



Richard B. Kelley

August 10, 1942 - July 14, 2020

Richard B. Kelley, died after a valiant fight with cancer for many years. Dick, as he was known by his friends was 77. He was born in Chattanooga, TN. Dick graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering and had a long career at nuclear power plants all over the world.

Working in a power plant during the Iranian Revolution 1979 he was able to bribe his way out of the country with Jack Daniels whiskey to safety on the last flight from the US Embassy.

While working in Slovenia he met his wife, Gorana Jadresko, and together they enjoyed a happy marriage of 33 years. After marrying they lived in Cairo, Egypt, later making their home in Atlanta, GA, then Alabama and finally in 2004 settled in Annapolis, MD.

Dick was a friend to all he met and made each person feel special by remembering their name. He had a dry sense of humor and always enjoyed a good joke.

During the 1991 - 95 War of former Yugoslavia, Dick was a "guarding angel" to numerous children who were orphaned during the war. Through the years Dick and Gorana have visited many of these children and met their children.

He was an exuberant fan of Formula 1 race cars and would build them for racing.

He is survived by his wife, son Mark Kelley, daughter Courtney Kelley, sisters Linda Kelley and Patricia Dillender (David), Shelley Been, MaryMargaret Dykes and other loving relatives.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like donations to be sent to www.go2foundation.org/ on behalf of Richard for Lung Cancer Research.

Events

JUL Memorial Gathering 04:00PM - 06:00PM

22

Lasting Tributes Cremation and Funeral Care

814 Bestgate Road, Annapolis, MD, US, 21401

Comments



“ Uncle Dickie was the best uncle! There was never a time I was around my uncle that I wasn't laughing and in tears from him making jokes or playing pranks on me and my sisters. He was loving, fun, funny and always having a good time, no matter what we were doing. He reminded me so much of my dear grandpa. I know grandma and grandpa are with him now. I love you so much uncle Dickie. You're already very missed. We'll take good care of Aunt Gorana!

Ila Dillender - July 23 at 09:59 AM



“ Uncle Dickey was a part of my life since I can remember. Growing up with his children Marc and Courtney in Homestead FL hold great memories. My mom and dad met because of Uncle Dickey when my dad knew him through his work. If it weren't for that introduction, I wouldn't be here. Uncle Dickey had a dry sense of humor and couldn't tell when he was serious or joking. During the last visit to our house we had some family photos made that will forever be cherished. We love you and miss you but we will see you again one day.



Kristin Gracy - July 23 at 09:09 AM



“ My heart is so heavy and aching. A beautiful man, husband, father, Grandpa, and friend has crossed over. He meant so much to all. He was loved beyond words. His smile and eyes could melt your heart. His humor would make you grin. He will be missed by so many. So, until we see him again, he will be ... Forever in our memories and forever in our hearts. Much love to you Dick Mary

Mary Harrison - July 22 at 04:14 PM



“ Uncle Dickie will be missed greatly by friends, family and loved ones. I will always remember the laughs we shared, as well as the jokes and pranks he played on me as a kid. May you Rest In Peace. We love you forever and will see you again some day.
Love, Maury

Maury Dillender - July 22 at 12:54 PM



“ Being with Dick was always a fun experience. His passing is our loss.
Ron Grauch

Rowland Grauch - July 21 at 04:23 PM



“ Dear Richard, our dearest friend. We were so deeply sorry when we heard the news about your parting and leaving us all. It is so unfair that you could not and did not win the battle with this grave illness. So sorry dear friend. Goran. Leo and I will always remember you as a very smart, knowledgeable, generous, kind, humorous and dear person. We will never forget the days we spent together in Zagreb and three wonderful weeks in Atlanta, GA, in 1992 during the war in Croatia. You will never know how much it mean to us to be away from all the bad happenings, at least for a while Thank you for those wonderful moments filled with laughter and good spirit. Dear Richard R.I.P. and may your life in Heaven be a good one. You most certainly deserve it.

Maja Drobic

Maja Drobic - July 21 at 03:48 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Richard B. Kelley.



July 21 at 11:36 AM



“ I know we all have to go but I was hoping that one day we would all be at sea together again. It doesn't have to be demanding Lubenice, Cres is also good. Richard also gave me a small booklet of quotations from Mark Twaine. I come back to her every now and then. Always with you Ivica, yours best man...

