



Richard Lee Pursley

February 7, 1945 - March 20, 2024

Richard Lee Pursley of Greensboro, MD passed away March 20, 2024 at his home, aged 79. Born February 7, 1945, he was the son of Virgil and Irene Pursley. Richard was a 1963 graduate of North Carolina High School and received degrees from Goldie-Beacom College and East Carolina University. He would return to North Carolina to teach accounting and computers until his retirement in 1993.

On August 11, 1973 he married the love of his life, Julia Frances Collins; the couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last year. He will be remembered for his sense of humor, a love of baseball and crabs, his service to the Greensboro Lions Club, and his dedication to family and friends. He enjoyed keeping up with North Carolina classmates and former students and serving on the Class of 1963 reunion committees. A lifelong Greensboro resident who loved the town he called home, he'd answer to Dicky, Dad, Pop Pop, Coach, or ND3G - his ham radio callsign.

He is survived by his wife Julia; daughter Jessica Ann Farrell (Ryan); sons Michael Lee (Jessica) and Martin Collins (Carly) Pursley; and grandsons Indigo Farrell, Thomas Pursley, James Pursley, and Henry Pursley. He is predeceased by his parents and a beloved aunt, Jean Dean.

Cemetery Details

Greensboro Cemetery

311 S. Main St
Greensboro, MD 21639

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 26. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Fleegle & Helfenbein Funeral Home
106 W. Sunset Ave.
Greensboro, MD 21639

Service

MAR 26. 12:00 PM (ET)

Fleegle & Helfenbein Funeral Home
106 W. Sunset Ave.
Greensboro, MD 21639

Interment

MAR 26. 1:00 PM (ET)

Greensboro Cemetery
311 S. Main St
Greensboro, MD 21639

Tribute Wall

JO

“ Dick Pursley was one of my most favorite persons in life. My wife and I got to know the Pursley family in the early 90's. At that time, we worked at North Caroline High School where Dick and Julie taught. Both were excellent teachers and always supportive of students and the school. As time went on, Dick suggested that I consider being a HAM radio operator. Within a short period of time, Dick helped me select the right equipment, set it up and take the test for my license. Over time, Dick and Julie and Sheila and I spent time visiting each other's homes for meals and playing cards. Eventually we started getting a little more competitive with playing 'Hearts' and began passing back and forth a ceramic heart to the couple who won the most games! Great fun! Dick and I had other great adventures kayaking, playing ping pong and talking baseball and football. Just a few days before Dick passed, I proposed to him that he and I ride around the Greensboro community while he told me 'good ol' Greensboro' stories from back in the day. I'm heartbroken that he passed before we did that. As an outsider looking in to the Greensboro (and Caroline) community, I consider Dick (and Julie) both treasures. What an honor to have known Dick Pursley and to call him friend. Sheila and I send our love to the Pursley family.
Jim and Sheila Orr.

Jim Orr - April 14, 2024 at 10:54 AM

LB

“ Deepest Sympathies to Mrs Pursley and family.



Lori Callahan Blazejak - March 30, 2024 at 03:01 PM

MS

“ My sincere condolences to the family he was a great teacher and a great customer for us at Kinnaman's always like to talk baseball and trading his baseball cards



Mary Lee Satterfield Sard - March 28, 2024 at 06:42 PM



“ To the wonderful Pursley family, I am so sorry for your loss. Mr. Pursley was more than just my best friend's dad. He was an absolute joy to share interests with. Example: he'd only eat scrapple once a year for his health. When he learned I also loved scrapple he'd invite me over for that designated day. It became special. He'd always send me home with bags of kale! A kind and intelligent soul. Sending all my love to those who will be missing him.

Marc Nelson - March 25, 2024 at 11:41 PM

UK

“ As a fellow ham radio operator and fellow teacher, back in Germany at the time, I first met Dick on the air in 1992. A year later, I was able to visit with Dick in person in Greensboro. He took me to his high school one day to talk to all of his students. When I thought I was done, I was still in for more at Marty’s elementary school , talking to students there about Germany.

I learned a lot from Dick and his wonderful wife Julie in so many areas.

We revisited in 1998 after my wife and I had started teaching in south Texas, driving all the way up to Greensboro so my family could meet Dick and his fine family. I was glad to remain in touch with him not just by ham radio early on but also through email all those years. May he rest in peace. Thank you, Dick.

