



## Richard Boyd

December 16, 1952 - November 8, 2021

Richard Paul Boyd unexpectedly passed away on November 8, 2021. The medical team worked 44 minutes trying to revive him. Even in the brief hours with his doctors they realized what a fine man Richard was. The sorrow and shock felt by the staff at Sarasota Memorial Hospital has echoed throughout Richard's family and friends.

Richard was born December 16, 1952 in Roaring Springs, Pennsylvania. I am sure when God picked Richard's birthday it was so that he would be able to watch the world wake up in the spring, so that he would be able to appreciate the rushing of the rivers where he would be found fishing, enjoying wildlife, and marveling at all things new. Three years after his birth he was blessed to have a sister, Donna.

With his parents and sister they moved to Takoma Park Maryland where Richard attended Takoma Academy and later Columbia Union College with a B.S. in Health Sciences. From 1975-2009 he worked at Washington Adventist Hospital first as a lab tech, then as the Manager of Nuclear Medicine, finally as the Director of Radiology Services. His career then took him to Auburn Regional Medical Center where he was the Director of Imaging Services from 2009 until his retirement in 2016. Richard was seen by colleagues as dependable, friendly, intelligent, hard-working, and dedicated. Richard chose to work within Adventist Health Care system because of the Christian environment, feeling it resulted in better patient care and a better attitude by employees to the patients.

Richard's work and personal life mirrored one another. To his friends and family he was known to be loyal, steadfast, trustworthy, kindhearted, patient, and in love with God. While he was most definitely all of those things, he also had a mischievous side. Richard named one of his cats "What" because he thought it would be funny to answer "What?" every time someone asked him his cat's name. When he was in high school he lit farts in the woods with his buddies. He would sneak up behind unsuspecting victims to startle them. Richard's love of practical jokes facilitated his daughter's love of practical jokes. Always ensuring that she understood that pranks should never be hurtful or damaging.

On a Sabbath afternoon at the New Market camp meeting, Richard met the true love of his life Bonnie. In Bonnie's retelling of their first meeting she "Saw the crowds part and a very handsome man with stunning blue eyes, the kindest eyes she had ever seen" walking towards her. It was then that she knew God had answered her prayers for a father to her daughter MeLanie. (Which was his second love) The world may not believe in love at first sight. But if you knew Richard and Bonnie together you would know that there was love, above all else, love. Did they always enjoy the same things? No, early on in their relationship he took her in a small boat down the Shenandoah River. Bonnie pictured a beautiful picnic with linens, finger sandwiches, and perhaps a parasol. What she got was mosquitoes, murky water, and the smell of fishy fingers as he gently cradled her face in his fishy hands to tell her how much he loved her. The love continued, alas their fishing adventures did not. Richard was always dedicated to being a fisherman. One time he hooked his face, had the ER remove it, and went right back out there. However, Richard did not give up on having a fishing buddy. So he took his daughter MeLanie out on their first Father's Day for their first fishing trip. This is where she caught her first eel. Richard made her take it off of the hook herself, telling her she could do anything she set her mind to. Since then they have been fishing buddies.

Richard met Kevin at his nephew Billy's house for dinner. After dinner Richard and Bonnie told MeLanie that they had met "the one" for her. A short 4.5 years later Kevin asked Richard to marry his daughter MeLanie and they became a family of four. Later on the family was made complete by the addition of Richard's granddaughter Charleigh Rae. Up until that moment in Richard's life he had managed to never change a diaper. Upon the "request" of his daughter MeLanie, he changed his first and only diaper. At each diaper change thereafter he would be found outside appreciating the fresh smells and sights that the world has to offer. Charleigh Rae was Richard's sidekick. While he took the time to teach Charleigh Rae about nature/gardening and the importance of taking care of it, he also took the time to sneak in splashes from the hose, thus beginning a water battle much to Charleigh Rae's delight.

In his early days Richard could play a "mean game" of racketball. He was also proud of driving his custom ordered Dodge Daytona on the original clutch for 230,000 miles. He was the one to catch the biggest or most fish on a trip. Richard and Bonnie enjoyed swimming with manatee, dolphins, feeding giraffes, and long car rides as he pointed out all of the wildlife. In Richard's excitement to show his family all that God's world has to offer the front passenger would find his finger right under their nose. In addition he had a passion for growing things such as bananas, orchids, limes, lemons, kiwi and working to graft a plum and apricot tree, thus making a "plout".

Richard's Bible has many highlighted texts. Throughout these texts there is a common theme. God's love, His presence during times of great sorrow and anxiety, and the infinite help God offers. In 1 John 3 Richard highlighted a few passages. Two that stick out are "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure."

