



Richard "Rick" Ferguson Cooper

December 17, 1953 - December 19, 2023

Richard "Rick" Ferguson Cooper, born December 17, 1953 stepped into heaven during his sleep on Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at the age of 70 in his home in Blacksburg, VA.

Rick moved to Blacksburg from his home in northern Virginia to attend Virginia Tech. He fell in love with the scenic mountain landscape, adventurous spelunking (exploration of underground caves) opportunities and its community members, and small town life around Virginia Tech and remained employed in the Electrical Engineering department at Virginia Tech until his retirement, loving every minute of it, even the difficult parts. He taught Electrical Engineering labs, sharing his passion and expertise with students and anyone interested; he lived and breathed the Hokie motto of Ut Protism (that I may serve).

He married Debora "Debbie" Massa Cooper on March 18, 1978 after proposing while wearing a cute, red, bow collar to jokingly prove to her that he was THE ONE that she had waited for "a sign" of, and together they enjoyed 45 years of amazing love, abundant laughter, casual construction and renovation projects, horse back riding, and farming of a hay field.

Rick reunited in heaven with his father, Richard Cooper, and his mother, Mary Louise Cooper, and he is survived by his wife, Debbie, his daughter, Amanda

Christine Cooper, his brother, Michael Cooper, his sister Stephanie Cooper, and many wonderful nieces and nephews .

The memorial will be held on Friday, December 29th, 2023 at Dwelling Place Christian Fellowship located at 3325 N Franklin St, Christiansburg, VA 24073 with visitation at 2:00 PM and a service at 4:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to either Rick's church in Blacksburg, VA: Dwelling Place Christian Fellowship <https://onrealm.org/DwellingPlaceCh/give/benevolence> or the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation www.jdrf.org

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **29**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

The Dwelling Place Christian Fellowship
3325 N Franklin St
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Memorial Service

DEC **29**. 4:00 PM (ET)

The Dwelling Place Christian Fellowship
3325 N Franklin St
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Tribute Wall

MM

“ Rick was a great friend and co-worker. We worked together starting in 1986 in ECE. Then in later years I moved to a different department in engineering but Rick and I always stayed in touch. He was always there for me when I needed him. I enjoyed going to tractor auctions, going shooting, working on hay equipment and getting up hay with Rick. Then working on some of Ricks cars etc we just enjoyed each others company. We even retired about the same time. Rick was a very special man in my life. I will miss him so much. Much thoughts and prayers to Debbie, Amanda and family.

mark montgomery - December 29, 2023 at 07:01 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Richard "Rick" Ferguson Cooper.

December 27, 2023 at 10:44 AM

KJ

“ Rick, I'm in disbelief. You were always a good friend and coworker.

Kenneth L Jarels - December 21, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Ferguson Cooper.



December 21, 2023 at 02:17 PM



“ *My Prayers go out to the family.*

Scott Bunn - December 21, 2023 at 01:08 PM