Ivica Fanjek - July 20 at 08:03 AM



“ Dear Richards, thank you for being a part of our lives. People only die when everyone forgets them. You, dear friend, will continue to live with us ... Jasmina and Ivica love you

Ivica and Jasmina Fanjek - July 20 at 07:56 AM



“ The street is not the same without seeing Dick out walking Daisy or Tuga, with his friendly smile and funny jokes, that sometimes we only got five minutes later down the road. Gorana and Dick made the street a friendly neighborly place, and I miss him very much.
Lee Dotson

Dotson Leanne - July 19 at 08:36 PM



“ Enrique maria H. purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Richard B. Kelley.



Enrique maria H. - July 19 at 05:33 AM



“ Richard , Great fellow , excelent heart and good friend . He rest in peace .

Enrique M^a Hierro and family . 19 July 2020

Enrique M^a Hierro - July 19 at 05:19 AM



“ I am so grateful for the friendship that Dick and Gorana have shared with my parents, Peter and Melodee Homan, through many years. Their adventures together made for many happy memories. I knew him since I was a child, and he will always be "Mr. Kelley" in my memory. We can all learn from his determination and generosity. I know Dick will be greatly missed. Gorana, may you know God's comfort, peace and care in this time.

Laura Homan Rodrigue

Laura Rodrigue - July 18 at 02:57 PM



“ My. Dear Gorana please know my heart is in pieces for Dickie as well as you. I have loved Dickie as far back as I can remember. As we played as children at the lake and at Granny Mae's and Granddaddy Earl's. It was always a Good Time! Then one Sunday Dickie and all the family gathered at the lake house and we all fell in love with you. Now have I not been lucky and blessed to have had both you and Dickie in my life!!!!

Shelley Beene - July 17 at 12:10 PM



“ "Those who touch our lives stay in our hearts forever".
Although I can say this for a lot of people who passed through my life, my connection with Dick was something else. I met him first when I was a teenager and him being a foreigner and forcing me to use my hands a lot speaking with him didn't bother me at all because his attitude was always like being one of us, one of those people who belong to all and who is loved by all. Everyone who met him knew his altruism and even though I, myself, profited from that but the most memorable thing I got from him were his knowledge, experience because I liked to listen to him, his stories and his wisdom. And those stories always were interrupted by his humor and jokes and lot of those jokes I keep telling to all who still haven't heard them and will continue to do so.

With all those jokes, with all those stories, with all those experiences Dick will still be part of us and live with us while he is watching and guarding us from Heaven.

Goodbye my friend, my uncle, my great man.

Luka & Nina with kids.

Luka Kolanovic - July 17 at 11:38 AM



“ Not a lot of people know but Richard and Gorana are the people I'm here in they help me back in 2004 to follow my dream and stay and study in Annapolis,MD. Today we loat a great man I called him my american Dad, Richard will be always in my heart forever his humor and knowledge he give me will be with me always. Love you and will miss you. R.I.P in haven. Love you Gorana Kelley and if you need anything I'm always here for you.



Vlad - July 17 at 09:30 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard B. Kelley.



