



Richard M. Anderson, Jr.

October 31, 1934 - March 31, 2016

WALKERTON – Richard M Anderson Jr., 81, passed away on Thursday, March 31, 2016 in Memorial Hospital at South Bend, Indiana after a courageous battle with a heart condition.

Richard was born on October 31, 1934 in his grandparents' Francis and Anna Drake's home in Walkerton to Richard and Frances Marie (Drake) Anderson. He graduated from Walkerton High School in 1952 and lived in the area his entire life.

Richard met his soul mate and one true love, Anna Mae Jackson, at the North Liberty 23 Drive-In where Anna served him his favorite hamburger and they were united in marriage on June 11, 1955, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Walkerton, Indiana. Richard is survived by Anna, his wife of nearly 61 years, a son Kevin (Kris) Anderson of Walkerton, daughter Deanna (David) Shively of Walkerton, and daughter Joanna (Michael) George of Montgomery, New York. He is also survived by his 5 grandchildren; Ryan and Craig Anderson, Russell Burch, Dylan and Delaney Shively and Nicolas George in addition to 8 great grandchildren.

Richard was a life-long farmer but also held various jobs at the post office, gravel pit, Tractor Supply, and selling and delivering seed corn. In 1959, he and Anna purchased the Robert Anderson farm in Starke County where they

made their home until 2007 when they downsized and moved across the road, turning the farm over to their son Kevin.

Richard was a talented woodworker, creating many beautiful pieces that family and friends will cherish forever in his memory. He learned these skills from his mentor Ted Hornung, his grandmother's neighbor, and passed on his woodworking passion to his grandson Dylan who will now carry on the tradition. He was a talented and innovative mechanic who could keep equipment running long after others would have given up.

He had a passion for history and travel and he and Anna visited all 50 states and Alaska five times during his life. He took his family all over the country in their one wheel trailer and tent, creating memorable adventures and visiting many national parks and monuments. Richard enjoyed trips to Joanna's in New York where he toured historic West Point, the Orange County Choppers and New York City. He and Anna loved riding on their Honda Gold Wing motorcycle with friends locally and to the Smoky and Rocky Mountains and made his last ride into Canada visiting Nova Scotia and Prince Edwards Island. He passed his enthusiasm for riding to his children and grandchildren. His final adventure was celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary with a cruise on the Queen Mary 2 with Anna last summer.

Richard was a member of the Walkerton Historical Society and truly enjoyed participating in their cemetery walks where he reenacted the lives of significant community members each 4th of July. He was a member of the International Harvester Collectors Northern Indiana Chapter #33 and had restored the first tractor he had purchased, a 1954 Farmall Super MTA. He also had a passion for fast cars and was the owner of a red 1960 Ford Thunderbird that he happily drove in local parades and displayed at car shows.

A celebration of life ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, April 9, at 11:00 a.m. (EST) at the Walkerton United Methodist Church, 1000 Georgia Street, where Richard was a member. Visitation will begin one hour earlier at 10 a.m. (EST) with a lunch served following the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Richard's name can be made to the Walkerton Historical Society at 413 Michigan Street Walkerton, IN 46574, the Walkerton United Methodist Church, or to a charity of your choice. Please join us and share your memories of our beloved patriarch and celebrate his impressive life. He was a great friend, helpful neighbor, a compassionate and loving husband, father, and grandfather and will be greatly missed. The leader of our band has taken his final bow.

Tribute Wall

SS

“ May he rest in peace, he was my wonderful brother-in-law but I loved him like a brother as that was how I felt about him. He was such a wonderful man and so helpful and thoughtful. I will miss him so much now and forever.

Suellen Snodgrass - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

PK

“ Mr. Anderson was a very kind-hearted man that loved his family. When I was a child, I was fortunate enough to be around him and his family around the house and out and about on the farm. In fact, some of my most fondest memories are of watching him work on his grain trucks in his pole barn and him sharing some of his latest woodworking projects. He truly was a remarkably talented man. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are held in highest regard. He will be missed very much. My thoughts, prayers and well wishes are with the entire Anderson family.

