rigging and fell and bucked timber

1951 Joined U.S. Air Force, lived in Texas, Wyoming, Illinois, Alaska
Trained as a cryptographer, was instructor in crypto school, at Scott Air Force
Base Illinois, then shipped to Anchorage Alaska, was crypto supervisor at a U.S.
Air Force Security Service Installation.

1955 Son Bruce born in Alaska

1955 Discharged from U.S. Air Force, moved to Amity Oregon, logged for 89 days, re-
enlisted in the Air Force at Portland, Oregon

1956 Transferred to Mt. Hebo Air Force Station in Hebo, Oregon. Lived in Pacific City,
OR, worked as Crypto Supervisor

- 1957 Transferred to Formosa (later known as Taiwan), worked as Crypto Supervisor daughter Steffanie born in Formosa. Shipped to United States, discharged in San Francisco
- 1958 Re-enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Adair Air Force Base, Corvallis Oregon, worked as Crypto Supervisor
- 1961 Went to Recruiting School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, then sent to The Dalles, Oregon, as an Air Force Recruiter
- 1962 Transferred to Recruiting Duty in Portland, Oregon, lived in Lake Oswego, Oregon
- 1967 Transferred to Can Tho, Vietnam, ran a 5 story motel, bartended, rode "Huey" helicopters as a gunner, rode Chinook Helicopters on Evac Missions, operated as training officer for radar unit. Was recommended for (and later received) a Bronze Star, following a mortar attack on the Billet he was in charge of.
- 1968 Transferred to Recruiting Duty for 9 months in Los Angeles, California, then to Seattle, Washington, lived in Olympia
- 1972 Retired from the Air Force at McChord Air Force Base, Tacoma, Washington
- 1972 Worked in sales for The Coachman Auto Dealership in Olympia
- 1973 Became partner in the Coachman Auto Dealership, began Prima Yacht business, bought and rehabbed boats bought in Florida
- 1975 Prima Yachts built in Taiwan, later boat yard moved to mainland China
- 1982 Wife Lena died
- 1983 Moved onto house boat at East Bay Marina, Olympia, Washington
- 1983 Began Rallying as car owner, co-driver, and organizer
- 1985 Coachman Auto Dealership became the first new dealership in Auto Mall in Southwest Olympia
- 1987 Had new house built in Tenino, Washington
- 1988 Met present wife, Janice
- 1988 Bought Duane DeWees Auto Dealership in Aberdeen
- 1990 Bought the Brooklyn Tavern, opened it, it burned down 4 months later, electrical fire

1991 Married Janice and her three sons

1992 Bought small house in Montesano, Washington to live in while new home on the Wynooche River was being constructed

1992-1994 Moved into present home on the Wynooche River, rebuilt Tavern, opened Tavern in 1994

2000-2004 Sold Duane DeWees, operated Tavern

2004-present- Traveled on U.S. Cargo Jets to several foreign countries, organize rallies, and operate the Tavern

2011 February 11 – deceased at home in Montesano, WA

In his own words:

I have been involved in Rally Racing as competitor, organizer, team member and spectator.

I have traveled extensively throughout the world.

During my time with the Merchant Marine, I traveled through the Suez and Panama Canals, sailed around the Cape of Good Hope, up the Euphrates River, and crossed the Equator off the coast of Africa.

In 1947-48, I worked as a Fireman on the Liberty Ship “Ferdinand Westphal”, and sailed completely around the world in 9 months. The journey started in Vancouver B.C., with stops in Panama, Aruba, Holland, Los Palmas, Canary Islands, Durban, South Africa, Aden, Arabia, The Suez Canal, Naples, Italy, Calagari, Sardinia, Singapore, Japan, and finished in San Francisco.

Countries I have Visited

Jamaica
Puerto Rico
Mexico
Panama
Germany
England
Holland
Spain
Italy
Turkey
Singapore
Japan
Philippines
New Zealand
Australia
Malaysia
Canada
South Africa
Iraq
Indonesia
Ireland
Vietnam
Korea
Croatia
Slovenia
Taiwan
China
Greece

Islands

Midway
Saipan
Okinawa
Taiwan
Canary Isles
Aruba

Off-Shore United States & Territories

Hawaii
Alaska
Virgin Isles
Guam

States NOT ever lived in, traveled to, or been through: