



Richard Nowak

August 17, 1940 - July 30, 2020

Richard Edward Nowak, Sr., 79, died peacefully in his sleep on July 30, 2020. Richard was born in Buffalo, New York on August 17, 1940, to Clara and Edward Nowak and was the youngest of two children. As a family, they moved to Denver and then to Kansas City, always returning to Buffalo each year to visit family. They eventually settled in Houston, Texas in 1950, where Richard attended All Saints Catholic School and St. Thomas High School. Richard served as an altar boy, and played baseball and golf. Richard also proudly served in the United States Navy from 1962 to 1966 during the Vietnam War.

Richard met the love of his life, Sandra Lobue, on a blind date. He always said that he knew the day he met her that he was going to marry her. While in the navy, on a two-day pass, he drove 1500 miles from San Diego to Houston to spend a few hours with Sandra, and then turned around and drove right back. He married his "Special Angel" on November 28, 1964, and had 7 children. Their love story was beautifully told in their mutual devotion to each other, in their playful spirit and in their everyday life together. It was a fairy tale romance and a beautiful example of a Christian marriage. Richard and Sandra shared a love for the Lord and their strong, Catholic faith. Richard was a 46-year member of St. Edward Catholic Community and supported the church's many fundraising efforts and capital campaigns. Richard was a true family man through and

through, always putting God and family first, despite working many long hours. He always managed to make time for his family and saw to their every need. Richard instilled in his children the values of working hard, making sacrifices, being generous and giving to others, and always putting forth your best effort.

In early years, Richard worked at Doreck's Auto Service and Southern Pacific Railroad. He started his 43-year long career with Reed Roller Bit Company in 1966, retiring in 2009. Friends and former coworkers attributed Reed's being a great place to work to Richard, referring to him as a leader, a dedicated supporter, a great mentor, an advocate of change, and a demanding boss, always expecting the best from everyone as he gave nothing but his best in return.

Richard was most content when spending time with his family, and as long as he had Sandra by his side, he was a happy man regardless of what he was doing. He enjoyed his wife's cooking, he enjoyed cars and trucks - looking at them, working on them and buying them, fishing and hunting with his sons, playing with his grandchildren (he was a master paper airplane maker and avid collector of locust shells), the telling and re-telling of his Navy days, and listening and dancing (with anyone who would dance with him) to country music. Richard loved traveling and enjoyed Germany, Italy and Singapore on business, but his favorite travel memories are those of numerous trips to Branson, MO and San Diego, CA with his wife, children and grandchildren.

Richard is survived by his children, Son's Richard Nowak, Jr. and wife Jennifer, John Nowak and his wife Dana. Daughter's Cindy Lee, Sherri Langford and her husband Brad, Carolyn Wolfe, Stephanie Martin and her husband Mike.

He is also survived by his 14 grandchildren, Ashlyn Gremillion and her

husband Chandler, Kaitlyn Lee, Tyler Nowak, Lauren Wolfe, Riley Nowak, Nick Lee, Jonathan Wolfe, Addie Nowak, Emma Nowak, Luke Nowak, Zoe Nowak, Pedro Martin, Johnny Nowak & Mary Nowak.

Richard is preceded in death by his beloved and cherished wife, Sandra Nowak, his son Joseph M. Nowak, his Parents, Edward & Clara Nowak, and his Sister Alice Buckner and her husband David.

The family would like to thank Avalon Memory Care for their steadfast support and loving care of Richard. Unfortunately, we lost our Dad to another world years ago, a world in which we were "pretty ladies or good friends" who were there just to visit. Dad was often reliving an earlier time, but we continued to love him the same, and cherished our time with him. The one name he still spoke of at the very end was Sandra Jean. Rest in peace, Dad and give Mom a hug for us. We love you.

Previous Events

Rosary

AUG 7. 9:45 AM (CT)

Saint Edward Catholic Church
2601 Spring Stuebner Rd
Spring, TX 77389

Funeral Mass

AUG 7. 10:30 AM (CT)

Saint Edward Catholic Church
2601 Spring Stuebner Rd
Spring, TX 77389

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard Nowak*

July 20, 2022 at 05:14 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 06, 2020 at 02:40 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 05, 2020 at 05:59 PM

