



Richard D'Olimpio

September 9, 1945 - February 24, 2021

Richard “Papa” D’Olimpio passed away in his home, surrounded by his beloved family, on February 24, 2021. He was born on September 9, 1945, in Chelsea, Massachusetts, the son of the late Alphonse D’Olimpio and Josephine Palazzolo D’Olimpio.

Richard served in the U.S. Navy as a Hull Tech until moving to Alabama in 1973, where he spent most of his career as a Railroad Engineer, retiring in Millbrook, Alabama. He was bigger than life and all who knew him loved him. There was no end to the love and pride he had for his family and friends. He knew how to enjoy the little things in life and passed that appreciation for life to his loved ones.

Richard is preceded in death by his wife, Rubye S. D’Olimpio, his son, Russ D’Olimpio (Jennifer), and grandson, BJ Harrod. Richard is survived by his children Rick D’Olimpio (Amy), Randy D’Olimpio (Dayna), Robyn D’Olimpio Frost (Greg), Donna Harrod, Janet H. Abdulla (Isam), Gayle H. Hegler, Billy Harrod (Paige); 26 grandchildren and many great grandchildren; sister Patricia D. Cucchiello (Richard), brother Peter D’Olimpio; and numerous nieces, nephews and many dear friends.

A memorial mass will be officiated by Father James Dean at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Prattville on Saturday, March 6, 2021 at 11:00 am. A celebration of life with eulogy will be held at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, the family welcomes donations to Montgomery Cancer Center – Prattville or American Diabetes Association.

Previous Events

Service

MAR 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph
511 N. Memorial Dr.
Prattville, AL

Tribute Wall



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard D'Olimpio.*



March 05, 2021 at 10:22 AM



“ *The Tanner Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Richard D'Olimpio.*



The Tanner Family - March 02, 2021 at 04:34 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to the entire D'Olimpio family. I first met “Dee” when we served together in the US Navy in Roda, Spain and in Charleston, SC. We became close friends and remained that way for over 50 years even though many miles separated us after our discharge from service. I will miss his phone calls and positive attitude. He was a great guy who always thought of everyone else. He was responsible for keeping in touch with all our shipmates and their spouses so that we could all stay somewhat connected. Even though we all lived in different parts of the country it was “Dee” who kept us connected. Our phone calls always led to discussions of our age and how old we were getting, how much weight we had gained and what our medical issues were. All done in his charismatic way and making you feel young again. Good bye my dear friend. Rest In Peace. I will miss you.*

Nick/Liz Gaeta

Nick/Liz Gaeta - March 02, 2021 at 11:56 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Richard D'Olimpio.*



March 02, 2021 at 12:05 AM

CD

“ Rich grew up in Arlington Massachusetts. I got to know him in Junior High School (Middle School). He became one of my best friends and always looked forward to coming up here for our reunions. He was a fun-loving person. He had a great attitude. Life to him was nothing more than a series of fun events. This is not to say that he didn't have tragic events in his life, and he was respectful of those events, but he always moved on with a positive attitude. I never saw him hateful, jealous or hurtful. He didn't have any need to satisfy his ego. He always made other people feel special.

He was never anyone you could put a label on. He never thought of himself as part of a special group of any kind. He loved everyone. At the reunions, Rich loved to visit every table and laugh and have fun with everyone.

He will be missed. The world is a little dimmer without his special ability to light up other's lives.

Carl D

Carl/Anne DeMatteo - March 01, 2021 at 10:53 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard D'Olimpio.



March 01, 2021 at 10:43 AM