Peter Kennedy - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

BD

“ Condolences to you Anna and the family. Richard was truly a good and great man. May he rest in peace. He will be truly missed but will not be forgotten as he will live on in the many memories of his children and grandchildren.

Bill and Helen Doan - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

JG

“ May God Bless you each and every day in Heaven, Dad. We miss you tremendously already and we will take wonderful care of Mom in your absence. Much love, Jo

Joanna George - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

CV

“ *A life well lived as is evidenced in the lives of his children and grandchildren.*

Christy VanDeMark - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

AC

“ *My heartfelt condolences go out to you and your family.*

Andrew Calderin - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

PA

“ *Love and joyful memories of the Anderson Family. Prayers for the family's comfort.*

Pastor Char Allen - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

DF

“ *Dear Craig, Leanne and the Anderson Family, Please accept our sincere condolence in the passing of your dear loved one. You continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. David & Valda Frizzell*

David & Valda Frizzell - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

VH

“ *As a personal friend of Joanna's, I want to extend my condolences and love to the family at this time of grief and sadness. I lost my dad at 17 and know the pain of losing a parent. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Vikki Hanast - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

NG

“ *Richard Anderson, or grandpa as I always called him, was the best man I have ever known. I am glad for the moments that I was able to spend with him. I know he will only make heaven a brighter place.*

Nicolas George - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

WM

“ *so sorry to hear of the loss of a great person who will be greatly missed . May God bless you and give you comfort in this time!*

Wendy& Greg McGinnis - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

JH

“ *My heartfelt condolences go out to you, Deanna, as well as the whole Anderson family. There's nothing like being a daddy's girl. I will always cherish the wood framed mirror your dad made that you gifted me over 35 years ago, which hangs on my wall to this day.*

Jan Hughes - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

NB

“ *Carol and I wish to give our condolences to the Anderson Family.*

Neal Blair - June 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

AT

“ *My deepest sympathy is with the Anderson family. May you find comfort in beautiful memories of Richard's life. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Audrey Thomas - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM

LH

“ Our condolences. We treasure the wood pieces made by Richard. For our wedding he made a beautiful full length mirror. Recognizing the long and loving marriage Richard and Anna had, we hold that piece dear and pray that our marriage reflects theirs. Always in our prayers.

Lee and Luanne Horton - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM

TS

“ From age 6 to 16 I looked forward to going to Walkerton and to Anderson's to see Richie and his parents and grand parents plus cousins Judy and Patty Drake. Richie had the best toys and most interesting things to do. Our lives diverged after high school. I last saw Richie and Anna on February 1st at their home, we had a nice visit and a good time reminiscing the good times we had together.

Tony Schmeltz - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM

JC

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. I'm keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers in this tough time. I know Richard is shining down on all of you!

Jamie Cosh - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM

JB

“ What a wonderful tribute written about the celebration of 'Richie's life' the name we called him as 1st cousins. He left us with so many wonderful memories and woodworker gifts which I shall always treasure. Thank you, Richie.

Judy Bryson - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM

BA

“ Dear Joanna and family, My deepest condolences to you and your family. May your warm memories of your father keep him in your heart forever. Best regards, Barbara Anzovino

Barbara Anzovino - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM

TL

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Theresa Loo - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM

BA

“ We want to give our deepest sympathy to all the family on the loss of Richard From the Abel family and from Kurt and Shelly Kemble

BARBARA Abel - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM

JG

“ Dad, I'm missing you more with each passing day and I love you so much. Your physical presence will be missed every day but know that your spirit and memories lives through me always and forever. Love, Your Jojo

Jo George - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM

AA

“ Richard, you were loved and respected by so many. You will live on in our hearts and in our memories. Keep the Angels on their toes and wait for me, my love. 4tUBj

Anna Anderson - April 29, 2018 at 06:48 PM