



## Richard Allen Smith

September 23, 1969 - May 19, 2022

It is with deep sorrow we mourn the passing of our beloved Richard A. Smith, of 15441 Britley Ridge Drive, Huntersville, N.C. on Thursday May 19, 2022 surrounded by his family.

Richard was born on September 23, 1969 in Washington, D.C. Richard graduated from Powhatan High School in 1987 and in 1988 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy in their nuclear power program. His first duty assignment was aboard the cruiser, USS South Carolina. In September 1991, Richard met the love of his life Dorothy, and they were married in April, 1994, while he was still serving in the Navy. His next naval duty assignment was aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. George Washington. He completed his service in January 1997. Richard first civilian job was at the North Anna Nuclear Power Plant. Then in 2000, he and Dorothy moved to Huntersville, N.C. where he was employed by Duke Energy at the McGuire Nuclear Power Plant.

Richard made friends easily and loved spending time with them. Richard was a big kidder and no one was immune from his wit and sarcasm with laughter as his main goal. Richard loved hosting parties with plenty of food and drink. Everyone was welcome and no one would ever leave without having a good time.

His favorite place to visit was the beach, specifically, the Outer Banks. Every year, time was spent there with his wife, daughter, son-in-law and his precious granddaughters. Also, once a year he and his wife would travel to New Jersey to spend time with his beloved Italian family.

Richard was always there for his family and friends; nothing was too big or too small to ask of him. Whatever you needed Richard to do, he did with love and care in his heart. The world lost the greatest husband, father, grandfather, cousin, and friend. The legacy of Richard's kind spirit, generosity, strength, love of family and friends, and selflessness will continue to live through his granddaughters, Emma and Ashlynn. There was so much more to him than words could express.

We would like to thank Richard's wonderful and compassionate care team of nurses, doctors, physical therapists, aides, respiratory therapists, and physician assistants. Finally, special thanks to friends, who helped with his comfort and gave support to Dorothy.

He is preceded in death by his grandfather, Anthony DiGiulio. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife and best friend Dorothy Smith of 28 years; daughter, Kara Hall, son-in-law Randy Hall, granddaughters, Emma Hall and Ashlynn Hall of Hampton, Virginia; cousins, Diane DiGiulio, Gloria Ghoneim, Janice Pescatore and Peter DiGiulio of New Jersey; Jimmy Gantt of Denver, N.C.; many other loving relatives from Maryland to New Jersey; and by Richard's many wonderful friends who he thought of as family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to Dream Catchers at Cori Sikich Therapeutic Riding Center of Williamsburg website; [dreamcatchers.kindful.com](http://dreamcatchers.kindful.com) or Rett Syndrome Rett Trust; [reverserett.org](http://reverserett.org)

# Tribute Wall

TE

“ *Richard’s heart was seen in his kind, fun loving attitude at many family gatherings! Another family gathering favorite was his salsa! His salsa recipe is still our favorite!*

terry - May 24 at 07:51 PM

PR

“ *Richard was a good friend to everybody and will be missed by all. Dorothy and family, he was one of the good ones.*



Peter Rontti - May 24 at 02:09 PM

PB

“ *Richard will be missed, you just had to love this guy. Always showed concern for other people and their families. I’ll always remember his desire for Oakhurst Pizza, his grandfather and the Washington football club, aka the Redskins. Just the pure definition of “nice guy”.*

Pat Brophy - May 24 at 11:12 AM

JL

“ In our line of work, we know too well the struggle of finding enough time for our loved ones. Too often that time is lost to the amount of time we must dedicate to our "work family". That balance shifts from time to time, and those times when the balance tipped heavily toward work, I am forever grateful and guilty for all the moments I had with Richard. Richard was like a big brother to me. The cooler, wiser, better looking (at least that's what he thought) brother that would always lead by example. Richard and I saw eye to eye on so many issues at work and it always amazed, and sometimes frustrated me that we could be saying the exact same thing, but when the words came from Richard it was always received with such a sense of admiration. Many called him "the boss whisperer". He could tell the boss all the things wrong with a plan, things they might not want to hear, and they would end up thanking him for it. I will truly miss his calm cool collected nature. He was smart without arrogance, and dedicated without ever looking down on those who did less. He set the bar for what we all should be in our position here at the plant, and we are all truly better for the time he gave us. It's conflicting to be so grateful for the time we had with Richard, realizing it came with a sacrifice to the time he spent with his own family. Dorothy, thank you for sharing Richard with us, and always know his "work family" will be here for you like he was always here for us".

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**Joe Liquori** - May 23 at 11:11 PM

AF

“ Richard was one of the kindest, thoughtful, quick witted, and happy people I have ever had the privilege of knowing and working with. I was lucky enough to work at McGuire with him and will always remember his great attitude and ability to laugh. He always was ready to eat and made me countless espressos during outages. He truly was a ray of sunshine to be around and I'll always remember his smile. Rest easy dear friend and many prayers for peace and comfort to his sweet Dorothy and family.

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**Amy Fincannon** - May 23 at 07:19 PM

SL

“ Richard and I worked together at McGuire Nuclear Station. He was my very first friend in North Carolina and that friendship has lasted for over 20 years. He was without a doubt the most caring, kindest, nicest person I've ever known. To say he will be missed is an understatement. Rest In Peace my friend.

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**Scott Lemley** - May 23 at 06:45 PM

MS

“ Richard and I were on the same shift for many years. One thing that always amazed me about Richard was his "desire" to eat. I remember the numerous times that Richard would tell us that how liked to get up after working night shift to go out and eat lunch and then come back home to go back to bed for a few more hours to only have to repeat 12 hours of night shift again. Now most of us also wake up after a few hours of sleep...but only to go to the bathroom...and then back to bed. I never could grasp this concept, but Richard would always show up to work with a smile and was always the most jovial and friendly person. Never once did I see him ill from lack of sleep. So it obviously worked for him!!! I will miss his positive spirit the most. The world needs more "Richard Smiths"!

Missy Silver - May 23 at 04:06 PM

WA

“ Richard was one of the most decent human beings God ever put on this earth

william greg auten - May 21 at 10:32 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



James Funeral Home - May 20 at 03:10 PM

JK

*What an awesome person and kind gentle man. Our fondest memories of you is how much you loved the Red Skins football team, once a Red Skins fan always a Red Skins Fan!*

*This is such a nice picture ! Rest in peace Richard, we are so sorry for your loss Dorothy.*

*FROM  
Joannie and Vic*

Joannie kysliger - May 20 at 04:45 PM

AR

*Dorothy And Family*

*Prayers For Strength And Comfort During This Time  
Our Sincere Condolences*

*Anthony & Denise Robinson  
Charlotte, NC*

Anthony & Denise Robinson - May 23 at 07:04 PM