



## Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole

June 27, 1935 - June 3, 2024

Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole of Albany, GA, was born on June 27, 1935, in New Castle, PA. He passed away on June 3, 2024. He was a kind and loving father and grandfather ("Papa") who was always willing to help family and friends. He was a lifelong Catholic and a member of St. Teresa's Catholic Church.

After graduating from Union High School in New Castle, Dr. Cole worked in a steel mill and served in the Army before attending college. He earned his B.S.Ed. from Slippery Rock Teachers College and attended the University of Maryland where he earned his M.S. and Ph.D. He and his wife Val then moved to Albany where he began his career as a mycotoxicologist for the USDA. In his work as a scientist, Dr. Cole traveled all over the world sharing his research on the aflatoxin in peanuts. He made friends everywhere he went and welcomed them into his home when they came to the U.S. He retired as the Director of the National Peanut Research Laboratory in Dawson, GA.

Dr. Cole enjoyed being active. He played tennis and golf, and he was a runner. He liked to fish and hunt and shared that love with his son and oldest grandson. Dr. Cole always had a garden and enjoyed growing fresh fruit and vegetables to preserve and share. He kept a bee hive for many years. He and Val always looked forward to trips to the beach, especially after they retired and could go more often. Retirement also gave him time to get into

woodworking; he enjoyed making furniture as gifts for family and friends.

Probably the thing Dr. Cole was most known for was cooking. He loved cooking from scratch and could make just about anything! He loved making the Polish and Italian dishes he learned from his mother and combining various recipes to make what he wanted, but his specialty was pizza. Everyone looked forward to the Super Bowl parties he and Val would host because of the variety of pizzas he made as well as the good company and friendly wagers as to which team would win the game.

Dr. Cole was a member of the Elks and Moose Lodges. He and Val enjoyed dinners at the clubs as well as the bands and parties thrown for the members. He joined St. Teresa's when he moved to Albany. He and the family used to serve as greeters at Mass on Sundays.

Dr. Cole was preceded in death by his parents, John and Angeline Cole, and one brother, John, Jr. He is survived by his wife, Val; his children, Kathy Hardison of Leesburg, GA (Tom) and Brian Cole of Johns Creek (Karen); his grandchildren, Trey Hardison of San Antonio, TX (Ellison); Angie Hardison of Leesburg; and Owen Cole of Johns Creek; great-grandchildren, Henry and Ellie Kate Hardison of San Antonio; his brother, Raymond Cole (New Castle, PA); and a host of nieces and nephews and extended family in Pennsylvania as well as many old and new friends around the world and in the Albany area.

The family will receive friends at Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Home for a wake service on Friday, June 7, at 6:00 P.M. Dr. The funeral Mass will be held at St. Teresa's on Saturday, June 8, at noon with interment to follow.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Teresa's Catholic School, 417 Edgewood Ln., Albany, GA 31707; or to Wynfield Park Health and Rehabilitation for indigent care, 223 3rd Ave. Albany, GA 31701.



# Cemetery Details

## St. Teresa's Catholic Church Columbarium

421 Edgewood Lane  
Albany, GA 31707

# Previous Events

## Wake service with visitation to follow

JUN 7. 6:00 PM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern  
1503 Dawson Road  
Albany, GA 31707  
(229) 883-4152  
<https://www.kimbrellstern.com?>

## Memorial Mass

JUN 8. 12:00 PM (ET)

St Teresa's Catholic Church  
421 Edgewood Ln  
Albany, GA 31707-3910  
(229) 439-2302

# Tribute Wall

BH

“ Played lots of tennis with Dick. Could never beat him.

Bill Huggins - June 27, 2024 at 04:41 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.



June 07, 2024 at 02:48 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.



June 07, 2024 at 10:26 AM

VI

“ Victor and Irisha purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.



Victor and Irisha - June 06, 2024 at 06:56 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.*



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June 06, 2024 at 10:52 AM



“ *The Marist School Fine Arts Department planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.*

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**The Marist School Fine Arts Department** - June 06, 2024 at 10:52 AM



“ *Gail D. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.*



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**Gail D.** - June 05, 2024 at 06:59 PM



“ *Dave, Karen, Lauren & Nick Dellarosa purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.*



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**Dave, Karen, Lauren & Nick Dellarosa** - June 05, 2024 at 05:48 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.*



June 05, 2024 at 01:28 PM



“ *Dan & Peggy Gierlach, Parrish, FL planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.*

**Dan & Peggy Gierlach, Parrish, FL** - June 05, 2024 at 01:28 PM



“ *Mike, Linda & Grant Johnson purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.*



**Mike, Linda & Grant Johnson** - June 05, 2024 at 01:13 PM



“ *Kathy I loved how your dad wore suspenders so often and always had a smile for a friend! He was so sweet and so smart and I always enjoyed talking with him about science and working out and health. You and your mom are in my prayers! Love you!*



**Erica Scott** - June 05, 2024 at 12:05 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard "Dick" Jerome Cole.*



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June 04, 2024 at 07:02 PM



“ *Pamela P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Richard Cole.*

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**Pamela P.** - June 04, 2024 at 07:02 PM