



## Donald Edward Ricketts

December 30, 1963 - September 14, 2023

Donald Edward Ricketts, 59, of 125 Pinecroft Circle died Thursday, September 14th, 2023 at his residence. He had been in declining health since 2021.

He was born in Danville, VA, on December 30th, 1963, a son of Warren D. Ricketts and Jeanette Handy Ricketts. He lived his life in Pittsylvania County and graduated from Tunstall High School in 1982, where he served as drum major for the marching band. Donald was also a graduate of Danville Community College and Bismarck State College. He worked for the City of Danville for more than 26 years; first in the Department of Utilities and then with the Department of Public Works as a project manager. He retired in August 2023.

A lifelong outdoorsman he enjoyed fishing, camping, and boating. Additionally, he was an avid NASCAR fan and served as a crew member with two teams in late-model stock car racing.

On August 8th, 2015, he married Paula Yeatts Ricketts who survives.

He also is survived by his daughter Hannah Ricketts Schumacher and her husband Michael of Orlando, FL and daughter Allison Michelle Setliff. Additionally, he is survived by his father Warren Ricketts; brother Steve

Ricketts and wife Tammy, brother David Ricketts and wife Patty; brother in law Todd Yeatts and wife Cindy; uncle Frankie Handy and wife Beverly of Mt. Airy, NC and aunt Joann Herndon and husband MH; nieces Sarah Ricketts, Virginia Yeatts, and Cara Poythress; nephews Lewis Ricketts, Jacob Ricketts, Tyler Ricketts, AJ Holley, Cason Poythress, and Caine Poythress.

He was preceded in death by his mother Jeanette Ricketts, mother in law Frances Yeatts, and nephew Colton Poythress.

Visitation will be held Sunday, September 17th, 2023 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel. The funeral will be at the same location on Monday, September 18th, 2023 at 11 a.m. Interment will follow at Danville Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, donations are asked to be made to the Danville Pittsylvania Cancer Association.

Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel is serving the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Danville Memorial Gardens

510 Church Ave  
Danville, VA 24541  
(434) 822-1617

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 17. 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM (ET)

Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel  
5858 Riverside Drive  
Danville, VA 24541  
(434) 793-5511  
[info@wrenn-yeatts.com](mailto:info@wrenn-yeatts.com)  
<https://www.wrenn-yeatts.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald Edward Ricketts*



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**Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes** - September 17, 2023 at 11:00 AM

LR

*A man of encouragement. He will be missed.*

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**Lee Rigsby** - September 17, 2023 at 06:08 PM

AE

*Memories, miss him all the time!*

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**andy early** - December 08, 2025 at 04:45 PM

RB

“ *I really hate to hear of Donald's passing. We were not very close but I always did think a lot of Donald, he was a great guy and hugger!!! I really hate it for Hannah, she was the apple of his eye and no doubt a daddys girl. Being one my self I know this will be extremely hard on her for the rest of her life. My condolences to the entire family.*

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**Rhonda S Burnette** - September 18, 2023 at 01:51 PM

DH

“ Our prayers and thoughts are with your family during this difficult time. Donald was a ray of sunshine that always carried a huge smile with him everywhere he went. Until we meet again my sweet friend..  
Dale and Susan Hampton



Dale and Susan Hampton - September 17, 2023 at 07:45 PM

DS

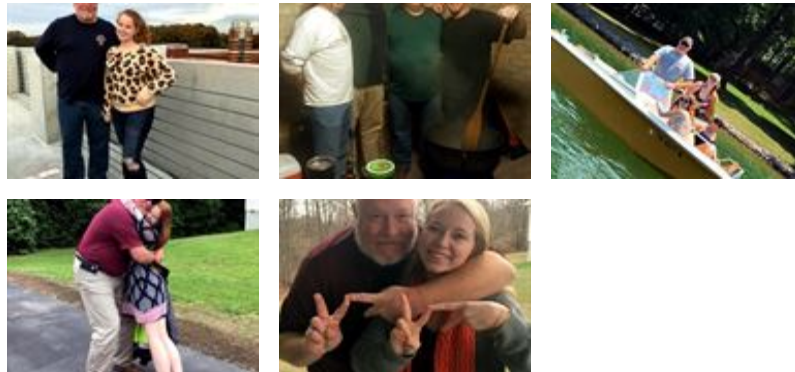
“ Debbie Simmons lit a candle in memory of Donald Edward Ricketts



Debbie Simmons - September 17, 2023 at 04:29 PM



“ 11 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes - September 17, 2023 at 02:10 PM



“ 43 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes - September 17, 2023 at 10:59 AM



“ I will really miss Donald. The 28 years I have known him after seeing him or talking to him I was always laughing. He was that type of person. Sending love to his brothers, and his daughter Hannah who he really loved. To Paula we love you



Gracie - September 16, 2023 at 09:02 PM



“ Morgan Z. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Edward Ricketts.

Morgan Z. - September 16, 2023 at 07:37 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. My heart is with you every step of the way. Donald was a wonderful man who will be missed by many. Y'all take care of each other.

Dianne HARR - September 16, 2023 at 05:42 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald Edward Ricketts.