Richard is survived by his wife Bonnie, his daughter MeLanie, her husband Kevin, and his grand-daughter Charleigh Rae. He is also survived by his sister Donna Harley, her husband Tim, and their children Melissa, Michael, and his wife Paige.

Richard is preceded in death by his parents Paul and Lola Boyd.

A celebration of life will be held November 13, 2021 at 4:30pm eastern time. Due to lingering CoVid concerns, we will be providing streaming services. Richard loved all of our family pets especially his most recent pet Bentley. Because of his fondness for animals, in lieu of flowers please send donations in Richard's name to [barccmeow.com/give](https://barccmeow.com/give).

# Tribute Wall

AK

“ *Ps 116:15 "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints"! Richard was a gracious person all the time. I have worked with him since 1985, his wonderful smile and wholesome words were amazing! May the Lord comfort Bonnie and the rest of the family I pray. He will be missed on this side, but will see him in eternity. God Bless.*  
*Alex Kurikeshu, Maryland*

Alexander Kurikeshu - November 13, 2021 at 08:56 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Richard Boyd.*



November 12, 2021 at 02:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard Boyd.*



November 12, 2021 at 11:45 AM



“ *Oh, Bonnie, my heart just breaks for you! Richard and you were such a sweet couple and team. I know you have a storehouse of treasured memories. Soon Jesus will come and reunite you for an eternity of joy in His presence. Think of the amazing flower garden Richard will grow in the New Earth!! May God fill your heart with peace and comfort. Sending you hugs. Liz Simons*

Liz Simons - November 12, 2021 at 10:59 AM

RB

“ Richard was known to me as Dick when I was growing up. He was Dad’s cousin and 7 years older than I was but I looked up to Dick as somewhat of a role model. I think we called him Dick because “Dick and Donna” rolled off the tongue quite well. Life happens and we both went in quite different directions for many years. When Uncle Paul went to be with the Lord, I was sad that he was gone but I remember being excited that I would get to reconnect with Dick and Donna but especially Dick. I didn’t recognize him at first but as soon as I heard him speak and saw his smile, I had no doubt that was Dick. I am thankful for modern technology that allowed me to keep up with him these last few years and look forward to seeing him on those streets of gold some day soon. Rest In Peace cousin Dick.

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**Rodney Boyd** - November 12, 2021 at 07:43 AM

AI

“ From racing me around in your Daytona to the Chinese fire drills at red lights after fourth of July fire works in Washington D.C. and Grandma Gertrude with her canes running with all of us, to me sitting in freezing water fixing uncle Duane's jet ski cause someone didn't know they don't steer so good when the jet impeller is not spraying water you build me out of depression with the personal book you sent me when I had my heart failure and interducing me to the cannonball run in aunt Bonnie's movie room ...I told you I loved you uncle and I know you knew it till we all meet again I will for ever enjoy the memories you gave me.you are physically gone but I will always remember you and our adventures

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**Aaron D. Ingersoll** - November 12, 2021 at 12:46 AM

AI

Not build it was bailed me out of depression...

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**Aaron D. Ingersoll** - November 12, 2021 at 12:49 AM

DH

“ We here in Auburn, WA are totally devastated. I just talked to Richard about his fushia growing abilities. Richard, you were the best boss and Christian man I have ever known. May you RIP .

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**Dianne Hubbard** - November 11, 2021 at 03:19 PM

NR

“ We always remember our many times together while being close to each other in MD, the talks, the walks, the meals we shared.  
Richard gave me my first orchid plant, showed me how to take care of them, since then I have had dozens of them, they bring so much joy, thank your Richard!  
We eagerly wait to see him again at the very soon coming of Jesus, what a marvelous reunion that will be.

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**Norval & Gladys Ríos** - November 11, 2021 at 02:58 PM

GC

“ Will always remember his open welcoming smile and nod or wave across the aisle at church. Loved his show of affection for Bonnie in church with his arm around her.

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**Glavaun and Carl** - November 11, 2021 at 02:24 PM

BS

Richard was a wonderful man. His love of fishing endeared him to Bob. We were so sorry when they moved from this area. We enjoyed all the great pictures of his flowers. He will be missed in our hearts. Love. Bob and Joan Shumway

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**Bob and Joan Shumway** - November 11, 2021 at 06:12 PM

BS

Richard was a wonderful man. His love of fishing endeared him to Bob. We were so sad when they moved from our area. We enjoyed his pictures and the wonderful works of his hands.  
He will be missed in our hearts. Much love to Bonnie and family.

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**Bob and Joan Shumway** - November 11, 2021 at 06:18 PM