



Richard Donald Bonard

January 8, 1931 - April 1, 2018

After a prolonged battle with cancer, Richard Bonard, known to family and friends as Dick, passed away on April 1, 2018 in Palm Beach Gardens, FL at the age of 87. He leaves behind his wife, Dawn Bonard of Tequesta; his daughter, Terri Bonard; his son, Richard Bonard Jr; his granddaughters, Melinda Bonard-Harstad (John Harstad), Suzanna McAninley (Jason McAninley), and Andrea Bonard (Phillip Hall); and his great granddaughters, Andrianna Harstad and Alianna Harstad.

Dick was born on January 8, 1931 in Arcadia, FL to Sam and Dorothy Bonard. He grew up in the Everglades of Florida and shared many stories of his adventures growing up. He graduated high school in Everglades City, FL and soon after joined the United States Air Force and was stationed throughout the country. While stationed in Maine, Dick met Dawn Perry, a school teacher from Centreville, New Brunswick, and they married in 1956 in Vermont.

Dick continued his engineering degree at the University of Florida, graduating in 1959. He accepted a job as a mechanical engineer with Pratt & Whitney in Connecticut. Shortly after they relocated to Tequesta, FL where he continued his career at the Florida branch of Pratt & Whitney. Dick was very proud of his family, he enjoyed spending time with his children and eventually accepted early retirement to be able to do more activities with his grandchildren.

Dick was an avid do-it-yourselfer. Putting his engineering background to use, he enjoyed woodworking and home improvement projects. He purchased land in Okeechobee and began building his dream retirement home overlooking the Kissimmee River.

Dick also believed in investing in the community and belonged to many organizations including The Shriners, Free Masons, and Scottish Rite. He greatly enjoyed the local Amara Shrine and participated in races, parades, and other events with his Tin Lizzy. He also volunteered as a hospital transportation driver for the Amara Shrine and could be found volunteering at various events with the Shriners throughout the years.

Dick is survived by his wife, children, and grandchildren, as well as his brothers, Ted Bonard (Shirley) and Rodney Bonard (Elena). He is preceded in death by his parents, daughter in law, Linda Mills Bonard, and his sister Sammie Lou Falany.

Dick was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend. He will be greatly missed.

A service for Dick will be held at 12:30 pm on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at Taylor Modeen Funeral Home in Jupiter, FL. His ashes will be inurned at Riverside Memorial Park following the service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dick's memory to the transportation fund at Amara Shrine, 3650 RCA Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410.

Events

APR

10

Memorial Service

12:30PM

Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home

250 Center Street, Jupiter, FL, US, 33458

APR

10

Inurnment

01:30PM

Riverside Memorial Park

19351 SE County Line Road, Jupiter, FL, US, 33469

Comments



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Richard Donald Bonard.

May 14, 2018 at 01:42 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



April James - April 08, 2018 at 08:32 AM



“ From his niece April (Perry) James, Quaker Brook, New Brunswick

Back in 1973, my friend Mary and I went to Florida over University Reading Week and stayed with Aunt Dawn & Uncle Dick. Disney World was relatively new in those days and we were excited to take a day trip to Orlando. Unfortunately, that was the year of the gas shortage and even if you did get up early to get in line for gas, they would only give you a limited amount. . Uncle Dick syphoned the gas from his vehicle into the family car so we would have enough gas to get us (including Terry) to Orlando and back. What a guy! As luck would have it, on the way home, we stopped at a gas station on the toll highway not too far from Jupiter and we three girls convinced the young serviceman to fill the tank. When we got home, we had lots of gas for Uncle Dick to use.

Every summer when Grammie Perry was still alive, the Bonard family would come to New Brunswick in the summer. I still can hear Uncle Dick saying to Terry and Richard, "come in out of that weather" with his Florida drawl. Unlike the warm rains of Florida, the rains in N.B. are often cold.

Murray and I had a great visit with Uncle Dick last February when we travelled to Florida. In spite of his health issues, he was full of stories and we had such a great visit in the afternoon with just him. Later we all enjoyed the evening together as a family. He was my second to last uncle. We rarely see an avocado when we don't think of him hanging the dead squirrel in his avocado tree as a warning to other squirrels to stay away. I'll always remember him with love.

April James - April 07, 2018 at 08:20 PM