



Richard John Kirkwood Jr

June 18, 1963 - February 3, 2016

On February 3rd, 2016, at 52 years old, a very special, strong, funny, and very caring man passed away in his home in Elberta, AL . Richard Kirkwood, is survived by his wife, Patricia, daughter, Jennifer, son, Corey, niece, Sharon Holston, and brother, Jeffrey Kirkwood.

Dad not only loved his wife and children deeply, he loved all his family and friends. Dad felt that a stranger was a friend he had not met yet, and loved to talk to anyone he came into contact with... anytime, anywhere. If you were in trouble, he was there to help.

Other than loving his family so much, Dad loved his boat and football. He was an extreme New England Patriots Fan and was overjoyed when they won the Superbowl last year. We all got to pour champagne and celebrate and had so much fun.

He was born in Weymouth, Massachusetts and then moved to South Florida where he enjoyed the sun, and beach and met his gorgeous wife Patricia. From there they had their first daughter, Jennifer and spoiled her rotten. They had a very successful landscaping business and it sure kept them fit in that hot South Florida sunshine!

They moved to North Georgia seven years later and were blessed with a

healthy baby boy, Corey. He was so smart just like his father and they enjoyed watching the History Channel together (instead of cartoons, go figure!). Richard managed a very successful Golf and Ski Resort in Sky Valley, Georgia with his wife Patricia. He loved to be busy and could do any job in the restaurant business. After that Richard and Patricia opened up their own restaurant which they named Kirkwoods Deli. It was successful with them serving their fresh homemade cuisine, but after close family members passed away, they decided to get back to the beach they loved so dearly.

In 2003, Dad packed up the family, dog, cats, and horses and moved to Foley, Alabama where they found their slice of paradise on the water. It was named "The Kirkwood Ranch" because it had everything the Kirkwoods wanted and full of so much life and energy. Not only did they have the dogs, cats, and horses, they added chickens, ducks, birds, etc to give more joy to their life.

Sadly the Oil Spill affected our area in 2010, and Dad jumped in to help (again) to restore our beaches back to be beautiful and inviting again for everyone to enjoy. After working so closely to all those hazardous chemicals he was diagnosed with throat cancer. Dad was a fighter and went through radiation with a smile on his face. Unfortunately, it came back two years and he had to undergo a very intensive surgery that left him with a permanent stoma. He was so strong and we were all so proud of him and how he taught himself how to care for it. He loved going over to Baptist Hospital and teaching new patients how to care for their new stomas so he could teach them tips and tricks on how to better communicate with it. He helped a father talk to his daughter for the first time and the smile he created made him the happiest person on Earth.

Our family would like to thank all of dad's doctors for their care and compassion throughout everything he went through the last few years. The compassion the doctors, nurses, and receptionists gave him helped him get

through it as best he could, and he always had such great things to say about each and every one of them.

As dad requested, after cremation, our family will hold a private memorial where we will be scattering his ashes in the water where he always loved to be anytime of day. All thoughts and prayers for dad and our family are greatly appreciated.

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Richard Kirkwood please visit our Sympathy Store. If you have any questions, you can reach his wife Patricia Kirkwood at 251-228-1556 or 24752 Pine Street Elberta, AL 36530.

Tribute Wall

DS

“ All of your friends at Sky Valley send their condolences to the family. We love you all and were very sad to learn of Rich's passing. God Bless,
David Spears

David Spears - February 12, 2016 at 07:13 PM

JK

He always cherished his fond memories of his time at Sky Valley. He loved it there and always had great stories to tell that would always put a smile on his face. I feel it was the best time of his life where he truly enjoyed the atmosphere, the fun, and most of all the people. Thank you David for always being a wonderful friend to Richard and our family. We love you all and thank you again for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.
Much Love, The Kirkwood Family

Jennifer Kirkwood - February 14, 2016 at 10:24 PM

JK

“ Such a wonderful visit from Sharon, we went and ate at Wolf Bay Lodge and Dad will cherish this time with Shars forever. She meant the world to him and he loved her so very much. As dad always said... Luv you Shars



Jennifer Kirkwood - February 09, 2016 at 09:12 PM

SE

Richard we never had the pleasure of meeting you however I felt like we knew you because we have known Patricia now for almost 3 years and love her she is a very special person that goes Far and Beyond the Call of Duty! I know you will be missed very deeply but never forgotten..... dance with the angels now while you wait on the rest of your family to join you! Time in eternity is just a twinkling of an eye!

Sandra And Lynn Evans - March 13, 2016 at 04:19 PM

JE

“ Casey Dad and I enjoying a wonderful beach vacation at Turquoise Place. All of our family was there and it was amazing... take me back. Xoxo



Jennifer - February 08, 2016 at 09:09 PM

JE

“ You gave me the best surprise birthday ever and when you grabbed me to sing karaoke "Brown Eyed Girl" with you, it was the most amazing experience. Even with your trach, you sang your heart out and we had a blast. I wish we were in that moment right this second. I miss you so bad, I hurt constantly.... I can't stop crying. I love you so much and just want you here.



Jennifer - February 08, 2016 at 09:05 PM

JE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jennifer - February 08, 2016 at 07:39 PM

JE

“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Jennifer - February 08, 2016 at 12:40 PM

JK

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Jennifer Kirkwood - February 07, 2016 at 09:21 PM

PK

*man am i lucky he is kind and loving but wow what a handsome man
he is now and always!!!!*

patricia kirkwood - March 30, 2016 at 04:38 AM

JE

“ We were just playing with Bugs our cat and making her dance. You and I laughed and laughed daddy. You were so full of life and you had jokes for days. I love you and miss you so bad. Rip daddy love Kiki xoxoxo

Jennifer - February 07, 2016 at 09:20 AM

JE

“ Daddy, I miss our good nights... I miss our good mornings. .. I miss you saying bht bht and making me laugh and laugh. We had so much fun together all the time. From when I was born, I was stuck to your hip. I was daddy's gurl and never thought I would lose you at such a young age. I can't stop crying, the tears fall down like rain and I can't stop them. I thought you promised me you wouldnt so this to me and I'm so upset you left me like you did. How am I supposed to go on with that image in my head. I love you more than anything in the world and your my heart. I hope we see each other very soon. Love you so much xoxo xoxoxo I love you now and always will..... Kiki xoxo

Jennifer - February 07, 2016 at 01:16 AM