



Richard A. Kirschner Sr.

April 21, 1942 - November 23, 2021

Richard A. Kirschner Sr., age 79 of Lewes, DE, passed away surrounded by his family, on Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at his home after a lengthy battle with prostate cancer. He was born on April 21, 1942, in Hazelton, PA, son of the late Charles F. and Esther (Howey) Kirschner.

Richard attended Wilmington High School, Class of 1960, earned an Associate's degree from Goldey-Beacom College in 1962, and a Bachelor's Degree from Wilmington University in 1975. He also served in the Delaware National Guard as First-Class Airman from 1963-1969. Richard worked for DuPont Company as a financial analyst from 1960-1992, prior to serving as Executive Director of Sunday Breakfast Mission from 1993-2001. There he created the implementation of the Gateway House in Wilmington, a 52-bed housing facility that assisted the homeless in integrating back into mainstream society. Following a brief retirement, Richard then went on to oversee finances as CFO of Sussex Conservation District from 2003-2016.

Richard was an active member of all the communities in which he lived. He officiated football and basketball at the high school level, coached Little League in New Castle County and Lewes, and was score-keeper for University of Delaware basketball games. Richard enjoyed volunteering his time with the Lewes Planning Council, Pilottown Village HOA, and playing Santa for the Beebe Medical Foundation & Children's Beach House. Above all, he cherished being with his wife of 58 years, enjoying their time at the beach, fishing trips, family cruises, and spending time with his grandchildren. Richard was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend. He was loved by many and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to all those who have been with Richard through his battle: the staff at Season's Hospice, and Griswold Home Care, especially Vashti Jones.

Richard is survived by his beloved wife, Terri Logan Kirschner of Lewes, DE; his sons:

Richard A. Kirschner, Jr. (Cindy) of Beaumont, TX and Wesley C. Kirschner (Betsy) of Lewes, DE; his grandchildren, of whom he was so proud: Evan (Maddie), Ryan (Cara), Caroline, and Owen, all of TX, and Wesley, Jayson, and Terri, all of Lewes, DE; his sister, Susan Kirschner Welsh (John) of Newark, DE; and his nephews: Brian (Amie) and Scott, both of Newark.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, December 18, 2021, at 11:00 AM, at Parsell Funeral Home and Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, where friends may visit beginning at 10:00 AM. Interment will be private.

All are invited to attend the services via live stream by visiting <https://webcasts.lifetributes.com/1177303>

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, masks and social distancing are required by all persons attending, or participating, in any aspect of the services.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions in Richard's memory to Seasons Hospice, 220 Continental Drive, Suite 407, Newark, DE 19713.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

Previous Events

Flowers

DEC 17. 3:00 PM (ET)

Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel
16961 Kings Highway
Lewes, DE 19958

Visitation

DEC 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel
16961 Kings Highway
Lewes, DE 19958

Memorial Service

DEC 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel
16961 Kings Highway
Lewes, DE 19958

Tribute Wall

RP

“ Sorry to hear of Rich’s passing. I was on the swim team with him in high school and he was a great friend. I have many great memories to recall even to this day and he will be missed.
Ron Protack

Ron Protack - December 20, 2021 at 12:46 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard A. Kirschner Sr..



December 10, 2021 at 11:03 AM

MD

“ Dear Terri, Wes, Betsey and Family,

We are so sorry to learn of Rich's passing. We know that you have such beautiful memories of him that will forever be held in your hearts. Rich was a great guy and we will all miss him. May you find peace and comfort in the days ahead.

We unfortunately will be unable to attend Rich's service as we will be out of town. We will be there in spirit.

Sincerely,
Mike & Ginny Dellose

Mike Dellose - December 09, 2021 at 09:31 AM



Thank you so much!

Betsy Kirschner - December 10, 2021 at 11:52 AM

DM

“ Very sorry to learn of Dick’s passing. We officiated many football games together. He will be missed.

