



Colonel Richard Lewis Horvath

February 2, 1934 - October 23, 2017

Colonel Richard Lewis Horvath (Retired U.S. Army), also known as Dick, died peacefully at home in Sarasota, FL, on Monday 10/23/17 at the age of 83.

Dick is survived by his wife of 61 years Frances (Fran) Ann (Zalewski) and their four daughters: Kim Ellen Heck (Charles), Wilmington, NC; Pamela Ann Page (Brian), Grand Rapids, MI; Karen Sue Schwartz (Tracy) Leland, NC; Lisa Mary Hewitt (Troy), Napa, CA; six grandchildren Megan Stoppels-Shehan (husband Brian), Eric Jon Stoppels, Drew Richard Page, Grant Lewis Page, Trevor Carlin Smith, and Sydney Frances Smith. He is also survived by his beloved springer spaniel, Brodie, who he took running alongside his golf cart for years. He was preceded in death by his brother Barry Horvath, his father Louis Horvath and mother Winifred Horvath.

Dick was born on February 2, 1934, in South Bend, IN, and graduated from Schoolcraft High School in 1952. He attended University of Detroit and graduated in 1955 with a degree in Journalism. He also held a double Master's Degree in Public Administration and Business. He met Frances Ann Zalewski in 1955 and they were married September 15, 1956. Dick enlisted in the Army in 1957 and was an almost 30-year Army Officer veteran who served in post-war Korea as well as war-time Vietnam where he earned a Bronze Star with Valor. Dick was proud to serve his country in the military and of his years of service. He and Fran lived at: Ft. Sill, OK; Ft. Sam Houston, TX;

Okinawa; Ft. MacArthur, CA; Ft. Sheridan, IL; Springfield, VA; and Darmstadt, Germany. After retirement they lived in: Ft. Wayne, Indiana; Summerville, SC; St. Maarten; Kiawah Island, SC; and finally settled in Sarasota, FL, for retirement. Dick and Fran were avid golfers and loved being a part of Bent Tree Country Club and community. During their retirement, they were fortunate to travel a great deal, visit their daughters, sons-in-law and grandchildren, and play many rounds of golf at various beautiful courses. Dick was also a passionate Notre Dame fan and always greeted you with 'Go Irish!' on gameday.

Dick was a charismatic and a "larger than life" kind of man. You were always aware of where you stood with him and he never minced his words. He was also an emotional man who cared deeply for his family and was fiercely protective of them.

A memorial funeral mass will be held on Thursday, November 2nd, at 930 am, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church on Bee Ridge Road in Sarasota with interment to follow at Sarasota National Cemetery. Afterwards, a Memorial Luncheon will be held at the Country Club at Bent Tree. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Richard Horvath's name to Tidewell Hospice of Sarasota.

Condolences can be posted at www.ToaleBrothers.com. The family would like to thank Tidewell Hospice for their assistance during his end-of-life transition.

Tribute Wall

MB

“ I am truly shocked and saddened Francis, I served with you and Dick on Okinawa in the early seventies and have many fond memories of those times. My deepest condolences to you and the family.

Michael L. Brown - September 22, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Fran: my sincere condolences to you and your family on the loss of your husband, Dick. I worked for Dick in 1977 at the Pentagon and was privileged to command the European Stars and Stripes (as Dick did). I was there 1986-1989.

Colonel Jeff Cook, US Army, Retired

Jeff Cook - March 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

AV

“ Frances,

Ginger and I want to offer you our deepest sympathy over your loss. We will miss Dick very much. We always enjoyed his fun-loving self at the game watches. Also, I will miss our many phone calls and conversations about Notre Dame football. I am sure the team is winning for him.

Arnie Vanmce - October 31, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Mrs Horvath,

I was very saddened to hear of Col. Horvath's passing. He was one of my most memorable Lexus customers. He was tough sometimes to work with, but in the end we were friends. I think he was the only customer that I actually new his cell phone number by memory. We always had good conversations about my Michigan Wolverines vs. his Notre Dame football. I will sure miss him.

*Sincerely,
Tom McOmber*

Tom McOmber - October 29, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Mrs. Horvath, Kim, Pam, Karen , and Lisa~

Our hearts break for all of you. We are so sorry to hear about your Dad's passing.

We are convinced that he is in Heaven sharing stories about his wonderful wife, daughters, son-in-laws , and grandchildren. He was ALWAYS very proud of his family and all of your achievements.

We hope that as time passes, your memories will be the funny and happy times that you shared with a very devoted spouse, father , father-in-law, and grandfather . He definitely was one-of-a-kind!!!

God Bless the Horvath Family. You're in our thoughts & prayers.

With love~

Chris, Georgia, Conor, and Kelly

Chris and Georgia Sherman - October 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM