



Mr. Richard Grays

June 13, 1930 - May 29, 2024

On May 28, 2024, Richard Grays, 93, of Washington, DC, passed away peacefully at home. On that Tuesday morning, the clouds lifted, and angels ushered him to heaven. Richard was the youngest of five children born to the late Doney and Victoria Grays, and preceded in death by John Grays, Katherine Killings, Rosa Coleman. He was raised and educated in Washington, DC and attended DC Public Schools. Richard graduated from Dunbar Senior High School in June 1949 and after graduation he went to serve in the US Marine Corps from 1951 to 1953. He was honorably discharged after his tour of duty with the rank of Buck Sergeant. After Richard left the Marine Corps, he furthered his education attending Shaw University in Raleigh N.C., the first HBCU in the southern U.S. in which he received a B.S. in Biology in 1958.

Richard's yearning to discover and learn was fulfilled by his employment with the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. Working in the infectious disease department, he was instrumental in development of many vaccines and cures in cancer research until his retirement in January 1994.

Richard was a caring son, attentive brother, supportive uncle, and a father figure to many in his family. He was instrumental in providing employment and cultural development to younger members of his family. After his retirement, he went on to enjoy his life to the fullest. Richard continued his quest to

discover and learn by traveling to various cities and countries around the world with his longtime friend, David Kelley. His passion for oil painting brought forth rich textures and vibrant hues that weave stories that uplift and delve into the realms of imagination and emotion. One of his favorites for many was entitled Lady on a Crowded Bus. Richard also served as the family historian knowing everything about the lineage of the Grays and Brailey families.

Most importantly, Richard gave his heart to Jesus Christ at an early age at Grace United Methodist Church and continued to serve God at Canaan Baptist Church in Washington, DC.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his loving Sister: Julia Simpson, Nephews: Walter Simpson, Jr., Gregory Grays, Tony Brooks, Michael Coleman, Donald Simpson- Nieces: Saundria Simpson, Victoria Brighthaupt Von Edwards, his devoted and loyal great nephew, Darrell Grays and a host family and friends.

Cemetery Details

Fort Lincoln Cemetery

3401 Bladensburg Road
Brentwood, MD 20722

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **13**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - Prince George's County
4308 Suitland Road
Suitland, MD 20746
(301) 736-1616
info@marchfh.com
<https://www.marshallmarchfh.com>

Service

JUN **13**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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4308 Suitland Road
Suitland, MD 20746
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Tribute Wall



“ *Marshall-March Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Mr. Richard Grays*



Marshall-March Funeral Homes - June 07, 2024 at 02:41 PM

LE

“ *Mr Richard (Dick) Grays*

As a Biology Medical Technologist at Naval Medical Research Institute (NMRI) in Bethesda, MD, Richard taught me how to do proper dilutions, Plate counts, DNA sequencing, we were the beginners in PCR (polymerase chain reaction) in 1987 and 1988.

Dick Grays, trained me in Dengue Viruses and Yellow fever cultures, and how to process with a sterile technique. His detail experience and attention to detail and accuracy, and tender guidance at work was inspirational.

Richard also guided me and pushed me to get a biology degree and to get my RN. During my divorce, he was a jewel to talk to for guidance, and always informed me of the POWER OF PRAYER. This helped me to find a church and to become a member of that church, then to BUILD a relationship with Jesus Christ the Messiah, I always could talk to him. I will cherish what he taught me always.

I will always cherish him.

L. A. Greene Lyles Bullock

leslie - June 18, 2024 at 05:05 PM

VB

“ My favorite Uncle Richard. He had a heart of gold I'm going to miss talking to him and him telling me I bring sunshine to him and a smile on his face. .Uncle Richard lived a good life now it's time for him to rest in the shadows of the Almighty. I'll always remember how kind he was and how he helped anyone he could. Peace to the family during this time of mourning. We all loved him and will miss him The Most High loved him the most. Here's a poem I like to share:I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the way of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days I'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun of happy memories that linger when Life is done



Victoria Brighthaupt - June 13, 2024 at 11:26 AM

VB

“ My favorite Uncle he had a heart of gold. I'm going to miss him. He lived a good life, now it's time for him to rest in the shadows of the Almighty. Ill always remember how kind he was and how he helped anyone he could. Peace to the family during this time of mourning. We all loved him and will miss him. The Most High loved him most. Here's a poem I live to share. I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the way of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days I'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun of happy memories that will linger when Life is done



Victoria Brighthaupt - June 13, 2024 at 11:03 AM



“ Uncle Richard was a smooth, well-dressed, classy guy. RIP

Walter Simpson III - June 13, 2024 at 10:37 AM

TW

“ I had the opportunity to meet Uncle Richard through his nephew Darrell at a church event, in which I had brought another Shaw University Alumnus. Need I say they hit it off splendidly and all I could do was listen to these two sage individuals reminisce of their college days. RIP Uncle Richard job well done!

Toni White-Richardson - June 12, 2024 at 03:15 PM

SS

“ My Uncle is a beautiful Soul. Even though he had to leave this earth. I will cherish the nice feeling when around him. I will always remember him calling me Lena growing up Because he said I had the look of Lena Horne. I will miss calling him. Hearing him saying that I enjoy life and I was array of Sunshine. He will be truly missed. Now that I can't speak to him over the phone. Rest in Peace in God's eternal Love. Niece Saundria.

Saundria Simpson - June 11, 2024 at 07:38 PM



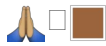
“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard Grays.



June 11, 2024 at 06:19 PM

TW

“ Thinking of you all as you celebrate the remarkable life of “Uncle Richard”. Praying that you will find comfort in the memories of him



Terri Williams (family friend)

Terri Williams - June 11, 2024 at 05:32 PM

CF

“ Cousin Annie Lloyd-Camacho and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Richard Grays.



Cousin Annie Lloyd-Camacho and Family - June 07, 2024 at 03:37 PM

CF

“ Cousin Annie Lloyd-Camacho and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Richard Grays.

Cousin Annie Lloyd-Camacho and Family - June 07, 2024 at 03:37 PM

VE

“ Richard was a kindhearted person. May you rest in peace. Ellis Family.

Valerie Ellis - June 06, 2024 at 12:55 PM



“ We the March Family and Marshall-March Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - June 05, 2024 at 08:37 AM

PF

Blessings, Uncle Richard was a great, kind, and caring person! Rest in Heavenly Peace Uncle Richard! Thank you for the visit we had with you! Love Lafonde and Pat

Patricia Freeman - June 11, 2024 at 11:53 PM

JM

To my Beautiful neighbor, Ms. Simmons, please know that you and your family have our deepest sympathy during this time. We are lifting you and your family in prayer. I thank our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for the longevity God has blessed your brother with. And we (Brian and Janice Manley) celebrate with you and your family the life of Bro. Richard Grays!!! To God Be The Glory!

Janice Manley - June 13, 2024 at 10:44 AM