September 16, 2023 at 02:49 PM



“ So sorry to all of the Ricketts family for this loss. Donald always had a smile on his face and always the same every time you saw him. I'm sure Heaven is brighter with him there. May God give y'all strength during this difficult time. 🙏

Angie Adams - September 16, 2023 at 11:41 AM



“ I started kindergarten with Donald in 1969 at Whitmell...when I moved downtown we became tight again..I have visited him often last two years and he was the most upbeat person ever as he battled this dreaded disease ..rip old friend



lonnie f jones - September 15, 2023 at 10:02 PM

CA

“ *Crystal Adkins lit a candle in memory of Donald Edward Ricketts*



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**Crystal Adkins** - September 15, 2023 at 07:19 PM

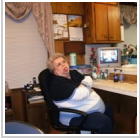
FL

“ *Faye Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Donald Edward Ricketts*



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**Faye Lawrence** - September 15, 2023 at 05:50 PM



“ *I was so very sorry to hear of Donald's passing. He was definitely one of a kind. Praying for the Ricketts family.*

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**Hope Adams** - September 15, 2023 at 05:43 PM

CA

“ Precious family!!! I remember Donald and his 2 brothers coming to church as little boys. One with dark hair, one with red hair and one with blonde hair. Such cute little boys that grew up to be faithful men. I had an issue with my electric 4 or 5 years ago and this call was transferred to Donald. I knew who he was but had not seen him in his grownup years to my remembrance. He was so kind and helpful and knowing i had lost my husband he told me that day to call him if i ever needed help with anything, and he would recommend those who could help and wouldn't overcharge. I can't even begin to share the many that he would recommend. He would always say, just call/text me first.

Such a kind heart and giving spirit. I am sorry I didnt know him in his adult years but i knew my husband and family did. There are no words to share to bring comfort but it is my prayer that the family will feel a peace that is beyond understanding that will only be a gift from God.

Fly high dear one. And keep helping others in heaven. I know God has a place prepared just for you. To the family, keep holding onto the memories. Precious memories of a life well lived.

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**Cheryl Ashworth** - September 15, 2023 at 03:27 PM

KR

“ Warren, so sorry to hear about Donald. We should never outlive our children. He is now with his Mom. I loved that sweet woman. God be with your family.

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**Kawania Reed** - September 15, 2023 at 03:26 PM

DW

“ A great man gone too soon. Ronnie and Darlene Watson

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**DARLENE LAW WATSON** - September 15, 2023 at 03:11 PM

WA

“ Dear Ricketts Family, we are sad for your great loss. We have been fortunate to live in the same community with this outstanding family since before Donald was born. "Death is a Heartache, No one can Heal. Love is a Memory No one can Steal". Please know we are remembering all of you with Our Love, Prayers, and deepest Sympathy. Wayne and Lib Ashworth

Wayne and Lib Ashworth - September 15, 2023 at 03:05 PM

PY

“ Patricia Y. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Edward Ricketts.

Patricia Y. - September 15, 2023 at 02:39 PM



“ Lisa Davis lit a candle in memory of Donald Edward Ricketts



Lisa Davis - September 15, 2023 at 12:56 PM

DG

“ Dept. of Electrical Engineer/Water & Gas planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Edward Ricketts.

Dept. of Electrical Engineer/Water & Gas - September 15, 2023 at 11:45 AM

DG

“ Dept. of Electrical Engineer/Water & Gas purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Donald Edward Ricketts.



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**Dept. of Electrical Engineer/Water & Gas** - September 15, 2023 at 11:45 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Edward Ricketts.



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September 15, 2023 at 11:23 AM

KA

“ Kimberly A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald Edward Ricketts.

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**Kimberly A.** - September 15, 2023 at 10:45 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Edward Ricketts.

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September 15, 2023 at 09:34 AM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Donald Edward Ricketts.



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September 15, 2023 at 09:34 AM



“ Hannah, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Connie Watson (Hayley's grandmother)

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Connie Watson - September 15, 2023 at 08:16 AM



“ Rest in peace Donald. You will be miss by all that new you. Ronald Motley

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Ronald Motley - September 15, 2023 at 06:58 AM



“ Donald was such a special friend, always caring, compassionate, giving and made the world better because of the person that he was. His bravery over the past several years as he fought his battle with cancer should be a lesson for all of us. I am sending this with my heartfelt sympathy and prayers to his family and many, many friends. You were loved brother and will be sorely missed all who knew and loved you Rest in peace friend, your courageous battle is over and was well fought. .

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Mack Doss - September 15, 2023 at 04:05 AM

SM

*Donald had a gift of love... everyone that met him loved him. He was memorable... everyone that met him remembered him. He will live on in the hearts of so many. Rest easy in the arms of Christ my brother.*

Sharon and Chris Mitchell - September 15, 2023 at 11:06 AM

CS

*“ Will always be your Beach Buddy  
Broken hearted*

Christine Schwitzerlett - September 14, 2023 at 10:55 PM



*“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of  
Donald Edward Ricketts.*



September 14, 2023 at 08:33 PM



*“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for  
the family of Donald Edward Ricketts.*



September 14, 2023 at 04:34 PM



*“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of  
Donald Edward Ricketts.*



September 14, 2023 at 02:00 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Ricketts.

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September 14, 2023 at 02:00 PM