



## Mr. Richard Franklin Huggins Obituary

July 9, 1957 - March 3, 2014

Mr. Richard Franklin Huggins, 56 of Longleaf Dr. in Leesburg died March 3, 2014 at his residence.

Funeral services will be Wednesday 11 AM at Kimbrell-Stern. Dr. Ron Holman officiating.

Richard was born at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany , attended public schools in Albany and graduated from Dougherty High School in 1975. He was an Eagle Scout and a member of First Baptist Church in Albany . He graduated from Albany Junior College in 1977 and the University of Georgia with a degree in finance in 1979.

He grew up in the family business, Huggins Outboard, Inc., and entered as a partner with his father in 1979, becoming a third generation marine dealer. In 1992, he became sole owner and president of the company.

Richard was an avid hunter, and sports enthusiast, especially the UGA Bulldogs. He enjoyed cookouts and spending time at the farm in Herod , GA with his close friends and family.

Survivors include his wife of 33 years, Virginia "Ginny" Gabel Huggins of Leesburg, his children, Matthew Lee Huggins, CPA and his wife Tara, Jennifer

Marie Huggins, Pharm.D., and Ashley Elizabeth Huggins all of Leesburg, parents, Bill and Nancy Huggins of Albany and his grandmother, Ruth Brisbois of Albany

Other survivors include his brother, Robert Lee Huggins and his wife Angela of Raleigh, NC along with numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Frank and Liz Huggins and his maternal grandparents, Paul and Elsie Winter.

The family will receive friends Tuesday from 6:00 PM till 8:00 PM at Kimbrell-Stern.

In Lieu of flowers, please make memorials to Albany Community Hospice 320 Foundation Ln. Albany, GA 31707 or American Cancer Society, 323 Pine Ave. Suite 100 Albany , GA 31707 .

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Richard Franklin Huggins Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mr. Richard Franklin Huggins Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mr. Richard Franklin Huggins Obituary*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *I have great memories of growing up with Richard. Along with other members of our group, we spent countless hours hanging out at church, Scouts, school events, Radium Springs, DeBarry's house, the game room at the Huggins' house, listening to 8-track tapes of "Born to be Wild" by Steppenwolf at Lake Blackshear, and so much more.*

*Those times of goofing off and growing up helped to make us all what we are today. I remember Richard as a great story teller, and he was obviously a successful man - in his business life, in his church life, as a husband, father, and friend. You will be missed Richard! God bless you, and GO DAWGS!*

Randy Clegg - Buford, GA - Friend - April 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ I was shocked to learn of Richard's passing today when speaking with Bubba at Huggins Outboard. He was such a class act, very professional and would do anything to help you. I know everyone in the boating world will greatly miss him - you always knew he would take care of you. Sending my prayers to his family as they grieve his loss. I grieve with you.

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**Jan Belyeu - Camilla, GA** - April 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Dear Huggins Family,

*I was shocked to hear of Richard's passing today. He was a class act in the way he carried himself personally and professionally. I remember him coming to the coast and fishing with us down in Brunswick. During the floods in 1994 I was with DNR and had deployed to Albany in a hurry. Richard asked me during the chaos if I "needed anything at all" to let him know. We landed a helicopter in the Huggins OB parking lot to get parts and Richard was amazed and ready to assist any way he could. I'll miss stopping by whenever my travels took me thru Albany. I'd like to think that my brother Tim was waiting on him when he entered into the kingdom promised by Christ over 2000 years ago. Fair winds and following seas Richard...*

*Rod Ellis-Brunswick Georgia*

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**Rod - Brunswick, GA - Friend** - April 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ *Ginny and family,*

*So sorry to learn of Richard's passing. Yall will be in our hearts and prayers. We have fond memories of times in your home and at other activities while we were at FBC, Albany. Love to all.*

*Weeping may endure for a night,  
But joy comes in the morning.  
Ps 30:5b;*

*God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away. Rev 21 (selected verses)*

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**Neil & Cindy Brown - Tallahassee, FL - Friend - March 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