LA

“ 16 files added to the tribute wall



Lauren - August 05, 2020 at 03:27 PM

SL

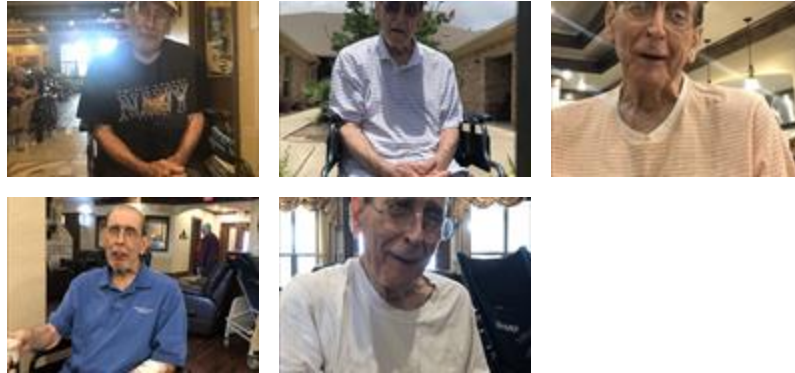
“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Sherri Nowak Langford - August 05, 2020 at 11:19 AM

SM

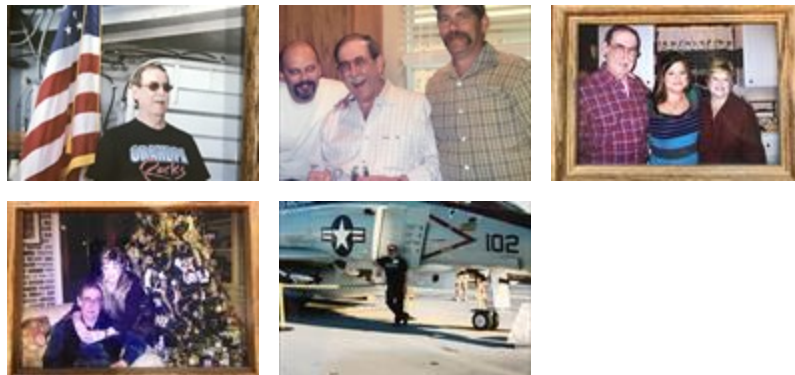
“ 26 files added to the tribute wall



stephanie nowak martin - August 05, 2020 at 11:10 AM

SL

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Sherri Nowak Langford - August 05, 2020 at 10:55 AM

SL

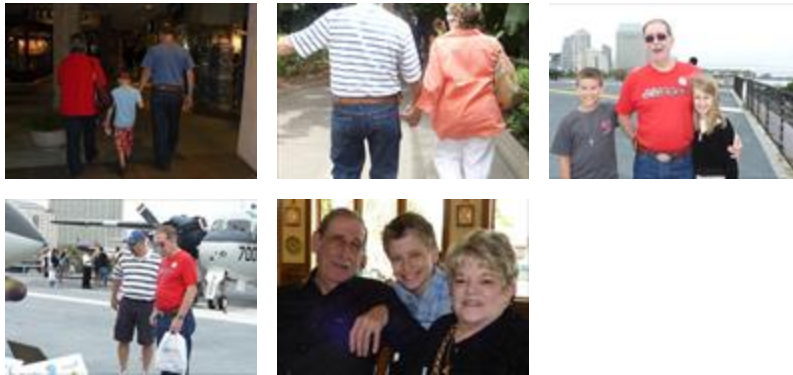
“ 23 files added to the tribute wall



Sherri Langford - August 05, 2020 at 10:14 AM

CW

“ 15 files added to the album Memories Album



Carolyn Wolfe - August 05, 2020 at 02:01 AM

MG

“ *Marcus & Susan Gaspard purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Richard Nowak.*



Marcus & Susan Gaspard - August 05, 2020 at 12:42 AM

KL

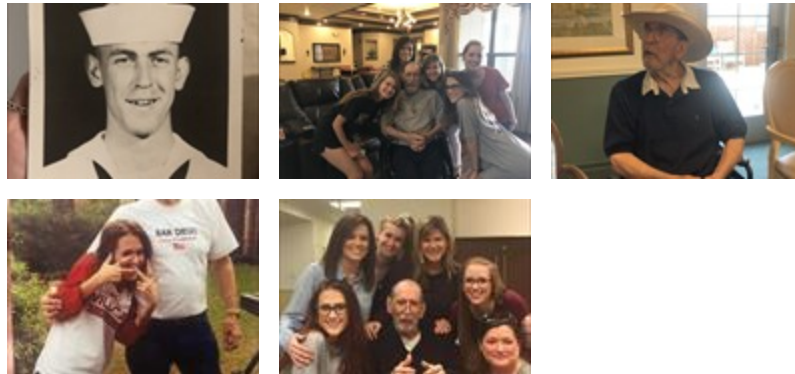
“ love these two more than anything



Kaitlyn Lee - August 04, 2020 at 10:35 PM

KL

“ the best pawpaw a girl could ask for



Kaitlyn Lee - August 04, 2020 at 10:29 PM

KL

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kaitlyn Lee - August 04, 2020 at 10:27 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 04, 2020 at 08:51 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Riley Nowak - August 04, 2020 at 08:41 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 04, 2020 at 08:20 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 04, 2020 at 07:12 PM

