



Richard Walter Monroe

August 25, 1944 - October 18, 2021

Richard Walter Monroe, age 77, of Blacksburg, Virginia, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 18, 2021. Born August 25, 1944, he was the son of the late Stanley Searle Monroe and Ruth Hunaker Monroe. He is preceded in death by his sister Judith Ann Monroe and brother William Matthew Monroe.

He is a graduate of Annandale High School (1962), where he was a star athlete and Virginia Tech (1966). Richard earned a bachelor's degree in Business Management and a regular Army commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Armored Cavalry. While at Virginia Tech, he was assigned to H Company. He was a Regimental S-3 operations officer and a leader in the Corps of Cadets. He was also a member of the Color Guard, the VPI Cotillion Club and many other honorary military societies.

After graduation from Virginia Tech, Richard attended the Armor Officer Basic Leaders Course in Ft. Knox, Kentucky with a follow-on assignment to the 3rd Squadron, 14th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Bad Hersfeld, Germany. He served there for two years as a Troop Commander, Staff Officer and Squadron Executive Officer. During this period, he was promoted to the rank of Captain.

After Germany, he was deployed to Vietnam as an Advisor to the South Vietnamese 6th Armored Cavalry. While in Vietnam, his unit conducted daily

reconnaissance missions to protect and support other infantry companies. He rode on an armored carrier and was involved in several enemy fire fights and major battles which earned him a Bronze Star. At the end of this tour, he left the Army to pursue a civilian career.

In February of 1970, Richard was hired by Reynolds Metals Company, a Richmond, Virginia based international aluminum company. After 26 years with Reynolds, he joined Owens Corning for six years and finally a private investment group for four years. After 36 years in the corporate world and four years of military service, Richard retired with his wife Mary Margaret to Blacksburg, Virginia.

While retired in Blacksburg, Richard served as Board Secretary and General Director to the Corp of Cadets Alumni Association for seven years. He also served as President, Vice President and Treasurer of the Virginia Tech Cotillion Club Alumni Association over the course of a 13 year period. He was also a member of Blacksburg United Methodist Church. Richard will be remembered for his quick witted sense of humor, his endless generosity and his love for the great outdoors. He often spoke of his love and respect for the life-long foundation that his experience in the Corps of Cadets afforded him.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Mary Margaret Marston Monroe; his children Jennifer Monroe Holliday and Spencer Grant Monroe; son-in-law Todd Holliday and daughter-in-law Kelli Simpson Monroe; grandchildren Grant Monroe Holliday, Samuel Ayers Holliday and Keeton Elizabeth Monroe; brother Jonathan Searle Monroe; cousin Elizabeth Brand Monroe; sisters-in-law Rosa Crocker Monroe and Deborah Cahoon Monroe; nephews James Lord Borck and Owen Searle Monroe; nieces Kimberly Borck Pollard, Amity Borck Dey, Frances Tucker Monroe, Megan Monroe Guerrero, Meredith Monroe Rodriguez and twenty great nieces and nephews.

The family is grateful for the love and support from family, friends and many medical professionals. A memorial service will be held in honor of Richard on November 17, 2021 at 2:30 PM, preceded by a visitation at 2:00 PM at Blacksburg United Methodist Church. The family requests that you kindly wear a mask.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Blacksburg United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 931, Blacksburg, VA 24063 or the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Association, Class of 1966 Emerging Leader Scholarship Fund, 141 Lane Hall (0213), 280 Alumni Mall, Blacksburg, VA 24061 or online at vtcc.vt.edu/alumni.

Arrangements are in the care of McCoy Funeral Home, Inc., 150 Country Club Drive SW, Blacksburg, VA 24060; (540)-552-3211. Online condolences can be shared at www.mccoyfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 17. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Blacksburg United Methodist Church
111 Church St SE, Blacksburg, VA 24060

Memorial Service

NOV 17. 2:30 PM (ET)

Blacksburg United Methodist Church
111 Church Street SE
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Tribute Wall

SR

“ Dear Mary, Jennifer, & Spencer, We are so very sorry for the loss of your wonderful husband & dad. We always looked forward to the Christmas messages he wrote and sent to us. He could have been a stand up comedian! He is probably cracking jokes up in heaven! I am thankful that we got to know him and your family when we lived in Richmond. Our families have much in common-Working at Reynolds Aluminum, same age children, Midlothian High School, (we loved watching Spencer play football), Jennifer & Stephanie cheering at Midlothian, Jennifer & Stephanie graduating from Clemson, and parents who retired at their Alma Maters after 50+yrs. of marriage.

Much love, heartfelt sympathy and prayers to all of you, Lee & Sissy Rayburn

Sissy Rayburn - November 02, 2021 at 11:44 AM

GL

“ Rick was an absolute pleasure to work with when we were both officers of the VTCCA, Inc. He had an incredible work ethic, a quick wit, and a profound sense of humility. We also enjoyed sharing our experiences as Army cavalry officers, especially since many of our peers were retired Air Force, Rick was a friend and will be greatly missed. May the memories of a full life shared comfort you all in the days ahead.

Gary Lerch

Gary Lerch - November 01, 2021 at 09:59 AM

MM

“ Oh, Mary, I am so sorry for your loss! May you be blessed with wonderful memories, and the peace that passes all understanding during this difficult time. Praying for your family! MaryLou and Bob Moore

MaryLou Moore - October 28, 2021 at 01:44 PM