



Richard J. Vanderbilt

September 8, 1928 - May 30, 2016

Richard J. Vanderbilt, age 87 of Bloomington, formerly of Oceanport, New Jersey, died Monday May 30, 2016 at the Indiana University Health Bloomington Hospital. He was born in Staten Island, New York on September 8, 1928 to Dutch parents, Dirk Vanderbilt and Johanna DeLoos Vanderbilt.

Richard was a graduate of the New Drop High School in Staten Island, and the Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Blacksburg, Virginia where he earned his BS in mechanical engineering. He first worked for industry for several years and retired after a long career as a civilian mechanical engineer in communications and testing for the United States Army CECOM at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

He loved living on the East Coast close to the ocean where he acquired a love for boating at a very early age. He was very proud that he had made his own boat from a kit with the help of his grandfather. Richard and his wife Ivonne enjoyed taking their cruiser Allegro III on overnight trips up the Hudson River or just in their Jersey shore area for an enjoyable afternoon.

Classical music and jazz were also an essential in Richard's life. He had an extensive collection of LP records from which he listened every day. Attending concerts, both in New Jersey, and New York City, was a very important part of Richard and Ivonne's life.

A gathering to honor him will be announced at a later date.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37 is handling the arrangements and online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com.

Tribute Wall

AM

“ *Dear Ivonne*

I am so sorry to read of Richard's death. I send you my thoughts and condolences.

I feel very privileged to have known Richard, even though for such a short time. He was an asset to the writing group; we all enjoyed his sense of humor and hearing of his experiences.

best wishes,

Tonia

Antonia Matthew - June 14, 2016 at 02:41 PM

GR

“ *Sigo pensando... y estoy convencida de que en el algún lugar, Richard tuvo la mejor "second line" que haya existido jamás! ;-)*

Gabriela Revel - June 08, 2016 at 09:37 AM

GR

“ *Da igual lo rápido que sea el mundo hoy, hay cosas que tardan en saberse. Acabo de enterarme... y me da una pena enorme. Recuerdo los pocos días que compartimos hace unos pocos meses...*

La luz de esa mirada, y la generosidad de ese abrazo, y es fácil imaginar cuánto lo echará en falta Ivonne, su compañera durante tanto tiempo.

No sé donde va la energía que produce cada uno, eso lo sabría él que era ingeniero, pero sé que si en algún sitio se concentra, en el caso de Richard, será cerca del mar y sonando al mejor de los jazz clásicos que puedan recordarse.

Un abrazo fuerte, desde un sitio que ahora parece demasiado lejos.

Gabriela

Gabriela Revel - June 08, 2016 at 08:46 AM

LV

“ *Love, Roger, Lily, Lana and Robert Verkuil purchased the Red, White & Blue Large Sympathy Vase Arrangement for the family of Richard J. Vanderbilt.*



Love, Roger, Lily, Lana and Robert Verkuil - June 05, 2016 at 01:51 PM

GE

“ I knew Dick, and Ivonne, as a longtime friend of my father, Roy, and always enjoyed the times we shared together. Dick was a kind, cheerful person that always had a joke to share. My condolences to Ivonne. With love, Glenn Everett, and Burke and Jana.

Glenn Everett - June 04, 2016 at 01:19 AM

CM

“ Richard and I met on the campus of Virginia Tech when we were about 18 years old. I don't remember the next few times our paths crossed in that busy atmosphere, but the friendship lasted and grew for almost 70 years.

Many years later and many years ago his mother wrote me a letter and said she was adopting herself as my Yankee mother.

After brief contemplation, I realized that made Richard and me brothers.

He was a good brother. One of the Best.

Farewell, Dear Friend,

Charlie Mitchell

Charlie Mitchell - June 03, 2016 at 12:08 PM

FR

“ I too went to New Dorp High School. Had 1 semester, started in Jan. '42 and finished in June '42 when my family moved to Indiana. I was born on the Island and went to P.S. 8 in Great Kills. Where did Richard go to Grade School?

Sorry for your loss---don't think any area could beat the Island as a place to grow up. My brother and I used to sail all over the lower bay in our 10ft. sailboat.

*Floyd Richards
Spencer, In.
812 821 5217*

Floyd Richards - June 03, 2016 at 11:33 AM

BF

“ *Bizzari Family lit a candle in memory of Richard J. Vanderbilt*



Bizzari Family - June 03, 2016 at 08:20 AM

TF

“ *The Bizzari Family lit a candle in memory of Richard J. Vanderbilt*



The Bizzari Family - June 03, 2016 at 08:19 AM

AM

“ Amanda lit a candle in memory of Richard J. Vanderbilt



amanda - June 03, 2016 at 08:16 AM

AM

“ Amanda lit a candle in memory of Richard J. Vanderbilt



amanda - June 03, 2016 at 08:15 AM

JO

“ My condolences to Richard's family and friends.....I have wonderful memories of being together on Staten Island many moons ago in a different lifetime. Fondly, June Burtoon (nee Syvertsen).

June Syvertsen Burton, longtime friend o - June 03, 2016 at 05:36 AM



“ Love's Embrace Roses – White was purchased for the family of Richard J. Vanderbilt.



June 02, 2016 at 09:33 PM



“ *Ghirardelli Galore was purchased for the family of Richard J. Vanderbilt.*



June 02, 2016 at 09:00 PM



“ *I remember meeting Richard and Ivonne Vanderbilt at Bell Trace where I lived for a short time in a cottage not far from them. We became close friends and went out to the lake together, attended many events at IU, as well as events at Bell Trace. What I remembered most about Richard is that he always held Ivonne's hand. Such a sweet man. I am so sorry Ivonne and will be thinking about you.*



LINDA ZAGER - June 02, 2016 at 07:43 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to the family. His was a life well-lived and enjoyed and I thank him for his care and service to others. I.R. Gray*

I. Ruth Gray - June 02, 2016 at 02:45 PM

HP

“ *Dear Yvonne and Family,
Please accept my great sympathy on the sad loss of your beloved Richard. I can only imagine the depth of your pain and sorrow. While I cannot claim to have known Richard well, when I spoke to him he always smiled a lovely smile. I noticed how he enjoyed both jazz and classical music presentations in the commons at Bell Trace. You must have so many wonderful memories of life with Richard and I hope they will provide some measure of comfort at this difficult time.
Sincerely yours,
Harriet Pfister*

Harriet S. Pfister - June 02, 2016 at 01:25 PM