



Richard W. Jackson

March 7, 1946 - March 16, 2009

Richard W. Jackson (Rick) 63, of Huntington, West Virginia, ended his four year journey with cancer on the morning of March 16, 2009. He battled it with the same courage and passion that he applied to everything in life. His smile and positive attitude carried him through every process until the end. He was preceded in death by his parents, Theodore R. and Lillian Mae Jones Jackson. His father died when he was 5 years old in a tragic car accident. He was raised by his mother whom he loved dearly. Her resilience and ability to overcome the obstacles of raising two boys in a time when the only assistance was what you earned by hard work and perseverance. This upheld the love and utmost respect from her two sons until her death at 90 years old. He is survived by his loving wife Monica A. Jackson and four children. Heather Lynn Jackson of Alexandria, Virginia, Richard Matthew Jackson (wife Hope) of Fredericksburg, Virginia, Christopher R. Harris of Huntington, West Virginia and Andrew C. Harris "Andy" (fiancée Morgan Pence) of Huntington; his brother Theodore Ronald Jackson (wife Vicki) of Jacksonville, Florida. He had four grandchildren. Rick had many accomplishments throughout his school years. Among them he received the Eagle Award in Scouting at 13 years old. He graduated from Huntington East in 1964. He was active in many organizations with multiple honors. Among the many interests he pursued with great passion was student body Vice-President and Halfback on the Huntington East football team which he loved. He graduated from Marshall University in 1968. He was active in student government and other organizations. One he remembered with great fondness and humor was being one of the first Marcos at Marshall. Upon graduation, he taught Middle School in Bakersfield, CA from 1968 to 1972. He was with All-State Insurance Company as an Agent for 35 years. He won the Honor Ring six times, Conference of Champions and out of 10,000 people he was chosen as 1 of 10 for The Healthy American Fitness Leader Award in 1987. His love for running began in 1976 when he formed the Huntington Track Club, which is now known as the Road Runners Club of Huntington. For many years he conducted Sunday Fun Runs at Ritter Park where everybody was a winner. He ran many races and marathons from 5K to 50 miles. His last contribution for running before his illness was to help set up traffic control for the Marshall University Marathon. In 1998, he helped organize The Thundertones, a men's Barbershop Chorus. It enhanced his life even more by the joy and many friends made through singing

Barbershop style. Every year in each group the Barber shopper of the Year is awarded. The Thundertones honored Rick by naming their award "The Rick Jackson Barbershopper of the Year Award." which he was thrilled to receive. As Rick said many times, "There is nothing like Barbershopping!" Our family thanks the many people near and far that supported us with kindness and prayers during this journey; thanks to his clients who prayed with him and for him from the onset of his illness. Thanks to Steele Memorial United Methodist Church especially, The Singles and More Sunday School class; a special thank you to Cheryl Adkins and InfoCusion for their generosity of time and support which never ceased to amaze us. Others are Dr. Kimmey and staff, Dr. Robards and staff, Dr. Blobe and staff, Dr. Harrison and staff. Christi Davis for her kindness and much needed guidance and Lois Norris for her wonderful care in the final days. Special bequest will be welcomed to the American Cancer Society, Steele Memorial United Methodist Church Youth Programs and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, P.O. Box 346, Barboursville, West Virginia, 25504. Friends may call from 6 to 9 pm, Thursday at Steele Memorial United Methodist Church. The funeral service will be at 2pm at Steele Memorial United Methodist Church in Barboursville, West Virginia. The Rev, Dr. John Sauvage will be officiating. I was blessed having Rick in my life for over 20 years. Though we are sad, the wonderful memories and his smile live on into eternity. Henson Mortuary is handling the arrangements for the family. Condolences may be extended to the family by visiting www.hensonmortuary.com.