GF

“ *Gwen, Mickey and Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Richard Nowak.*



Gwen, Mickey and Family - August 04, 2020 at 07:07 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 04, 2020 at 06:53 PM

SM

“ *12 files added to the tribute wall*



stephanie nowak martin - August 04, 2020 at 05:10 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 04, 2020 at 05:05 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 04, 2020 at 04:43 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Ed Nunez - August 04, 2020 at 02:23 PM



Five years since Richard passed and this evening for some reason he is on my mind.

Rest in peace my good friend.

Edward Nunez - May 23, 2025 at 07:04 PM

JN

“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



John Nowak - August 04, 2020 at 10:48 AM

BM

“ You are in my thoughts and prayers and my deepest sympathy for Stephanie, Mike & Pedro and all of the families. Sending all my love and comfort. Hold onto your memories because forever will always remain. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Heaven gains a Angel! Love, Mikes Mom

Betty Moody - August 04, 2020 at 09:59 AM

TL

Thinking of you all and hoping you are surrounded by loved one and beautiful memories.

Tina LaPier - August 04, 2020 at 05:43 PM

BE

“ Betty lit a candle in memory of Richard Nowak



Betty - August 04, 2020 at 09:50 AM

DF

“ *Deanna Haranda & family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Richard Nowak.*



Deanna Haranda & family - August 04, 2020 at 09:20 AM

SB

“ *Richard was such a great man. He was a joy to work with the 35 years that I worked with him at Reed Tool. He was always friendly and always made sure his employees time was correct so their paycheck would be correct. He will be missed.*

sylvia burleson - August 04, 2020 at 08:16 AM

SM

Thanks for the sweet words about Dad.

Stephanie A Martin - August 04, 2020 at 09:59 AM

EN

“ *Remembering a good friend and co-worker. Rest easy Richard. You are missed.*



Ed Nunez - August 04, 2020 at 01:22 AM

SM

Love this pic! Thank you

Stephanie A Martin - August 04, 2020 at 09:59 AM

CW

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Carolyn Wolfe - August 03, 2020 at 11:04 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.



August 03, 2020 at 09:39 PM

WK

“ I worked at Reed during the same time period that Richard worked there. I took care of the computers, time clocks, and other computer hardware and software related to the shop. From time to time Richard would call me for something that needed my attention. I enjoyed going to his office, fix whatever was going on but then we would talk. It was like we were sole buddies in a way. It was easy talking with him and we seemed to connect with each other. That was a wonderful life story of him. I will miss him as I know many of us will.

Love,
Wayne Koch

Wayne Koch - August 03, 2020 at 09:20 PM

SM

Thank you for this sweet note Wayne. I know he enjoyed talking to you too!

Stephanie Nowak Martin - August 03, 2020 at 09:30 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 03, 2020 at 09:16 PM

RW

“ *Richard and I go all the way back to 4th grade at All Saints School in the Heights. From there we went to St. Thomas High School. We were very good friends during those memorable school days. The obit says it all. Richard was a good man. May he and his beloved Sandra rest in the Peace of our Loving God. Peace and Prayers for their family.*

Fr. Dan Warden

Rev. Daniel L. Warden - August 03, 2020 at 07:02 PM

CW

Thank you, Father Dan! U baptized me which I love to think about because I know how close you were with my Dad. Thank you for your prayers! xo

Carolyn Wolfe - August 03, 2020 at 07:11 PM

SL

Thank you for the prayers Father Dan. I always loved hearing Dad speak of you and the great times you all had.

Sherri Nowak Langford - August 03, 2020 at 08:18 PM

JN

Thanks a lot, Father, from another of the many Nowaks you baptized!

John Nowak - August 03, 2020 at 08:27 PM

SM

Another Nowak you baptized. Thank you for remembering our dad. I know he loved you.

Stephanie A Martin - August 03, 2020 at 08:31 PM

LW

You were famous in the Nowak house Fr. Dan...I'm a granddaughter and even I knew about the shenanigans you and Pawpaw used to get into. He always spoke very highly of you

Lauren Wolfe - August 05, 2020 at 03:15 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Nowak.*



August 03, 2020 at 06:47 PM