



Richard H. Reeves

December 17, 1949 - August 3, 2020

Richard H. Reeves died peacefully in his sleep, August 3rd. Richie is survived by his loving family: his son, Thomas Reeves, his daughter, Rachael Reeves, her husband Sean McCloskey, their son, Declan McCloskey, and Richie's best friend and former wife, Marylou Wellbrock-Reeves. One of Richie's greatest joys was the birth of his first grandchild this past year, Declan McCloskey.

For those who knew Richie, he was an artist at heart. His work can be seen and enjoyed by all of us in the gardens he tended at our homes in Lewes.

Richie was an accomplished baker who would spend hours working on his tasty creations for all to enjoy, most recently over this past weekend.

A gentle soul with a keen, intelligent, inquisitive mind, Richie loved animals of all kinds. He now joins his dogs, Skinner and Buddy, for perpetual walks in heaven.

Having built a home in Lewes, Delaware in 2001, Richie moved to Lewes full time in 2012 after his retirement from his dental lab, Goldmasters, Inc.

Richard Harold Reeves was born in La Habra, California in 1949. One of four boys born to Rex and Virginia Reeves, Richie is survived by two brothers, Steve and Dave, having been predeceased by Donald.

One of Richie's greatest achievements was, at the age of 45, how he conquered complete paralysis from his upper chest to his feet caused by a condition called transverse myelitis. Not being able to move so much as his little toe, Richie spent months in rehabilitation first simply surviving the attack, and then working hard and willing himself to walk, defying all odds with his success. For the rest of his life, Richie hid his physical limitations with his most idiosyncratic and humorous way.

Although plans have not been finalized, there will be an outdoor memorial service in

Lewes, Delaware to be held in one of the garden's Richie so patiently tended which will be livestreamed with a post-COVID memorial service in California at a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in Richie's honor to the Greater Lewes Foundation, PO Box 110, 135 Second Street, Lewes, Delaware, 19958.

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

Comments



“ My deepest sympathy for all the Reeves family. I remember well Richard bring his hand crank ice cream maker to my house so that all the kids would learn how to make the most delicious ice cream. He was ever so patient and looked at the world with wonder and love.



Betty Wellbrock Baker - November 25, 2020 at 08:33 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Steve Reeves - August 17, 2020 at 03:11 PM



“ This is a great photo Uncle Steve! Sad I didn't see it until today- it would have been great for the slideshow. XO Rachael

Rachael - August 23, 2020 at 03:33 PM



“ So very sorry to hear about Richard. He had a gentle and happy spirit.

I'll always remember having my first drink of sake with him at some long ago birthday party. We were at the "bad" table. So bad I can't remember whose birthday it was! But I remember his grin as he refilled our glasses.

Jane Cope
Frank Terzino

Jane Cope - August 11, 2020 at 12:38 PM



“ Dear Marylou, Tom, Rachael and Sean,
I'm so very sorry for the loss of Richie. You're all in my thoughts and heart.
Much love.

Amy Matarese - August 10, 2020 at 01:48 PM



“ Prayers for Rich and his family! We only knew Ruch a few years but always a friendly smile! Saddened by his passing!
Eileen and Paul Kraeger



eileen kraeger - August 10, 2020 at 11:58 AM



“ I met Richard and Mary Lou when I got the opportunity to coach their son Tommy in basketball at St. Clements CYO. He was a great supporter of our team and program. He was always there when I needed help with the team or the entire CYO program. He was just a "down to earth human being". He was a coach's parent.

Thanks Richard.....and make sure they are running the CYO basketball program up in heaven the way we both know how it should run. God rest your soul and keep watch on us.

John Boylan

john boylan - August 09, 2020 at 06:27 PM



“ Actually, Richard was born in Glendale. He lived there until 1950, when the family moved to Lakewood. In 1963 we moved to East Whittier, then to La Habra in 1967. After high school, Richard and I shared one of the defining times of our young lives when we spent the summer driving up to Canada and back while camping out in my Dodge van. This is the van that I later sold to him that some of you remember. I had bought the van new in 1969 hoping for just such a trip, and I had added paneling, insulation, carpeting and curtains. Two young hippies didn't need much more (we had more, but we kept it stashed), and we had the adventure of our lives as we aimlessly wandered to Canada and back. We only had one cent left when we got home, but the memories have lasted forever.

Steve Reeves - August 08, 2020 at 06:41 PM



“ Uncle Richard was the one to take me for rides in his old Dodge van. There was an Asian style rug on top of the engine which was located between the front seats and that was where I would sit. When I would visit Grandmas house Richard could be found doing one of three things, reading, cooking or landscaping the yard. All three of these things I also love to do. Later he would move out to the coast and had his “beach bum” years. I will miss our long phone conversations and how much he reminded me of my dad.

Melissa Reeves - August 07, 2020 at 07:14 PM



“ Jim and I are sending our deepest condolences to all of Richie's loved ones.

Richie was my go to friend when I needed advice or names of plants. His knowledge of native plants, when and where to plant was immense. His garden was a proof of his love and care.

Talking with Richie we could touch on many different subjects, be it books, cars, drinks, food, you name it.

Dear Richie, may you now look down on your beloved California and rest without pain but in peace.

Gaby and Jim

Jim and Gaby Linnen - August 05, 2020 at 03:48 PM



“ Thank you, hearing your memories means a lot to us. He did love his plants! -- Rachael

Rachael - August 06, 2020 at 04:15 PM



“ Rich and I moved into the east side of the 1900 block of Manchester in Cardiff on the same day, July 1, 1980. Since we still live there, we get to see the avocado tree that Richie planted from a seed, that is still on that property. It does bare fruit that are beautiful but are difficult to get to ripen! We used to bake cookies and compare how they came out!

From stories I heard, one of the greatest was Rich's creation of the perfect wedding cake. Until when left on the counter Skinner ate it, pure chocolate and all. And then of course proceeded to poop all over the house, with everyone coming there for the wedding!

Sure will miss you on our next visit East Richie. Will also miss the occasional texts and calls. Rest in Peace my friend.

Love to all from Cardiff, Marcia & Don

Marcia Priest - August 07, 2020 at 07:57 PM



“ We'll miss Richie's wit, wry smile... and cobblers. As recent Lewes transplants, Larry and I wish we'd had more time to get to know him. But we will see his handiwork in the many plants he transplanted into our yard. They'll be carefully tended, and paid forward every chance we get.

So sorry for your loss. Wishing you all grace, and peace.

Sue and Larry Blackwood

Sue Blackwood - August 09, 2020 at 12:11 PM



“ We have been neighbors to Richard for the past 8 years. Always an early riser with a welcoming greeting. My husband and he spoke most mornings---about gardening, food, "Is it trash day?"

He gave us the best spray-recipe to deter deer from eating our lilies... and his. Down to earth soul for sure. He will be missed by all of us in the neighborhood. Our grand girls loved seeing him when they visited--especially during raspberry season! Good sharing 4th of July with Richard and his lovely family.

Ruth Ruggiero - August 10, 2020 at 12:10 PM



“ Sorry to see you go, pal. You're great people.

Dave Wellbrock - November 24, 2020 at 11:01 AM