Comments



“ Rick was my neighbor, friend, boy scout friend, fellow Christian brother at Highlawn Baptist, and passionate ping pong player with me in the garage my Dad built behind our house at 2816 Merrill Ave, just down the alley from Rick's house. When we played ping pong, we invariable ended up laughing like crazy! He was prince of a man. I loved him like a brother, even tho our paths parted after high school. His mom was my 1st grade teacher at Emmons. I have wonderful memories of him. I look forward to seeing him again in heaven. He was short of stature, but tall in character and love.

roland burgess - March 28, 2010 at 10:55 PM



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roland burgess of Glen Mills, PA - March 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ My brother, John Midkiff and cousin, Pete Smith just let us know about Rick's passing. We were friends at HEHS and wanted you to know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. He was a very special and kind soul. God bless you and yours, Don & Denise Midkiff

Don Midkiff - April 03, 2009 at 01:15 PM



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Don Midkiff of Placitas, NM - April 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept my deepest sympathies in the loss of your loved one and my long time friend. Rick and I started out together in the first grade at Emmons Elementary with his mother as our teacher. I lost touch with him after my family moved to the Beverly Hills district. Then, at H.E.H.S. our paths crossed again. He hadn't changed a bit, and was still the sweet person I knew from grade school. It doesn't seem possible that he's gone from us. I will keep the family and all of his many friends in my prayers. Our upcoming 45th reunion this September won't be the same without him. Keeping you in my thoughts.... Becky DeAlba

Becky (Yost) DeAlba - March 28, 2009 at 07:14 PM



“ In many years of relationships, business dealings and fellowships, there are only few times in which I could speak without reservation that, "Here is someone worthy of trust." Rick Jackson was one of those persons I trusted to always give his best. As a fellow classmate at HEHS, 1964, he was a sports colleague of the highest quality and helped me understand that hard work was how one achieved and that such work was downright fun. In the many years of my trying to work out a way to return to a life in Huntington, I always did so with the thought that possibly Rick Jackson would provide for me a few moments of laughter and friendship. I celebrate his life.
Thomas W. Chapman HEHS Class of 1964

Thomas W. Chapman - March 22, 2009 at 10:54 AM



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Thomas W. Chapman of Berea, Kentucky - March 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Monica and family: I too was a classmate of Rick's at HEHS 64. To say that his grace and humor touched the world is evidenced by the folks who have signed this guest book. Just look at how far away some of us have roamed from Huntington. But, folks like Rick are always touchstones and bright spots to remember and cherish. Hold on to your memories and know that all of us will do likewise.

Jim Searls HEHS Class of 1964

Jim Searls - March 21, 2009 at 07:24 PM



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charlie bryant - March 21, 2009 at 07:00 PM



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Jim Searls of Zeeland, Michigan - March 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Family of Rick : We are the parents of Chris Parsons, Midland's track & cross country coach. We've known Rick for many years, mainly because of his association with Chris. We first met Rick many years ago at one of the road races he & Chris ran. All of our family would comment what a nice person he was & always smiling. Our faces would light up when we saw him. He brought out the best in you when you were around him. There's no doubt in our minds that he has been welcomed with loving arms by our Lord & by these words from Him, "Welcome home, my son. You got my message."

Jim & Doris Parsons - March 20, 2009 at 08:18 PM



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Jim & Doris Parsons of East Pea Ridge - March 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I was blessed to be able to work with Rick thru some of his last times in the office and he was such an inspiration. Never complained about his condition, no matter how bad he felt, always upbeat and thankful for all he has been able to do and put what was important to others above his illness. He reminded me how important every day with loved ones is and he was grateful to all God has blessed him with. He was even kind to those who had wronged him, and that is something that will forever stick with me and make me want to be a better person. I am glad to have got to know Monica and the other family members. You are in my prayers. Deadra

Deadra Sutton - March 19, 2009 at 11:20 PM



“ Dear Monica & Family, "Some people make a difference just by being who they are; their inner light shines bright & touches lives both near & far". This is how Rick touched our lives. In all the years we've known him, nothing could touch the sincerity, kindness, compassion, and caring man he was. He always did for others & was never timid about getting involved or reaching out a helping hand. He will be greatly missed by both of us. Loving thoughts and prayers are with you all. Ed & Diana Canterbury

Ed & Diana Canterbury - March 19, 2009 at 10:46 PM



“ Rick was one of those people who made everyone feel comfortable and he was such a friendly guy. I went to high school with him, and he will be missed very, very much. May God be with his family in their loss.

Glecia Rose Miller - March 19, 2009 at 10:28 PM



“ So long for now my friend.

