



Richard John Vallera

January 24, 2022

Richard John Vallera, 77, of Catasauqua, died Monday, January 24, 2022, in Lehigh Valley Hospital Muhlenberg, following complications of Covid pneumonia. Born in Bethlehem, he was a son of the late Helen Markle. Mr. Dickey or “V”, as he was sometimes called by close friends, was a 1962 graduate of Phillipsburg High School. He attended Minnesota State University Moorhead. He had eclectic careers over the years, mostly in sales and as a driver. He sold everything from life insurance to meats to time shares to vacuum cleaners. He drove for Lehigh Valley Taxi, Renzenberger (Norfolk Southern), and Car One. He enjoyed driving limo and town cars and meeting celebrities like Chuck Bednarik “Concrete Charlie” and Darryl Dawkins “Chocolate Thunder.” He also worked as a crew chief for Traffic Plan, Allentown. Rich also served in the Navy as a barber and cut hair in Easton and Ocean City, NJ. During his time in Florida, he was a sous-chef for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Rich loved sports, especially the Eagles, Phillies, and Phillipsburg Stateliners Wrestling. He even had a field trial with the Phillies in the late 1960s. He was predeceased by his former wife, Ellen Vallera. He is survived by his loving family friend Christina Sayre, with whom he resided; Oliver Sayre, and their children Miranda, Kayla, Alden, Savanna, and Kayla’s son, baby Malcolm; close friends: the Piperata family, Frank LeCause, and Mark Carr. He is also survived by a daughter, Jamie Smith-Vallera and her husband from FL, and a half brother Joe Markle of Easton.

Memorial service: 7:00 PM, Monday, January 31, at Trexler Funeral Home, 1625 W. Highland St. Allentown, PA 18102. Calling will begin at 6:30 PM.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Phillipsburg High School Athletic Booster Club c/o Trexler Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 31. 7:00 PM (ET)

Trexler Funeral Home
1625 Highland Street
Allentown, PA 18102
(610) 434-9616
info@trexlerfh.com
<https://trexlerfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

NP

“ *I miss you already. I hope Vito found you. Vito loved you. You guys wait for me. Ok.*

Nick Piperata - February 18, 2022 at 08:06 PM

TS

“ *Hey V, Thanks for the laughs. Thanks for the memories. I still remember my parents bringing me to your salon when I was so young and I was starting at your full head of hair, it confused me. I loved when you rocked your bald, Evan was 1 and put cake on your beautiful round bald head. I loved that you came to our Super Bowl party the Eagles finally made it in! Thanks for taking us to the airport to go to Disney, you drive worse than me! We had so much fun at my parents house. You became a part of my children lives and made them feel as they should, important, listened to, valued. Watching you with them became another great moment! As Evan and Avery would say fly high, and as I would say... I better see u again soon! Love from Matt and Trina Schafer*

trina schafer - January 27, 2022 at 09:15 PM

ES

“ *fly high pal, thank you for believing in my dreams when it seemed no one else did. i'll miss you, keep watching over me and avery and everyone else. i do it for you! rest up!*

Evan Schafer - January 27, 2022 at 10:21 AM

AP

“ Dear V's Family and Friends, Richard has been a fond friend of mine... and my entire extended family for 6 decades. He was always warm, caring, dedicated to staying close with us over many years. We will miss his joy, that he always shared with us. I was also proud to be his school mate and company @ Moravian Prep, MN State @ Moorhead and at hundreds of athletic events for Phila . and P'Burg teams. The Piperata's

Anthony Piperata - January 27, 2022 at 10:10 AM

OI

“ Mr.Dickey you will be dearly missed by The Boy, Savanna, Kayla, and by myself. We will always have our laughs and our tears. Our stupid disagreements and our triumphant victories. Love you buddy and already missing you.

Oliver Sayre III - January 27, 2022 at 09:57 AM