



Mr. Richard Paul Papera

July 7, 1936 - January 21, 2022

Richard Paul Papera was the quintessential gentleman who brought a smile to all who knew him. He was a caring husband, father, grandfather and brother who always put others before himself. He passed away peacefully on January 21, 2022 at the age of 85 in Alpharetta, GA. He is survived by his wife Beverly Harris Papera, daughters Sandi Locke and Tracey McDonough, step-children Ashley and Herman Wolff, grandchildren Raleigh, Aidan and Trinity, step-grandchildren Sarah and Reese, and sisters Donna Esparza and Gail Brantner.

Rich was born in Pittsburgh, PA to parents Paul and Ann Papera and had a love for airplanes at a very early age. He fulfilled this dream by becoming a pilot for Delta Airlines, retiring as an international captain after 32 years, and even continuing on with Delta as a simulator instructor after retiring. He flew all over the world including flying troops during the Gulf War. He was also passionate about fitness and never missed a day at the gym. He has been an active parishioner of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church for over 40 years. A funeral mass will be held there on Wednesday, January 26th at 10:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Thomas Aquinas - 535 Rucker Rd., Alpharetta GA.

Cemetery Details

Cremation - Northside Chapel Crematory

12050 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN **26**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
535 Rucker Road
Alpharetta, GA

Tribute Wall

DK

“ Beverly, Richard and I want to express our deepest sympathy regarding Rich's passing. Knowing the two of you as another Bally's Couple brought back memories of your splendid wedding and reception we were so lucky to attend. It was truly the event of the year and recognized the two of you as knowing how to celebrate!

We know Rich as a kind and loving man. His spirit and memory will be in your heart forever. God bless you and your family and may he rest in peace.

*Donna & Richard Krakow, MD
Johns Creek, GA*

Donna Krakow - January 27 at 02:32 PM

DR

“ My big brother will be deeply missed. Although, we lived in different states, we had weekly conversations, that made our geographic distance disappear. I know he is at peace and sitting in the beautiful light of Our Father, immersed with His perfect love for eternity.

Donna Roberts

Donna Roberts - January 26 at 11:16 AM

JD

“ Rich was a friend from L A Fitness in Roswell.

We would always get on side by side ellipticals and I really enjoyed his company.

Our commonality went from being from Pittsburgh/Cleveland, both being Catholic, & our son was a Delta Pilot like Rich.

He was a VERY Nice Person and may He Rest in Peace.

*Jim Dobos
Marietta, Ga*

Jim Dobos - January 26 at 09:02 AM

DM

“ I know Rich will be missed by all. However, he will live on in the hearts and memories of everyone who knew him. His kindness and faithfulness was a true inspiration.



D Morrison - January 24 at 05:34 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard Paul Papera.



January 24 at 05:19 PM