Uli and the rest of the Kolbe family, Petaluma, CA and Harz Mtns., Germany

Uli Kolbe - March 25, 2024 at 11:08 PM

DT

“ Daniel T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Pursley.

Daniel T. - March 25, 2024 at 09:17 PM

AW

“ Mr. Parsley, aka Dickie Boy was not only a great teacher, but a personal good friend of mine. We're all caught up in our personal lives, but we all have to remember to tell our lived ones, that we care/appreciate them.

May God keep you in His good graces; I extend my condolences to his wife July, and your children



Anthony Worthey - March 25, 2024 at 07:06 PM

KW

“ Dear Pursley Family and Friends, You have our deepest sympathy for the loss of your loved one, Richard. We hope this grove of memorial trees flourishes and blossoms in his honor and memory. Larry D. Unger, President, and the employees of Maryland Public Television.

Karen Winn - March 25, 2024 at 07:01 PM

KW

“ Karen W. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Pursley.

Karen W. - March 25, 2024 at 05:35 PM

JB

“ To the family,
You are in our prayers at this time of sorrow.
Love,
Jim and Pam Bilbrough



Jim and Pam Bilbrough - March 25, 2024 at 02:37 PM

FC

“ Frank C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Pursley.

Frank C. - March 25, 2024 at 10:31 AM

EP

“ *Cousin Dicky, I will miss those daily emails from you. I was never shocked when I got the news of your passing. Now RIP Cousin Dicky. Until we met again. Cousin Ed, Mendy, Kaleb, Bri and Dave*

Ed Pursley - March 25, 2024 at 08:51 AM

TH

“ *Tyrone Holmes lit a candle in memory of Richard Lee Pursley*



Tyrone holmes - March 25, 2024 at 08:11 AM

TH

i will always remember you two being the first husband and wife team at NC and the great relationship you had with the staff and heart goes out to Julie and her family

Tyrone holmes - March 25, 2024 at 08:13 AM

MM

“ *Dear Mrs. Pursley and family, So very sorry for your loss. You were two of the nicest and sweetest teachers at North Caroline. My heart goes out to you all. Oh the memories of typing on that typewriter. I was never very good, but here I am at North Caroline typing all day long. Love Melissa Anthony Mathis*

Melissa Mathis - March 25, 2024 at 08:06 AM

LB

“ *Love - Rob and Chrissy (Towers) Breeding purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Richard Lee Pursley.*



Love - Rob and Chrissy (Towers) Breeding - March 24, 2024
at 11:57 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Pursley.*



March 24, 2024 at 07:43 PM

CL

“ *Cyndi Ebling Lawson lit a candle in memory of Richard Lee Pursley*



Cyndi Ebling Lawson - March 24, 2024 at 02:30 PM

NM

“ *Julie,
I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts are
with you and your family at this time.
Nathalie Meunier*



Nathalie Meunier - March 24, 2024 at 10:14 AM



“ *Deana Bell lit a candle in memory of Richard Lee Pursley*



Deana Bell - March 23, 2024 at 09:21 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Pursley.*



March 23, 2024 at 07:31 PM



“ *Dicky was a classmate who was the class leader . I left the Eastern Shore for quite awhile. When I returned I was Dicky's wife substitute at NCHS teaching senior English. Very challenging for me but Dicky was always there supporting me . Our class of '63 will truly miss him. Sending Hugs to Julie and family.*

Mary Anne Truscello - March 23, 2024 at 07:13 PM

"N

“ Along with Dickie's family and many, many friends, we join in mourning the passing of someone who will not be replaced. Dickie was one of the good "Greensboro Guys" that helped us to become the "Great Class Of '63" when we all joined together at North Caroline. He was always a contributor and stayed active with us right up through our last class reunion meeting. Dickie was always easy to get along with and fun to be around. He always considered others and had a great sense of humor. Dickie will be missed in many ways. He truly understood how to be a friend and was always willing to stand up for what he thought was the right thing. We send our sincere sympathy, along with our thoughts and prayers, to Julie and all of his family and friends.

"THE GREAT CLASS OF '63 NCHS - March 23, 2024 at 03:56 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Pursley.