July 17 at 09:28 AM



“ When i met Dick i would have never imagined the impact he would have on my life. As years passed he was still there. He would ask Goga how i was, how trinity was? Being neighbors and friends i would go for walks and stop by the house. Dick would always be sitting in his favorite chair. 90% of the time swearing he was awake watching racing or something educational, but almost always sleeping when i walked in the door. He would always offer Trinity a popsicle so that would leave a mark in her life. Always stopping at grandpa dicks for popsicles. When i went through custody issues I remember it like yesterday. It was raining out and he offered to go with me. He drove me to the courthouse and dropped me at the door. By the time he parked and made it in we were just getting ready to start. At the end the judge noticed him and asked if he had anything to add... he said i do know that is she a very great mother and i am in her corner 100% she does everything for her child. Now Dick had never said this to my face but with my father not being in my life his words meant the world to me. He was there w goga cheering and checking on trinity through all of her procedures and vice versa. He was in my life through all of my babies making fun of my big belly. I remember when gorana would go back to Croatia and we would stop by and check on him and he would be inside cooking a ol Southern meal (which was not what he was supposed to be eating for his health.) about 9 almost 10 yrs he was in my life and i will never ever forget him. The holidays we spent together. The birthdays we saw each other for. Trying everything we could to find sugar free recipes and foods he could eat so we could spend time and have him included. His sense of humor, his genuine smile and heart of gold. In his last moments of life i could finally say everything i had felt and wanted to say so he could know before he was gone. I told him how much i loved him and how much he truly meant to me. I told him he was like a father to me and that i vowed to take care of goga after he left us. When i looked at him and asked him dis he know everything i was saying as i poured my heart out to him. He nodded his head and squeezed my hand. I asked him if he knew how much i loved him, he nodded. I asked him if he knew he was like a father to me, he also nodded. When he spoke with trinity before he passed the smile i saw on his face is unforgettable. I wanted to be selfish and not let him go but he was ready. I didnt want him to suffer anymore. No more treatments, i wanted him to be in good health again, no more tubes, no more cancer, no more pain. And now he is. He is painfree, treatment free, living his best life. I am sure he is in heaven watching down on us while he enjoys all the sugar and great food he hasnt eatn in years. Driving his fanciest Porsche all around the skies. We already miss you so much Dick. Until we meet again. Your memory will never be forgotten. Love Brooke.

Brooke Ramirez - July 17 at 12:57 AM



“ When i met dick i would have never imagined the impact he would have on my life. As years passed he was still there. He would ask goga how i was, how trinity was? Being neighbors and friends i would go for walks and stop by the house. Dick would always be sitting in his favorite chair. 90% of the time swearing he was awake watching racing or something educational, but almost always sleeping when i walked in the door. He would always offer trinity a popsicle so that would leave a mark in her life. Always stopping at grandpa dicks for popsicles. When i went through custody issues I remember it like yesterday. It was raining out and he offered to go with me. He drove me to the courthouse and dropped me at the door. By the time he parked and made it in we were just getting ready to start. At the end the judge noticed him and asked if he had anything to add... he said i do know that is she a very great mother and i am in her corner 100% she does everything for her child. Now dick had never said this to my face but with my father not being in my life his words meant the world to me. He was there w goga cheering and checking on trinity through all of her procedures and vice versa. He was in my life through all of my babies making fun of my big belly. I remember when gorana would go back to Croatia and we would stop by and check on him and he would be inside cooking a ol Southern meal (which was not what he was supposed to be eating for his health.) about 9 almost 10 yrs he was in my life and i will never ever forget him. The holidays we spent together. The birthdays we saw each other for. Trying everything we could to find sugar free recipes and foods he could eat so we could spend time and have him included. His sense of humor, his genuine smile and heart of gold. In his last moments of life i could finally say everything i had felt and wanted to say so he could know before he was gone. I told him how much i loved him and how much he truly meant to me. I told him he was like a father to me and that i vowed to take care of goga after he left us. When i looked at him and asked him dis he know everything i was saying as i poured my heart out to him. He nodded his head and squeezed my hand. I asked him if he knew how much i loved him, he nodded. I asked him if he knew he was like a father to me, he also nodded. When he spoke with trinity before he passed the smile i saw on his face is unforgettable. I wanted to be selfish and not let him go but he was ready. I didnt want him to suffer anymore. No more treatments, i wanted him to be in good health again, no more tubes, no more cancer, no more pain. And now he is. He is painfree, treatment free, living his best life. I am sure he is in heaven watching down on us while he enjoys all the sugar and great food he hasnt eatn in years. Driving his fanciest Porsche all around the skies. We already miss you so much dick. Until we meet again. Your memory will never be forgotten. Love Brooke !

Brooke Ramirez - July 16 at 09:42 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard B. Kelley.



July 16 at 09:37 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Richard B. Kelley.



July 16 at 11:40 AM



“ I loved Dick's sense of humor and the perfect way he delivered a punchline.

Dick was not only our neighbor but Also a cherished friend. We shared many laughs and also some heartfelt moments. My husband and I were certainly blessed with Gorana and Dick in our life.

I love you Dick. I hope you are happy and are entertaining my Mom, Tuga, Maui, Zorka and Mike's Mom. Rest in peace.

Amy - July 16 at 10:14 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Richard B. Kelley.



July 16 at 04:59 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard B. Kelley.



July 16 at 04:54 AM