



Richard Eugene Hilley

August 28, 1946 - September 25, 2020

Richard Eugene Hilley

Richard Eugene “Rick” Hilley passed on September 25th 2020, just shy of a month after his 74th birthday.

Rick was born on August 28th 1946 in Birmingham, AL to Helen Hilley (Bishop) and Joseph Hilley. He graduated from Ensley High School, where he established many life-long friends with a quick wit, kind eyes, and great sense of humor. While at Ensley, he earned a letter in Football, Basketball, and Baseball. His claim to fame was scoring 10 points and earning 13 rebounds on a broken ankle to impress a girl. His competitive spirit would also lead him to the sport he would play for the rest of his life, tennis.

Rick studied at Auburn University, graduating in 1968. He was a brother of Sigma Nu fraternity, making more cherished friends during this stage of his life. He participated in the Army ROTC and was active in intramural sports as well. From there, he served in the US Army/National Guard where David Sharp taught him everything he needed to know.

After graduation, he moved to Kingsport, TN to work for Eastman-Kodak in their floorcovering division. His experience there led him to Dalton, GA where he spent the next 25 years as a highly regarded expert in the floorcovering industry. He raised his two sons in Dalton with his first wife Nancy Phillips Hilley.

In 1996, Rick moved to Gulf Shores, AL, where he opened his own

floorcovering business. He loved the area previously as a vacationer, and even more as a resident. He got into the Real Estate business in 2004, to help others enjoy the natural beauty and good people of the area. He made many friends through the tennis community, with his competitiveness earning him several tournament victories and accolades through the years.

Rick is survived by his loving wife, Barbara Frerman of Gulf Shores; sons Phillip Hilley (Jennifer) of Gulf Shores, and Sam Hilley (Christy) of Atlanta, GA; grandson Chapman Collier of Mobile; sister Joanne Fowler of Birmingham; several nephews, nieces, and cousins. He also leaves behind too many friends to count, as he never met a stranger.

A celebration of Rick's life is will be Saturday, November 7th at Big Beach Brewing Company in Gulf Shores. The event will be from 2:00 to 6:00. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Rick's name to the Sigma Nu Foundation (<https://www.sigmanu.org/educational-foundation/educational-foundation>). Donations that go directly to COVID-19 research are also encouraged.

Tribute Wall

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“ *Our sincerest condolences to Rick's Family. We always enjoyed Rick's visits, and friendship over the years. He was a super guy, and I've missed seeing him since he moved from Dalton to the beach. I appreciated his integrity in our business dealings, and valued his friendship. I know how much his Family meant to him. I also remember his loyalty(an understatement) to Auburn sports.*

Words are never enough. Our prayers are for his Family to find peace and comfort.

Kindest regards,

Dave & Marian Hudgins

David Hudgins - October 19, 2020 at 09:33 AM