LF

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. My Daddy, Bubba Sherrill did business with your family as long as as I can remember he was alive. I'm so sorry for your loss.*

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**Leanne Sherrill Taylor - Montezuma, GA - Friend - March 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

MG

“ Ginny, we are so very sad about your loss and your family's loss due to Richard's passing. Though we were not with Richard a lot, we knew him through you and the times you two entertained us and others in your home. Our memories of Richard are good. We are sad for Bill and Nancy in losing their fine son and for you and your children. You and Richard reared 3 fine children, and we know they will always keep you and their dad close in their hearts. They will be at your side. We can't wait to hear about your grandbaby. You will have such fun and will be so proud of the baby as well as the baby's parents. Hopefully we can have a conversation later.  
I'll always love you and admire you for your beauty, smarts, problem-solving techniques, terrific teacher, and loving friend. You and the Huggins family are in our prayers. Martha and Jim

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**Martha and Jim Haddock - Helena, MT - Cote archer with Ginny - March 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

JF

“ Hey Ginny,

*Steve and I just got into town and we found out about Richard. I am so very sorry for your loss. My heart is breaking for you and I'm praying for God's comforting embrace to help you through this terrible time.*

*I don't know what to say but please know that my thoughts are with you and your family.*

*Love,  
Janet*

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**Janet Gay - Mason, OH - Friend - March 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

KF

“ WE BOTH ARE SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT RICHARD. KENNY REMEMBERS YA'LL SO MUCH FROM THE RIVER DAYS WHEN HE HAD HIS BOAT. WE ARE THINKING OF ALL OF YOU & IN OUR PRAYERS. KENNY ASKED IF YOU WOULD PLEASE TELL DADDY HUGGINS HE SAID HELLO. LOVE YA'LL, KENNY & SHERYL NICHOLS

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**KENNY & SHERYL NICHOLS - ALBANY, GA - FRIENDS** - March 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Please know we are thinking about you and keeping you in our prayers.  
*Santy and Sandi Solis*

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**Santy and Sandi Solis - Albany, GA - friend** - March 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ So sorry for your loss, thoughts and prayers and deepest sympathy to all. I worked for Mercury Marine for many years and with Richard many times during these years, he was such a great person. He will be missed by many, my heart goes out to Bill and Nancy and all of Richards family.

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**Doug Cody - Kennesaw, GA - Friend** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ Ginny and family we are deeply saddened by your loss.

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**JoAnne Taylor - Leesburg, GA - Neighbor** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ So sad to hear that Richard lost his battle with cancer. When I left my Florida "nest" after high school, Richard & his family took me under their wings. I worked at Huggins Outboard and had great mentors in Richard & "Uncle" Bill. Their positive influence on my work ethic continues to this day and has given me great career success.

*I also remember visiting the Huggins family in my younger years and wanting to impress Richard & Robert since they were older. The game room at the old house brings back such good memories for me.*

*Please let me know if there is anything I can do and I hope to visit later in the year.*

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**Gail Markey Romain - Lutz, FL - Pseudo Little Sister** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ This news was most unexpected and heartbreaking. Diane and I have spend a lot of time today remembering the good old days at Dougherty High. Yes, there have been tears, but there has also been a lot of smiles and even laughter. I remember all the good and fun times.....the dedication he had in my math classes toward making the grades, the relentless hours working on the annual, the evenings and nights working at my house meeting deadlines, the trips we took, the basketball games, and the memories go on and on. What a great man he was and I was proud to have had the opportunity to know and work with him. To all the family, I send my love and may the peace of Christ grow in each of you. He was a good son, a good brother, a good friend, and I know he became a great husband and father.

*All of Love and Prayers,  
John and Diane DeBarry*

*John and Diane DeBarry*

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**John DeBarry - Braselton, GA - Former Teacher** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ I have great memories- the day I found out I was having a boy, he helped me find he perfect boat!  
He was always extremely kind, courteous and honest.

