



John Edward Richter

OCT 2, 1934 - SEP 25, 2018



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John “Jack” Edward Richter, 83, of Dover, Delaware, passed away on September 25, 2018, from complications due to his cancer.

Jack was a proud, second generation Doverite, born on October 2, 1934, to the late Glenn Albert Richter and Margaret Catherine (Ruyter) Richter, who was also born in Dover. Dedicated to the City of Dover, Jack served in a number of official capacities, including City Council (1980-1988), Vice Mayor (1987-1988) and Mayor (1988-1992). He was devoted to preserving Dover’s history, volunteering his time as President and longtime member of The Friends of Old Dover, as member and President of The Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, and as a board member of the Delaware Agricultural Museum. Jack was a spark behind the Constitution Place project, planned in conjunction with Delaware’s Bicentennial Celebration in 1987. He was also a major enthusiast of the arts, advocating for the renovation of the Schwartz Center for the Arts and supporting the Biggs Museum, Dover Symphony, Delaware Choral Society, and Rehoboth Art League.

Jack graduated from the University of Delaware in 1956, as a civil engineer. He met his wife of 58 years, Mary Jane (Wiley) Richter, now deceased, at the university. After a short stint in Elmira, New York, where Jack worked for United State Steel, the young couple settled in Dover, where they raised their two daughters, Jackie Richter-Menge of Hanover, New Hampshire, and Andi Pedigo of Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Jack worked for the State of Delaware for over 30 years, retiring in the position of Director for the Delaware Transportation Authority. Never one to sit still, Jack went on to join Tetra Tech, took classes to earn an MBA from Wilmington University, and partnered in establishing a branch of Becker Morgan in Dover.

As an avid outdoors man, Jack enjoyed hunting and fishing, exploring our magnificent State and National Parks, watching the sunset over the marsh with friends, and a simple walk with Nature. Even an afternoon of yard work was more than satisfying to him. Jack also loved to throw himself into a project. For instance, he applied his many skills in helping to establish and expand the Savannah Animal Hospital in Lewes, DE, which was originated by his daughter, Andi, and son-in-



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law, Bob. And in March and April, Jack would be found in New Hampshire, making improvements to Maple Leaf Farm, a maple syrup operation run by his daughter, Jackie, and son-in-law, Richard. One of his latest projects was to guide the extensive renovations at the Pedigo farm in Scottsville, Kentucky, creating the newest gathering place for our families.

Jack was dedicated to spending time with the Richter/Pedigo/Menge family, often involving trips with detailed itineraries to explore places near and far. The apples of Jack's eyes were his six grandchildren, Jenn and Katherine Menge and Allie, Brad, Jack and Will Pedigo, who knew him as 'Opa'. He is also survived by his brothers, Raymond Richter, of Dover, and Glenn Richter, of Perrysburg, Ohio. Jack maintained a long and deep relationship with his Dutch relatives, most recently making a trip to The Netherlands in May, and a group of 'Dover Boys', who graduated together from Dover High School in 1952.

Jack attended St. John's Lutheran Church in Dover in his early years, and later became an active member and disciple at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Rehoboth Beach.

A celebration of Jack's life will be held on Monday, October 22, at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 20276 Bay Vista Road, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, at 11:00 AM, where friends may visit beginning at 10:00 AM.

Many thanks to the large network of family and friends who provided prayers and support to Jack and his family over the last months. It made a difference.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the M. Jane Richter Scholarship Fund (MJRSF), to become the Jane and Jack Richter Scholarship Fund. Checks can be made out to the MJRSF and mailed to the Delaware Community Foundation, P.O. Box 1636, Wilmington, Delaware, 19899.

Please sign Jack's online guestbook located on this site.

FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE HAVE ALL FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS DELIVERED TO PARSELL FUNERAL HOMES, LEWES BY 3 PM ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018.




Events


John Edward Richter

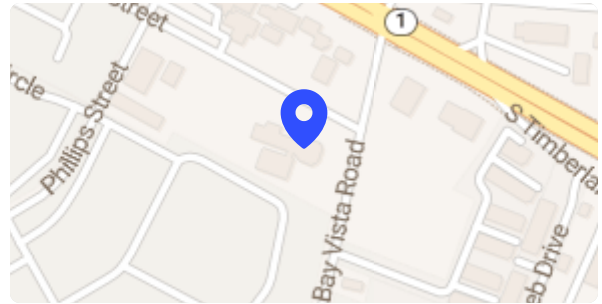
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Visitation


 **Monday**, October 22, 2018


 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

 **Lutheran Church of Our Savior**
20276 Bay Vista Road, Rehoboth Beach DE

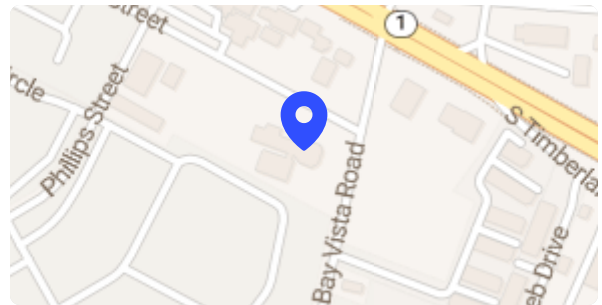


Memorial Service

 **Monday**, October 22, 2018

 11:00 AM ET

 **Lutheran Church of Our Savior**
20276 Bay Vista Road, Rehoboth Beach DE





Tribute Wall

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WN

Ward Novak posted:

Andi and Jackie:My mother and father were friends of your mom and dad. Marty and I have been friends of Andi and Bob for almost 30 years..... we know this is a difficult time and send our thoughts and prayers to you both and your families.Ward and Marty Novak

October 16 at 9:37 PM

DC

Dorothy Carey posted:

I was married to Fred Carey Jr. and being wed to one of the "Dover Boys" was an experience to say the least. We had many wonderful times with Jack and Jane, always a lot of good fun. The "Boys" played cards weekly and everytime Jack came in he said the same thing, "Dorothy, you are a wonderful woman", can still hear it, though as I think back, it may have been the oyster stew and rice pudding, rather than me.I will miss Jack, the last time I heard from him was the invitation to the Dover High reunion, I was not a classmate, but he made sure that I was invited with a special handwritten note.His two wonderful, talented daughters, and exceptional grandchildren will provide a living legacy for years to come.Rest in Peace Jack, you did a good job.Love, Dorothy

October 16 at 4:11 AM



Christine King posted:

Jack and Jane were staples of Our Savior. Jack's dark curly hair made him stand out in the crowd. His engaging smile and personality lighted the room! He is missed!

October 12 at 6:27 AM

RS

Ron & Ruth Shomo posted:

We are thinking of you with the loss of your father. Your father and mother were very proud and supportive of their daughters. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.Love,Ron & Ruth Shomo

October 4 at 9:20 AM



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MH

Mary Harris posted:

Dear Dr. Richter and family, I never met your father, but I know of your mutual love and his devotion to you and your children, from hearing you speak of him. All of you were indeed blessed to have both of your parents and grandparents, and benefit from their guidance and love over the years. You may feel like an orphan now, for I felt that way when my last surviving parent died, and realized that it's a valid response for a child of any age; it's the parent-child relationship that has ended in real time, and our ages don't matter. Please allow yourself to feel what you feel, and for sweet comfort to settle in its own good time. I think of you now, and bless the man who lovingly and enthusiastically taught and guided all of you over the years. Most sincerely, Mary Harris (and Mia the cat) Midlothian, Virginia

October 3 at 6:05 AM

TC

Taylor Collins posted:

My deepest condolences to Jack's family and many friends. He worked so diligently for our city and the contributions both him and Jane made will always be remembered. There is solace in knowing they are together again. Rest in Peace.

October 2 at 1:25 PM

MM

Mary Mason posted:

My deepest sympathy to Jack's family. I loved Jack for his wonderful stories about his family and his many travels. When he returned from one of his trips harvesting his family's maple syrup he surprised us at our monthly board meeting at the Friends of old Dover with our own bottle to take home. I will remember his generosity and and truly unique sense of humor. Mary Terry Mason

October 1 at 5:41 AM

RH

Rhonda Hitchens posted:

Jack was one of a kind and it was a pleasure working with him and for him. He and Jane were very gracious and kind to everyone. Jack was a lot of fun and I will keep wonderful memories of he and Jane close to my heart. They were like family to me. Rhonda Hitchens Becker Morgan Group, Inc.

October 1 at 4:23 AM



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LD

Linda And Bob Duncan posted:

Mary Jane and Jack were a remarkable pair. I know that Jack will be missed very much by his family, especially the grandchildren. He will also be missed by his many good friends. The good news is that he will now be reunited with Mary Jane for..... forever!!!May you rest in peace, Jack. Safe travel.Linda and Bob Duncan

September 28 at 9:32 AM



David Shevock lit a candle in honor of John.

Andi and Jackie and family Im sorry to hear about you dad. he was a great friend he taught me a lot of things in life, i can rember in 1980 when my dad was in Dover city council 1st district with your dad he will be missed he is now up there with your mom and my mom. take care prayers are with you.



September 27 at 7:33 PM

JB

Judy Bennett posted:

remembering all the fun we had at the Delaware Games. So sorry for your loss. He will be missed by many.Judy Bennett

September 27 at 5:28 PM

TB

Terry & Shari Burchenal posted:

You were a wonderful neighbor and friend for many years. We will miss you Jack

September 27 at 12:18 PM

DB

David Bonar posted:

I had the honor of knowing Jack in a variety of capacities. Jack served on Dover City Council and later Mayor of the City of Dover with distinction. His reasoned discussion on every matter, be it pay for employees or whether or not to change a City Ordinance was always done with thought and the best interest of citizens I'm mind. His sense of humor was great and his laughter could fill a room in an instant. Jack believed in the history and need for preservation of "Olde Dover" and he remembered that through all the days of his life. Rest easy Jack and thanks.

September 27 at 3:27 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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