



## Ronald Dean "Big Bird" Richardson

December 28, 1957 - July 1, 2024

Ronald Dean "Big Bird" Richardson, 66, of Ringgold went home to be with the Lord on July 1, 2024, after several years of declining health.

Ronald was born on December 28, 1957 in Danville to Robert Kelly Richardson, Sr. and Annie Tate Richardson, who preceded him in death.

Big Bird attended Dan River High School. On April 20, 1992, he married Delores Hammack Richardson, who survives of the residence. He retired from Apac Thompson-Arthur Paving, where he worked as a machine operator for many years. He served his community for many years as a volunteer firefighter with Ringgold Fire Department. Big Bird was a member of Lakewood Community Church, where he watched online faithfully when his health was declining. He spent his entire life in the Ringgold community.

Big Bird enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren, watching NASCAR, M\*A\*S\*H, and Blue Bloods, and hunting and fishing when his health allowed. He was a proud Virginia Tech fan. He enjoyed Facebook and was known as "the weather man." Big Bird was a devoted husband, father and grandfather.

In addition to his wife, Big Bird is survived by his daughter, Stormy Richardson (Dillion Smith) of Ringgold; his step-son, Luke Pickeral of Chatham; four

grandchildren, Kendyl Pickeral, Logan Smith, Levi Smith and Liam Smith; his sister, Carolyn Weatherford (Tommy) of Statesville, NC; a sister-in-law, Donna Yancey Richardson; a nephew, Robbie Richardson (Donna); and two nieces, Kelly Chapell (Robert) and Denise Slaughter.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by two brothers, Robert Kelly “Bob” Richardson, Jr. and Dennis Glenn Richardson; and a sister-in-law, Kimberly Cocke Richardson.

A Celebration of Life will be conducted for Big Bird at Lakewood Community Church on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 4:00 PM by Pastor Ryan Call

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial donations be made to Ringgold Fire & Rescue, P.O. Box 10, Ringgold, VA 24586.

Wrenn-Yeatts North Main Chapel is respectfully serving the Richardson family.

# Previous Events

## Celebration Of Life

JUL 9. 4:00 PM (ET)

Lakewood Community Church  
129 Clarks Mill Road  
Ringgold, VA 24586

# Tribute Wall

VM

“ When I married LeRoy at the age of 17 in 1966 I married into that big wonderful Richardson family in Ringgold VA! Ronnie was just a small boy when I met him in 1965 but he had a huge personality even then!

The Richardson parents , John and Betty were living in that tiny 8' wide mobile home in Hugh and Nancy's back yard. I grew to love them and called them Pa and Ma. What I remember most were how large John's hands were , even at his advanced age and Ma was a tiny little woman who always wore a clean apron over her dress! They raised 5 strong , handsome men the first of those “ Richardson Boys” in Ringgold. All worked at Thompson-Athour Paving Company their entire lives.

Then the Grandsons arrived along with only two granddaughters. Those Grandchildren I went to high school with and knew and loved them as my “ Cousins”! The boys also worked at APAC.

Ronnie was a “Cousin” I loved dearly! He was a friend here on Facebook and always kept me posted on the weather! The man loved Nascar and all things racing! He loved with his whole heart , he loved his wife and their family and those grandsons! He was so proud of them!

Ronnie also wasn't shy about loving God with all his being! He wanted to make sure he would see his loved ones in Heaven! The “Richardson Boys”were a fixture in Ringgold VA and the world is a better place for it! They were community minded and helped with Ringgold Fire Department . They helped with anything that needed to be done!

I pray for all that loved Ronnie or “ Big Bird” to many.

I know he is celebrating with his Grandparents, Mother and Daddy and both his brothers and a sister- in- law, all the Uncles that helped shape him into the MAN he was!

Rest In Peace Ronnie you earned it!

Love you “ Cousin”

Valerie

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Valerie Jean Thompson Merricks - July 07, 2024 at 09:42 AM

KM

“ I haven't known Ronnie as long as most people, but long enough to know he loved his wife and family. He would message me to make sure I was safe when a hurricane or big storm was coming my way in Wilmington. God bless everyone that he loved.

Kathy Gee Meetze - July 06, 2024 at 07:26 AM

KM

Kathy Gee Meetze

Kathy Gee Meetze - July 06, 2024 at 07:28 AM

TL

“ Keeping you all on my thoughts and prayers at this time.  
~Tina (Mama "T")



Tina Leigh - July 05, 2024 at 12:11 AM

AN

“ Alvin And Joan Necessary lit a candle in memory of Ronald Dean "Big Bird" Richardson



Alvin and Joan Necessary - July 04, 2024 at 07:46 PM

SG

“ Praying for the Richardson families Jesus is near the broken hearted may your memories comfort all of you during this most difficult time God bless all of you Sandra Goodwin

sandra goodwin - July 04, 2024 at 01:17 PM

VW

“ *Our prayers are with all the Richardson family. It was good to have known and worked with Ronnie for approximately 25 years. Vance & Ruth Willard*



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**Vance Willard** - July 04, 2024 at 12:55 PM

BB

*R I P Ronnie. Will always remember our days at Apac.*

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**Barry Brumfield** - July 04, 2024 at 01:11 PM

CP

*You will be missed on fb especially the weather man forecast Ronnie. Your friends & family want be the same.... RIP Prayers for the families*

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**Carolyn Durham Perry** - July 04, 2024 at 08:11 PM