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**alan ford - albany, GA - Friends** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Ginny and family, we only saw Richard a few times but he always had a kind smile on his face. He was usually ringing wet with sweat after cutting grass but all seemed right with the world. We know that he will be missed by everyone that crossed paths with him because he seemed like kind of man. We also know that Mark will sorely miss him, he was like a brother to him! Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and all your family and please know that we truly care.

*Most Sincerely,  
Raymond and Shirley Bryant*

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**Raymond and Shirley Bryant - Watkinsville, GA - Friend** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ Ginny, Mr. & Mrs. Huggins and Robert,

*May God's grace be with all of you during this time. I think back on all the wonderful memories of growing up together in Radium Springs with such a fondness in my heart. Richard was always such a kind and genuine person. May he now rest in peace and may you have the peace that passes all understanding.*

*Selina Miller Bentley*

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**Selina Bentley - Albany, GA** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ When I first met Richard I was a salesman for Johnson Outboards calling on his Dad Bill & Grandfather Frank. He was always hanging around the boat shop. You could tell he wasn't just hanging around but had a genuine interest in everything that made it tick. He was a natural and a quick learner. Always a smile. He made you feel like family-something that rubbed off from Bill. He will be greatly missed.

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**Chick Moss - Canton, GA - Business & Family Friend** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Our thoughts and prayers to the Huggins family and co-workers. Richard was a fine man. Always enjoyed purchasing my boats from him. He will be greatly missed. Very sad.

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**jeffrey rosenfeld - leesburg, GA - customer/friend** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Ginny, Mr. And Mrs. Huggins, and Robert,

*I was very sad to learn yesterday that Richard had passed, so, so, sad. I talked to Robert yesterday and did not realized that this has been a battle for some time. I remember moving to Radium Springs before high school and spending a lot of time at the Huggins home and on the Huggins boats. I always remember Richard as a great guy, and always smiling.*

*I know that losing someone close to you is always very hard, I lost my mom in November and it is still hard. What has helped me through this is the support of friends, which I believe that Richard had a lot of, and knowing that as Christians they are in a better place. Our prayers and thoughts are with all of you at this time, may God bless you.*

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**Dale Oliver - St. Petersburg, FL - Friend** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ I always enjoyed talking football with Richard when I would come by the store. He and I went round and round about Georgia and Auburn! It was fun! He also was a great selling challenge for me! He very kind and professional and allowed me the opportunity to do business with Huggins which I greatly appreciate! Mr. Bill, Miss Nancy and all his family...I know you are in pain and I am thinking about you as you mourn your great loss.

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**Angela Hall and Donovan Marine - Atlanta, GA - Friend and business associate**  
- March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ To The Family,  
I am so sorry for your loss. My heart goes out to you in your time of sorrow. May you let God's Word comfort you when it reads, "If a man dies can he live again? ... You will call, and I myself shall answer you. You will long for the work of your hands." {Job 14:14, 15}. God will have a longing to resurrect our loved ones who have fallen asleep in death.

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**Trina - GA - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

SB

“ Our deepest condolences to your family. You will be in our hearts and prayers.  
Sincerely,  
everyone at Olin's Sheet Metal

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**Solon Apperson - Albany, GA - Business - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

TF

“ *Wish I could have been in Albany for the funeral. Richard was a great guy and good friend. Last time I saw him was in 2000 when I was home visiting family, I stopped by the boat store to say hello. Should have stopped more often. Death sucks. I lost my mother (Evelyn) last year and it is difficult. Grieving is timeless but the pain eases over time. God be with you Ginny and the rest of the Huggins clan during this unbelievably difficult time, our prayers are with you all.*

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**Tim - Fredericksburg, VA - Friend** - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *Leave a condolence or a memory. Richard was a very caring person and we will miss him.*

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**Tom and Tari Mullen - Albany, GA - Friend** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ *To the family and friends of Huggins Outboard Inc. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of you during this sad time. Here is hoping you're able to find comfort in happy memories of Richard. I will miss talking to him. Lisa Soboleski - Account Representative Mercury Marine*

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**Lisa Soboleski - Fond du Lac, WI - Account Representative - Mercury** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dear Ginny and family....So sad to hear the news. Richard was a great man and good friend to all he met. Enjoyed many days and nights at the Dixie Ball Park with him watching our boys play ball. He was always so proud. He will be missed but his memory will live on with me and many others....

