



Richard J. Lillash Sr.

June 22, 1940 - January 14, 2021

Richard Lillash Sr., age 80, of Mentor, died January 14, 2021 at Lake West Medical Center in Willoughby. He was born June 22, 1940 in Cleveland.

Mr. Lillash worked for many years at JC Penny at Great Lakes Mall in Mentor, and previously at Hawthorne Melody in Pennsylvania. His hobbies were reading, working outside, and volunteering at his church, and with Habitat for Humanity. He was an alumni of Cathedral Latin (Class of 1959). Richard enjoyed spending time with his children, grandchildren, attending daily mass at St. John Vianney, and going to breakfast and dinner with his many friends. He was an amazing father, grandfather and a cherished friend to many.

Survivors include his children, Denise Crockett, Dawn (John) Pritchard, Richard (Kathy) Lillash Jr., Kristin (Michael) Gatto, and Keith (Linda) Lillash; grandchildren, Christopher, David, Ashley, Jeremy, Jordan (Hailey), Chloe, Grace, Sophie, Olivia (Robert), Ellie, Donald, Cameron, and Emilia; nephew, Stephen Katonovic; brothers in law, Raymond (Nancy) Kirchner, and Dan Kirchner; and his sisters in law, Katie (Joseph) Sternad, and Lynn (Lloyd) Baeslach.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Diane Lillash (Kirchner); parents, George and Florence Lillash; sister, Diane Katonovic; brother in law, Tony Katonovic; nephew, Joseph Katonovic; and his father in law and mother in law,

Raymond and Jane Kirchner.

A memorial service in memory of Richard will be held at 12 noon Friday, July 9, 2021 at St. John Vianney Church, 7575 Bellflower Rd., Mentor, OH 44060.

A private family burial was held at Western Reserve Memorial Gardens, Chesterland.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made to St. John Vianney Church, 7575 Bellflower Rd., Mentor, OH 44060. Arrangements entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060.

Please offer condolences at www.brunners.com.

Cemetery Details

Western Reserve Memorial Gardens

11521 Chillicothe Rd.
Chesterland, OH 44026
(440) 729-9465

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

JUL 9. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. John Vianney Catholic Church
7575 Bellflower Road
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-0600

Tribute Wall

LC

“ Our deepest sympathy to all the family members of Rich. We've known Rich for well over 50 yrs and we will always remember his kindness and cheerful smile. He will be missed by many but will be rewarded for all the good he has done. God will say, “Well done good and faithful servant.”
God Bless, Linda & Jim Cudo

Linda & Jim Cudo - January 29, 2021 at 10:14 AM

BB

Rich was married to my sister, Diane. She died in 1990 of cancer. They both were such examples of a Great Catholic couple They both helped many to live in the present moment. God, the Catholic church, family were their priorities. They attended a Marriage Encounter Weekend which deepened their couple love and made their life priorities even stronger. If you two aren't in Paradise NONE OF HAVE A CHANCE. .Pray for all of us and thanks for your love. We miss you terribly! XOXO

Bud & Lynne Baeslach - March 02, 2021 at 08:03 PM

AM

“ I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Richard. We worked together at JC Penney for many years. He was one of the best ! My deepest condolences to Richard's family and friends.
Love, Anna Morrow

Anna Morrow - January 21, 2021 at 02:50 PM

FS

“ Dear friends,
It was an honor celebrating the Sacraments at Lake West for your father and family member. He was a man of great courage during his time of illness and loved you all sooo very much. He and yourselves continue to be in my daily prayers and Masses. God's Peace and Good Health to you all.

Father Greg Schaut - January 21, 2021 at 07:46 AM

LB

“ Richard , our dear dear brother-in-law was a Saint among us. Now Richard is a Saint with his much missed wife, Diane.
Rich was the most kind. selfless, & and Catholic Man of great faith.
He is added to our daily prayers for the HOLY Souls. xoxo
We miss you. Rich!

Lynne Baeslach - January 20, 2021 at 07:19 PM



“ Sad to see Richard passed ,only good memories of a good man I've known since day one.

Daniel Kirchner - January 19, 2021 at 04:50 PM

EL

“ A GREAT FELLOW CLASSMATE AT LATIN. WILL BE MISSED. ED LACHOWSKI 1959

Edward lachowski - January 19, 2021 at 04:03 PM

LL

“ Hello, I am so sad to just find out that Richard died. I worked with him at JCP forever and he was such a rare caring man all the time. He was always willing to help out anyone and told me many stories of his grandchildren, the light of his life. How he kept everyones statts in mind was amazing to me. Please accept my condolences and prayers for the family and friends. Love Linda Larned

Linda Larned - January 18, 2021 at 07:27 PM

KB

Richard was a gentle, caring man. My prayers for the family. He is an example of being Christ like.

Katheyn Bea - January 19, 2021 at 07:55 PM

SC

So sad to hear of the passing of Richard I worked with him at JC Penney for many years, always had a smile on his face, was a very caring man. Will miss seeing him at church. Please accept my condolences and prayers

Sheryl Credico

Sheryl Credico - January 23, 2021 at 03:03 PM