Dan Monagle

Dan Monagle - December 05, 2021 at 12:43 PM



Thank you so much

Betsy Kirschner - December 06, 2021 at 01:32 PM

JG

“ *Joe Gardner lit a candle in memory of Richard A. Kirschner Sr.*



Joe Gardner - December 05, 2021 at 11:51 AM

RF

“ *I was fortunate to have worked many high school basketball games with Dick over the years. He was a good friend and dependable fellow official. We also looked forward to having him officiate our football games at William Penn High School as well. We extend our deepest sympathies and heartfelt prayers to his family.*

Richard and Dottie Farmer, Greensboro, GA

Richard Farmer - December 05, 2021 at 06:19 AM



Thank you so much for your sentiment and we are glad you had such wonderful memories with him.

Betsy Kirschner - December 06, 2021 at 01:30 PM

WA

“ *My condolences to the family. William Anderson, WHS class of 1960.*



William Anderson - December 01, 2021 at 09:11 PM



Thank you so much

Betsy Kirschner - December 04, 2021 at 07:22 AM

GD

“ Gateway House Inc Board Of Directors purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Richard A. Kirschner Sr..



Gateway House Inc Board Of Directors - November 30, 2021 at 11:31 AM

LM

“ Mike and I will forever remember Rich as the best "neighbor over the fence". Our gardens mingled and shared, as did the stories and jokes. He gave us cucumbers, and we gave him basil. He removed garden snakes, and we gave him ferns. We kept in touch not with letters, as much as shared tupperware full of foods and recipes. He was our Santa Claus and Community advisor. We will miss his soft voice and his kind spirit, (truly full of grace) especially when we gaze over the fence. Lorraine and Mike Messitt

Lorraine & Mike Messitt - November 30, 2021 at 11:18 AM



Thank you so much for the wonderful memories, we are so happy that you had such a special friendship!

Betsy Kirschner - December 01, 2021 at 07:28 AM

RC

“ My deepest sympathies to your family. I worked with Rich at DiPont & volunteered with him several times at Sunday Breakfast Mission serving Thanksgiving dinner. I always think of him this time of year because of those times. I don't need to tell you what a fun, kind and wonderful man Rich was. I can hear his laugh. Rest In Peace old friend.

Robin Cini - November 29, 2021 at 10:56 PM



Thank you so much for your wonderful memories of Rich, we are heartbroken but relieved he is at peace

Betsy Kirschner - November 30, 2021 at 07:45 AM

PC

“ I think you hope that during your lifetime you meet a few people who make a difference in the lives of those people who come in contact them . Rich was certainly one of those people for Cathie and me . I thank God every day that our paths crossed . God rest his soul . Pete Clark

Pete Clark - November 29, 2021 at 09:31 PM



Thank you so much Pete, Rich cherished your friendship and many laugh's your both had! We are heartbroken yet relieved he is at peace.

Betsy Kirschner - November 30, 2021 at 07:48 AM

JL

“ *Dear Kirschner Family,
I had the pleasure and privilege of serving with Richard on the Lewes Planning Commision for several years. We used to sit next to each other. He was a really nice guy and a true gentleman. He will be missed. May he rest in peace.*

*Jim Linnen
Lewes, DE*

James R. Linnen - November 28, 2021 at 02:54 PM



Thank you so much for such kind words. We miss him

Betsy Kirschner - November 29, 2021 at 01:24 PM

TK

I had the pleasure of officiating football with Rich. Good official, great guy!

tom kituskie - November 29, 2021 at 06:18 PM

DW

“ *I've known Rich and his wife Terri since 1959.
He was an all around great guy.
Loved his family, sports and telling endless stories.
We worked at Camby pool for 3 years and had fun every day
We watched many sporting events together
Had dinner many times with his and our families.
He and Terri supported our family during our daughter Janet's 19 months of cancer. They were Janet's God parents. They never had a daughter, but Janet became theirs too.
Marge and I will miss Rich and know that he is heaven with our Lord and probably telling him many of the stories that he told us over so many years.
Our prayers to the entire Kirschner family.
Peace and Love Rich
Dave & Marge Ward*

Dave Ward - November 27, 2021 at 11:49 AM



I have found an article from 1961, with a picture of "Richie". Thank you for sharing that wonderful memory

Betsy Kirschner - November 29, 2021 at 01:48 PM