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**Joey M. Floyd - Salt Lake City, UT - Friend** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ Dear Ginny and Family,

*Just want you all to know my thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.*

*Richard was a very kind man. He sold Pop and I a boat a couple years back. We had a nice talk that day. Even though I did not know him well he made me feel as if we were good friends.*

*Take care and know that you have many sending support and prayers your way.*

*Paula Paquette*

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**Paula Paquette - Cordele, GA - school friend** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Richard was a fine man. He was so proud of his children, and spoke of them often. It won't be the same without him. See you in heaven one day.

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**Mike Reese - Leesburg, GA - Friend** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Having lost my father just a couple of years ago, I know the anguish you are going thru right now. It is a pain difficult to share with anyone but family and close friends. Reach out to each other and hug often.

*Richard was my "fall friend". We might talk some during the rest of the year but, come September, all thoughts turned to deer hunting. We talked about food plots, where to plant them, when to plant them, and what to plant in them. We talked about bucks that had been seen by farmers and other's during the year. We talked about trails, rubs, scrapes and found "sheds". Richard had a passion for hunting. But, he was never "possessive" of hunting. He always wanted the other guy to have the best stand. When asked where he was going to hunt on a crisp, fall morning, his answer would always be "wherever you are not hunting". So many go a little "crazy" over deer hunting, not Richard. He loved the process of hunting, not just the hunt itself. He had reached the point where the companionship of fellow hunters was as important or more important than taking a trophy. We spent many evenings standing around the back of a pickup truck after the hunt discussing the hunt, our children, and his other love, the "Dawgs". Richard would miss a hunt in a minute to go watch them. Like everyone else, he thought they frequently played below the level they were capable of, he was never a "fair weather" fan.*

*Richard loved driving the tractor, planting and cutting new trails. I was not present, but I heard the tale about Richard and the black wasp nest. Seems he was mowing and ran right over one. He left the tractor running and jumped off, beating at the wasps. From what I hear, he outran the tractor.*

*Another thing Richard loved was to burn something off. Whereas I was a little scared of fire, Richard was not. He respected fire and knew how to work with it to do a lot of work in a hurry. I will miss Richard. It is not often that you meet a true Southern Gentleman, Richard was one.*

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**Rodney Gray - Douglas, GA - Huntin' Buddy/Fellow Bulldog Fan - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

JE

“ Bill and family, I am so sorry to hear about Richard's passing. He was a great man. One of the few, including Bill, that gave me a chance when my outlook was bleak. I often think back to those boat shop days and recall some very valuable lessons I learned from everyone there. Especially, from Richard and Bill. I could never repay the kindness you all showed me then but please let me know if I can do anything now. My sincere condolences. So grateful for knowing him but so saddened he is gone.

Jody McCook

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**Jody McCook - Wauwatosa, WI - Friend and former employee - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

CF

“ Our heart and prayers goes out to Richard's family. We bought several boats from him throughout the years was treated fair and with respect. He will be missed.

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**Claude and Velma Preston - 200 Lynwood Lne, Leesburg, ga. 31763, GA - friend - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

BG

“ My heart and prayers go out to the Family of Mr. Huggins. Although I did not know him personally I dealt with him on his Insurance on many occassions. I know he will be missed. I know he is now resting in peace.

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**Bonnie Bishop - Albany, GA - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

BF

“ We are so sorry that Richard had to undergo all the suffering he had. We remember him fondly in Radium Springs and in church, as well as Scouts. Bob is go glad he got to see and talk to him when we were there a couple of weeks ago. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family.

*Bob & Jeanette Lackey*

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**Bob & Jeanette Lackey - Lakemont, GA - Friend** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ So sorry to hear of Richard's passing. I remember him from Boy Scouts in the late 60's and early 70's. I would see him at the Mall boat show or his business and he always remembered me. All is well. God Bless you.

