



## Ricky Lee Eddleman

May 29, 2020

Ricky Lee Eddleman, 68, of Virginia Beach lost his battle with Alzheimer's on May 29, 2020.

He was cared for and is loved by his two daughters and their families: Rickell, Matt, McKenna, Kellyn, and Rylan Holland. Brielle, Mark, Braedon, Vann, and Lila Kai Ashley. His two sisters and their families: Kathy Eddleman, Gail and Donald Geer, Amber Perry and Hailey Fletcher.

Those who knew Rick understood there was nothing more important to him than providing for and loving his family. He was a proud parent and loving grandfather with a thoughtful, kind, and generous soul. We are at peace that the suffering has subsided, and he is reunited with his wife of 46 years, Teri Holland Eddleman.

The family held an intimate gathering on the shore of the Chesapeake Bay on Saturday morning, June 6th. We will miss him dearly and will never miss a moment to be grateful he is part of us all.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN 6. 10:00 AM.

# Tribute Wall

BE

“ I had the good fortune of being a friend of Teri Eddleman (Rick's wife) from the day she was born. We grew up together and shared many experiences. One day while she was in high school, Teri told me about this "really cute guy" named Rick. Soon after I was visiting her at her high school gym and she introduced me to him. It was obvious that he was "the one".

*Rick and Teri were married and settled into an adorable house on West Norfolk Road in Portsmouth. Life was wonderful and became even better with the arrival of their first child, Rickell. Years later, Bri was added to the family. Rick loved being a father and was so proud of his family. He was thrilled as he gave away his daughters to marriage and with the arrival of each of his six grandchildren.*

*Rick was a classy guy. He was charming and always impeccably dressed. He was curious about life and enjoyed tackling new subjects. It was enjoyable when in a conversation with him because he had much knowledge and interesting views.*

*Rick and Teri had many good times, great times, bad times, and difficult times throughout their years together. Their love never wavered. Rick understood that Alzheimer's was going to take his memories and eventually his life. He and Teri fought hard to enjoy the time they had together. Both left this world too soon but are at least together again.*

*With Love and Sympathy. Beth Smith*

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**Beth** - June 15, 2020 at 11:00 AM

TL

“ I was saddened to hear of Rick's death today.

*Rick and I were best friends from the time we met when he was about 10 until I joined the Air Force in 1980. I remember meeting him when his father, a best friend of my father Russell "Red" Lutton, came to visit us at 110 Bob White Street, Portsmouth, VA. Rick was a year older and a grade ahead of me in school, but we grew up having the best of adventures that any two friends could have. We were in Boy Scouts, Troop 213 together for close to seven years. His father Bobby and my father Red were both in the scouts with their sons. We shared the camaraderie of youth, learning to camp, build fires, and sleeping out in the forest. During high school at Woodrow Wilson we were not in classes together, but were always together learning to walk on our hands, doing gymnastics or even once trying to pole vault. We both got fairly good at these and dreamed of going to the Olympics.*

*After high school he and I roomed together in the dorms at Old Dominion University for a year. I recalled we carried an old refrigerator up several flights of stairs to our dorm room. We didn't have a lot of funds so the refrigerator was given to us and we repainted it lime green to make it look better. We always had it filled with cold drinks and ice cream. Rick was planning to be a business major and I a science major. We had many debates on who made the world a better place. He claimed it was the business man and I claimed it was the science behind the business. "Yes Rick would say the science is important, but without the businessman to make it happen, science would not be shared with the world." Such was his view of the world and indeed he became a business man... I a scientist.*

*At that time, he and I made money laying bricks, he with the family masonry business and I sometimes with him and sometimes with other companies. In fact, he and I learned much of our brick masonry skills from his father Bobby. I remember Bobby sending Rick and I to a brick making company west of Richmond to pick-up*

*bricks for a job when delivery was not timely enough for the job schedule. On the way home on I-64 near Williamsburg, with a fully loaded truck of bricks we lost a retread from one of the tires, not something I would want to do again, but we made it home safely with the bricks. He and I learned to drive dump trucks, forklifts both large and small, we learned to lay bricks and blocks and were always, always competitive.*

*Growing up it really didn't matter what we were doing Rick and I made it into a competition. From skipping stones, laying the most bricks, running faster, roller skating or swimming. Most of the time Rick would win at these things, he was very competitive and did not like losing, but as friends the competition was really not about winning but learning and I learned a lot from my friend Rick Eddleman. I remember once Rick and I decided, for no good reason, to climb the electric company's power poles, just to prove we could. This was not one of the neighborhood wooden poles, but one of the metal poles that are part of the main power system in the Tidewater area. He and I both selected a pole and started climbing to see who would be first. Too, tell you the truth I am not sure who won that bet, I was too worried about not falling to really pay much attention to what Rick was doing. But when I got to the top and looked over to his pole he was there, so I took it one step further and climbed the last bit to stand on the top of the pole. Since I am 6 feet and Rick was shorter, I always claimed I won the bet.*

*Mostly I learned from Rick about just being friends, about talking, sharing, learning about life, planning for the future and being the most we could with our talents. I will miss Rick Eddleman. I'd like to ask him again who won the race on the electric pole.*

*Tom Lutton*

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**Tom Lutton** - June 14, 2020 at 01:41 PM