



Sidney Cary Richardson

February 14, 1942 - February 10, 2018

Obituary

Sidney C. Richardson

Sunrise February 14, 1942- Sunset February 10, 2018

Sidney C. Richardson was born in Athens, Alabama to Mansfield Scott and Sara Cain. He grew up in Rockford, Illinois in the care, guidance and watchful eye of Roxie and George Richardson.

Sidney was a good student, played the flute and was President of his High School Jazz Club. He helped to expose many of his friends to the new sounds of Jazz in the 1950's, at the time of the emergence of free jazz, and improvisation. He loved Miles Davis, and Coltrane. It is this music that soothed his mind and soul during his recovery from his accident last year.

Sidney joined the U.S. Marines in 1960 right after completing high school. He served 4 years and voluntarily re-enlisted another 2 years. Sidney was Honorably Discharged with a Good Conduct Medal which was the 3rd of three, throughout his 6 years. He had no lost time during his service. He was an expert rifleman. He received a National Defense Service Medal, given for response during national emergencies, for his training, and preparing troops for the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Sidney was a hard worker, serving almost 50 years in the security industry both installing alarms and later protecting property and passengers for United Airlines. He also worked over 20 years keeping fans safe at the Oakland Coliseum and Arena.

Sidney's final military duty was at the Alameda Naval Air Base. It is here he met and married his wife, Georgia Richardson. Married for 53 years, they resided in Oakland, California and raised 3 children, Ralph, Jenny and David.

He instilled in his children high work ethic, the importance of family, and the importance of an education. For him it was not "if you go to college" but "when you go to college." He role-modeled this for his children by attending night classes at Laney College earning an AA degree in African American Studies.

Sidney was a master of trivia. He knew random obscure facts about geography, politics, sports, and entertainment. Watching Jeopardy, or any game show, could be quite a bore as he knew all the answers before the contestants hit the buzzer. During the last eight months of his life, he became quite unfiltered saying whatever was on his mind. He was funny and sarcastic but always in a very polite way.

He was a car enthusiast and attended the International Car Show annually as well as car racing events in his younger years. He acquired an incredible collection of watches. He enjoyed traveling the world and he loved a good meal with his family at home.

His greatest accomplishment in life was being a father and provider for his family. This was how he showed his absolute, unconditional love, and that there is nothing a good, righteous man will not do for his family. After his accident, these lessons, deeply embedded in responsibility, duty and integrity, gave his family strength to be at his side continuously as he worked

courageously to regain his health and independence.

He died surrounded by his family and wrapped in the arms of the Savior. His transition was peaceful dignified and full of grace like the Marine he was.

Together, his wife Georgia; children Ralph, Jenny, and David; daughter-in-laws Rebecca and Elaine; grand-children Taylor, Dylan, Carson, and Spencer; and newly adopted family Veronica , Sean and Christian; and a host of family and friends will be comforted in the many memories of his warmth, kindness and gentle spirit.

God's grace is sufficient and thus we know, Sidney is always with us. May Sidney Rest In Power and Peace.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Sidney Cary Richardson, please visit our floral store.

Tribute Wall

IR

“ Greetings Richardson Family, last night at the direction of the Council President, the full Oakland City Council paid Tribute and Adjourned in Honor and Memory of a member of our civic family Mr.Sidney Richardson and his family and offered condolences and prayers to the Richardson Family.Love, Peace and BlessingsIris

Iris - February 21, 2018 at 01:21 PM

JE

“ Love My Daddy....Jenny

Jenny - February 16, 2018 at 07:39 PM

ES

“ A DIGNITY IN WHITE PEDESTAL ARRANGEMENT was ordered on February 16, 2018

Expression of Sympathy - February 16, 2018 at 03:57 PM

BJ

“ To my friend & Co-worker Sid Richardson, thank you for making my time at work fun. From talking about sports and life in general, it's been a pleasure to work with such an all around great person. To the Richardson Family, my thoughts and prayers for you all at this stressful time....

Bernardo Yeo Jr. - February 16, 2018 at 09:19 AM

ZP

“ I just received a note from George Maclin that Sidney died, and I'm very sorry to learn of this. I didn't know Sidney in high school but reading his obituary, he was truly an outstanding person, a gift to this world, and a person who will be greatly missed by all those lives he touched. I wish I'd known Sidney. From all the former classmates of Sidney's at West Rockford High School, our deepest regrets to you all. I've copied Sidney's obituary for all to read at our next class reunion. I will also email our classmates of Sidney's death. If possible, I would like the photo of you & Sidney, Georgia, that shows on his obituary so I can attach it to his obituary. Peace and rejoicing in a life well lived. Zan (Erickson) Picchioni westhighwarriors1960@gmail.com

Zan Picchioni - February 15, 2018 at 10:08 AM