March 23, 2024 at 02:35 PM

RW

“ Dear Julie and Family,
We are heartbroken to hear about Dick's passing. He loved his family so much. We cherish the memories that we all had together.
Love,
Ruth & Andy Wnuk

Ruth Wnuk - March 23, 2024 at 09:10 AM

CR

“ *Charlene Rampmeyer-Rosebrock lit a candle in memory of Richard Lee Pursley*



Charlene Rampmeyer-Rosebrock - March 23, 2024 at 08:53 AM



“ *So sorry hear! Mr Pursley was one of my first teachers when I moved here in 7th grade. He taught me how to fill out a check book and keep a checking account. We also picked stocks and watched the stock market over the course of that year. Sending warm hugs and prayers to all the family!*
Marcia Rostien

Marcia Rostien - March 22, 2024 at 08:19 PM

KH

“ *Karen Fuller Hardy lit a candle in memory of Richard Lee Pursley*



Karen Fuller Hardy - March 22, 2024 at 05:40 PM

CJ

“ *Chloe J lit a candle in memory of Richard Lee Pursley*



Chloe J - March 22, 2024 at 04:23 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Pursley.*



March 22, 2024 at 04:17 PM



“ *Eileen Cozart lit a candle in memory of Richard Lee Pursley*



Eileen Cozart - March 22, 2024 at 04:08 PM



“ *One of my absolute favorite teachers. A truly nice man. My sincerest condolences to Mrs. Pursley and family. May your cherished memories bring comfort to you in the days ahead.*



Barb (Williams) Callahan - March 22, 2024 at 03:48 PM



“ *Jessie and Ursula purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Richard Lee Pursley.*



Jessie and Ursula - March 22, 2024 at 02:35 PM

CJ

“ *Mr. Pursley was a good guy and a great teacher. My sister Jean loved being in his class. My deepest sympathies to Mrs. Pursley and family. Both Pursleys taught me a great deal and I often think of them now that I am a teacher.* ”

Celeste Jordan - March 22, 2024 at 01:47 PM

MB

“ *Marion Brown lit a candle in memory of Richard Lee Pursley* ”



Marion Brown - March 22, 2024 at 01:15 PM



“ *Mrs. Pursley,
My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family during this difficult time. ❤️
Windy Korell-Broadwater* ”

Windy Korell-Broadwater - March 22, 2024 at 12:58 PM

PM

“ I did not know "Dickie" personally but my older brother (Paul Albert Smith) graduated from high school with him in 1963.

We moved to Maryland in 1960 when my Father (who was born in Ridgely) retired from the Air Force. Paul said one time that "Dickie" was only one of the boys in his class who would speak to him and he subsequently introduced him to others. Although they lost touch after graduation as Paul joined the Navy and didn't go to any class reunions, he remembered the one person who welcomed him.

RIP "Dickie"

Peggy Smith Murphy - March 22, 2024 at 12:44 PM

CS

“ Carl Smith lit a candle in memory of Richard Lee Pursley



Carl Smith - March 22, 2024 at 11:55 AM

FM

“ Fund for Johns Hopkins Medicine planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Pursley.

Fund for Johns Hopkins Medicine - March 22, 2024 at 11:48 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Pursley.*



March 22, 2024 at 11:48 AM



“ *MPT Development Division planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Pursley.*

MPT Development Division - March 22, 2024 at 11:05 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Pursley.*



March 22, 2024 at 11:05 AM



“ *We are so sorry to hear of Mr.Pursleys passing. He was so friendly, every time we saw him he always asked for our boys and interested in what they were doing, such a great teacher! The love you two showed for each other was evident. Take care of yourself Mrs. Pursley and hold on to your memories. With love and prayers to all of you during this difficult time. Brenda and Kenny Breeding*



Brenda and Kenny Breeding - March 22, 2024 at 10:13 AM

AH

Mr. Pursley is a teacher I will remember always. He taught me how to balance a check book, and he was a great champion of students. I am grateful for the life gifts he gave to our Caroline County community and beyond. May he rest easy. Peace to all dear ones in this tender time.
Ann Haywood-Baxter NCHS '91

Ann Haywood-Baxter - March 23, 2024 at 10:34 PM

DW

“ *So sorry to hear of Dickie's passing. He was a good friend and fellow Lion. I am sure he was proud of his family.*

Dorsey & Joanne Wooters - March 22, 2024 at 10:01 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Pursleys passing. May the many memories that you made together comfort you in some way. Mrs. Pursley you and your husband have always been the sweetest people to me. I know loss of thr ones we love is one of life's hardest trials. Where there was great love, there will be great loss. Sending wishes of comfort and love to you and your family.*



Candy Cook - March 22, 2024 at 06:29 AM