

Obituary

Richard Lane Starkey Jr., age 70, of Spring Hill, was welcomed into the Kingdom of Heaven on December 25th, 2020.

Born November 26th, 1950 in Caples, West Virginia, he was the first-born son of the late Richard Starkey Sr. and late Thelma Miller (Hughie). After a decade of living in a small mining town, his family moved to Cleveland, OH, where he grew up with his siblings Larry (Barb), Ronnie (Judy), Angie (late Bill), and Greg (late Cathy). Rick graduated from West High in 1968 as a standout basketball player. Upon graduation he proudly enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corp, where he honorably served from 1969 to 1975. He was awarded the Vietnamese Service Medal for his time spent overseas during the Vietnam War.

After completing his military service, he lived in Ohio and Illinois where he became a father to Crystal (Bo), Jason (Patty), Monica, Kim (Brittany), and Timm

(Elyse). He was later blessed with the title, "Papa Rick", to his beautiful grandchildren: Isaiah, Chloe, Hannah, Martin, Madison, Julia, Aiden, Addison, Leah, Annabelle, Tucker, and Jack.

His love for Christ started at an early age due to growing up as a preacher's son. Upon retiring to Florida, he found a home at Christian Center Church, where he then served the Lord in many roles including volunteering in many mission trips. In addition to his love for Christ, Rick found his calling to serve Veterans in need. He became a Veterans Affairs specialist, assisting countless service members from all eras with their need for medical help. While helping veterans, he found a community at the American Legion Post 166 where he served as Chaplin and Service Officer. Earlier this year, until his passing, he held the position of Post Commander where he dedicated his time and was truly loved by all.

Friends and family are encouraged to share their memories of Richard during visitation at Brown Funeral Home, 5430 W Gulf to Lake Hwy., Lecanto, FL 34461, on Sunday, January 3rd, 2021 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm – 8:00pm. A funeral service will be held at Christian Center Church, 7961 W. Green Acres St. Homosassa, FL, 34446, at 11:00 am on Monday, January 4th, 2021. Burial will follow at Bushnell National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to:

The American Legion

Post 166

4520 S Suncoast Blvd.

Homosassa Springs, FL 34447-0767