Ron Lucas - March 19, 2009 at 07:40 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Rick. He was a friend and classmate of mine at HEHS and in my homeroom. Everyone loved Rick. He always had a smile on his face and was just so sweet of a person. Every reunion I attended he was there and always helping out with everything. He was a wonderful giving man and I'm sure will be missed by all who knew him. Our prayers go out to all the family. God Bless, Connie and Mike Tatum

Connie Hughes Tatum - March 19, 2009 at 04:25 PM



“ I'm from the HEHS class of '63. Rick was an underclassman on our football team, but he didn't perform like an underclassman. When Rick was a junior, he inspired even us seniors with his enthusiasm and hustle.
Very few like Rick Jackson around...One less light in the world, but his memory will shine on in mine.
Steve Grant

Steve Grant - March 19, 2009 at 03:52 PM



“ May God bless the family of Rick Jackson. Fellow classmate at HEHS, 1964. I recall him fondly as a leader in high school, and watched him at MU, and in his insurance work. He was a man of his word, and brought respect to our common profession. The insurance industry will greatly miss him.

Tom Chaffin - March 19, 2009 at 09:33 AM



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Deadra Sutton of Hurricane WV - March 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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Ed & Diana Canterbury of Huntington, WV - March 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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Connie Hughes Tatum of Wilmington, NC - March 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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Steve Grant of Stoughton, Wisconsin - March 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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Tom Chaffin of Ashland, Kentucky - March 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick was my friend at HEHS, and such a wonderful person. He was always cheerful and optimistic. I saw him at our 30th reunion, but had lost touch since then. I am so saddened to hear of his illness and death. He left us too soon. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Judy Seegmiller Faust - March 18, 2009 at 11:07 PM



“ As a former MARCO..I just wanted to express my condolences and to let you know you will be in my prayers tonight.

MARCO76-78 - March 18, 2009 at 09:12 PM



“ I was so sorry to hear of Rick's death. I remember Rick at HEHS as a smiling, friendly and energetic guy - one of those rare individuals that no one disliked. Please accept our prayers and sympathies.

Gary Dickens - March 18, 2009 at 04:50 PM



“ OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS, GO OUT TO RICK'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS. HE WAS A GOOD MAN.

RUSSELL ROSWALL - March 18, 2009 at 04:30 PM



“ Monica & Family, I am sad to hear of Rick's passing. He will be missed, and always remembered. Love, Karen Pemberton

Karen Pemberton - March 18, 2009 at 02:20 PM



“ Monica and Family I was sorry to hear of Rick's passing, my heart goes out to you in this difficult time.

Kay Miller - March 18, 2009 at 01:50 PM



“ Ken and I send our deepest sympathy to your family. We both were classmates at HEHS with Rick and have fond memories of him. He will be gratefully missed.

kristin carpenter lowry - March 18, 2009 at 01:16 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Rick's passing and my prayers and sympathy go out to all his family and friends. Rick and I went to HEHS together and I always remember him as a very good man who treated everyone with the same respect and compassion. Dain

Dain Leadmon - March 18, 2009 at 01:02 PM



“ I AM SO SORRY, I WENT TO SCHOOL WITH RICK ELEM JR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL, I CAME TO ALL THE REUNIONS HE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED. GOD ADDED ANOTHER ROSE TO HIS GARDEN. MAY GOD BLESS AND MY PRAYS ARE WITH YOU. LOVE AND PRAYS, PAT SMITH

PAT (BRYAN) SMITH - March 18, 2009 at 09:58 AM



“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Monica if you need anything please let us know. Again, very very sorry for your loss.
Bill Clark Jaime D. Brinegar
Mike & Donna Sullivan

Carpet Ladies - March 18, 2009 at 08:24 AM



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Judy Seegmiller Faust of Fort Walton Beach, FL - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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Gary Dickens of Charleston, WV - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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RUSSELL ROSWALL of HANOVER, PA. - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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Kay Miller of huntington, wv - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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kristin carpenter lowry of florence S.C. - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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Dain Leadmon of Orangevale, California - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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PAT (BRYAN) SMITH of HURRICANE WV - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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Carpet Ladies of Barboursville WV - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Monica & Family, I am sad to hear of Rick's passing. He will be missed, and always remembered. Love, Karen Pemberton

Karen Pemberton - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Monica I am so sorry for your loss. I knew Rick through Raymond and the chorus and I have some good memories of them up on stage singing their hearts out. God bless you in your time of sorrow. Dave..

David - March 17, 2009 at 09:12 PM



“ Monica,Chris, Ian and family, My heart and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. I am deeply saddened to hear of his passing. He was a great man and will be greatly missed by many.

Sara and Karleigh Collins - March 17, 2009 at 04:26 PM



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Sara and Karleigh Collins of Huntington, WV - March 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM