



## Richard Raymond Baer

August 6, 1929 - May 22, 2013

Chief Richard “Biff” Baer, Retired, won his last fight and joined his Mother, Magdalena Schnitzius on May 22, 2013. He was 83. He is survived by wife of 60 years, June, children: Susan Cherbonneau (Jerry), Pamela (Wayne) Calder, Richard (Cindi) Baer, Cristine (John) Courter and Carole (Regis) Helch, Brother Bill, 9 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, French Creek Slick and many friends.

He organized the Pine Township Police Department which became Tri-Area Police Department, the first combined Police Department in the State of Pennsylvania, and retired as Chief of Police of the now Northern Regional Police Department.

Rich was the president of North Hills Police Association, The Allegheny County Chiefs of Police Association, The Western Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, The State of Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, and The FBI National Academy Associates. He was a graduate of the Pennsylvania State Police Academy, and the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He was a life member of the Knights of Columbus, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 91, and held offices in the VFW and the American Legion. He was the boxing commissioner under the Thornburgh Administration.

Among his many legislative achievements, “Chief” was instrumental in passing the Police Mandatory Training Bill, and the building of the

Police Academy in North Park, which he considered "...one of our biggest battles won."

Rich and June have made their home in Cochranon for the past 20 years.

Friends received at Simons Funeral Home, 7720 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh Pa 15237. Visitation will be held Thursday 7 - 9 pm & Friday 1 - 8 pm. Funeral will commence at 8:30 am, Saturday Morning at Simons

Funeral Home, followed by a 10:00 am Mass of Christian Burial in St. Alphonsus Church, 201 Church Rd. Wexford, Pa. 15090 The internment will be private.

If desired, In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Richard R Baer Scholarship fund of the FBI National Academy Associates. Address to: FBINAAWPA, Bert Lott, Secretary/Treasurer, Northern Regional Police Department 230 Pearce Mill Road, Wexford, PA 15090. [www.simonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.simonsfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **23**. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Simons Funeral Home, Inc.  
7720 Perry Highway  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
(412) 367-3100  
<https://www.simonsfuneralhome.com>

## Visitation

MAY **24**. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Simons Funeral Home, Inc.  
7720 Perry Highway  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
(412) 367-3100  
<https://www.simonsfuneralhome.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAY **25**. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

St. Alphonsus Church  
201 Church Rd,  
Wexford, PA 15090  
<http://stals-wexford.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard Raymond Baer*



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**Simons Funeral Home** - May 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

FT

“ *I remember working with Chief Baer in the 1970's. He was progressive in his thinking about police work and always conducted himself with dignity and enthusiasm.*

*Father Rodney Torbic*

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**Father Rodney Torbic** - May 25, 2013 at 02:04 AM

JE

“ So sorry to hear of Biff passing away. I thought about him so many times through the years. I live in SC and tried with no luck to find out where he was on my visits back to Pa. I was one of his boxers at the Willow Boxing Club in North Park. He was a mentor to me and positively impacted my life and countless others. Always believing in me and showing an interest in me as a person. He took me by his office, on a trip to camp, and introduced me to his family that he was so proud of. He was genuine, passionate, and caring. What a life you lived Biff. I don't know how you found the time to do it all. But I'm sure glad you did. Thanks for everything, I love you Biff. I know you would want every person you have touched to carry on and live life to the fullest and be happy until we meet again. Jeff Ensminger

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Jeff Ensminger - May 24, 2013 at 07:55 PM

MW

“ June and Family,

Kimberly and I offer our prayers and condolences to you and yours on the passing of Biffy. I'll cherish the memories that I had with Biff and his dogs. Although I only knew him for the last 15-20 years, it was like I knew him my entire life. One day him and I will once again wander the fields in heaven behind Rump. June if you ever need anything don't hesitate to ask.  
Love Mike and Kim W.

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Mike Wylie - May 24, 2013 at 12:09 PM



“ Sweet Liberty was purchased for the family of Richard Raymond Baer.



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May 23, 2013 at 10:43 AM

CB

“ Dear June and Family,  
I was so sad to hear from Butch about the passing of Bip yesterday.  
He truly was a wonderful man and I have such fond memories of  
Christmas dinners at your home in Cochran with the girls and the  
Hershbergers. I will never forget your kindness and Bip's upbeat  
personality as he reached out to our family.  
My prayers are with you,  
Carla Behr

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**Carla Behr** - May 23, 2013 at 10:15 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Simons Funeral Home** - May 22, 2013 at 12:33 PM