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**Mike Gurr - Albany , GA - Friend** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Richard will be missed in our fishing community. He always was a dear friend and a pleasure to do business with

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**Rusty Hatton - Donalsonville - Customer** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ I was so saddened to know that Richard passed away. My prayers are with the family. He was a great man. I so enjoyed working with him for the past 20 years. My deepest sympathies for the entire family.

*Grace Kennedy*

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**Grace Kennedy - Nashville, GA - Friend** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ Ginny,  
We are so sorry to hear of Richard's passing. He was a caring, loving and giving person whose candle burned out way before his memory every will. Words cannot comfort your grieving hearts. Please know that we share your pain and grief. Bubba and I will always remember all those FUN trips we all went on together as well as those Christmas / New Year Eve parties. Richard always wore a smile and loved to pick on us about AU vs GA. Please know that we will continue to pray God will wrap His arm around you and your family and give you peace and comfort you need at this time and the days ahead. We Love you!

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**Bubba & Cathy Ivey - Albany, GA - Friends for a long time** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Richard was a great man and was a true family man, He will be missed dearly, Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Darrel Finnicum - Leesburg, GA** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NE

“ So sorry for your loss. Richard was such a good man. I truly enjoyed working for him.

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**Nancy Standerfer - Albany, GA - Former employee** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ Richard was a true family man, if you ever talked to Richard for very long somewhere during that conversation he mentioned his family and how proud and how much he loved them. I had the pleasure of hunting, fishing and playing softball with Richard during our years as brother in laws and friends and during those years he was a true and trusted and God fearing man.

*Richard will truly be missed by all...*

*God bless, Go Rest High On The Mountain My FRIEND*

*T. Hester*

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**Tracy Hester - Herod , GA - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

RF

“ My deepest sympathy to the Huggins Family. Richard was a good friend and a good man. He always had the time to talk with me or help in any kind of way with boat related purchases. I am so very sorry to hear of his passing. My thoughts and prayers will be with you.

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**Ricky Burdette - Albany, GA - Friend - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

SF

“ Surviving family members could be pages long, as Richard and the entire family made you feel like family. Huggins Outboard was one of my favorite businesses to visit, not only for business, but the people. Richard will be truly missed by all. God bless the entire family.

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**Stephen M. Bedsole - Leesburg, GA - Friend - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

LF

“ I was so saddened to hear this news. I went to school with Richard and he was certainly one of the "good ones". My prayers for peace and comfort are with his family.

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**Lynn Kiger Burson - Leesburg, GA - Friend - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

DF

“ Ginny, Bill, Nancy,

*It is with deeply sadden hearts that were heard of Richards passing.*

*I remember playing softball with Richard in Albany and always enjoyed talking UGA football with him.*

*Please know that the Huggins family has always held a special place in the Vineyard family's heart. You were all extremely supportive and caring in the loss of mother four years ago.*

*Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Please let us know anything that we can do to support and care for you in this difficult time.*

*We Love You and will miss Richard very much.*

*Doug & Jennifer Vineyard*

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**Doug & Jennifer Vineyard - Raleigh, NC - Friend & Extended family - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

JF

“ I've known Richard for years from buying boats. He was always a pleasure to deal with and loved his family and his family's business. We became friends over the years and some of our kids got to know each other. He even went flying with me once. He was a genuinely great person and it was my honor to know him. I was saddened to hear of his terminal illness and he has been on my mind daily in prayers up until this morning when I heard the news of his passing. I am sincerely sorry for you profound loss.

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**Jimmie Brown - Leesburg, GA - Friend - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM**

JN

“ So sorry to hear about Richard. I got to know him when I sold him a car years back and whenever I took dad's boat there. He was a great and kind guy! Prayers for his family.

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**John Sikes - Greenville, NC** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ My prayers for all the family.

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**Jack Jackson** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Dear Ginny and family - We are saddend at the loss of Richard. He was always kind to us. Please know that you are all in our prayers during this difficult time. Dale and Karen Richter

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**Karen Richter - Leesburg, GA - Friend** - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM