



## Richard Shaw Gates

August 14, 1957 - January 3, 2022

Richard Shaw Gates, 64, of Springfield, Virginia, peacefully passed away on January 3, 2022 surrounded by loved ones, after a difficult battle with Leukemia.

Richard was born on August 14, 1957 in Norfolk, Virginia, son of the late Raymond Charles Gates and Marjorie Williams Lester. Richard graduated from Norview High School in 1975, then he pursued a degree in Mathematics at Virginia Wesleyan University and a Master's Degree ABD in Industrial Engineering Operations Research at Virginia Tech.

After graduation, he worked as a Management Specialist and Program Manager for over 37 years, including 25 years for the Federal Government. In 1984, he met Susan McKinnon while both working in Washington, DC and they married in 1986. Richard and Susan went on to have five kids, Jordan (Brynna), Sam (Becky), Will (Summer), Emily, and Rachel. They are blessed with nine grandkids. He loved spending time with his family and following the Yankees and Washington sports teams. He left a legacy of placing both family and his Savior as his top priorities.

Richard was a faithful and dedicated member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He always aspired to be like His Savior, showing compassion, service, and warmth to those around him. His gentleness and humility were visible by all and his example will continue to be felt by all those who knew and loved him.

Richard is predeceased by his parents and two granddaughters, Evangeline

and Daphne.

A private graveside service for family will be held at Fairfax Memorial Park. A memorial service will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints building located at 6942 Sydenstricker Rd, Springfield, VA 22152 on January 15, 2022 at 11 AM. The family will receive friends after the service. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in his memory to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

# Cemetery Details

## Fairfax Memorial Park

9900 Braddock Road  
Fairfax, VA 22032  
(703) 323-5202  
info@fmpark.com  
<http://www.fmpark.com/>

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN **15**. 11:00 AM (ET)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
6942 Sydenstricker Rd.  
Springfield, VA

# Tribute Wall

MI

“ Susan, we are so sorry to hear of Richard's passing. Please know that you and your family are in our hearts and prayers. Michael and Susan Vermillion

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**Michael** - January 22, 2022 at 09:11 PM

RS

“ I did not know Richard very well, but I did briefly work with him on the NOAALink Project. Even during that brief period, I got warm, positive vibes from him. He will truly be missed.

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**Raphael Shaw** - January 20, 2022 at 01:55 PM

BE

“ Lots of memories I could share about Richard. Despite his health challenges I never hear him complain or speak unkindly about anyone. He certainly never blamed God for any of the trials he and his family had to endure. He loved his family, the Lord and the gospel with an unyielding faithfulness.

Your only fault is I believe you loved the Yankees more than the Nationals, but I think the gap was closing! I think of you every time I wear the Nats shirt you gave me when we left for Utah a little over a year ago. It's easy to think about someone as special as you.

May God bless you Susan and all your family. You will be in our prayers for some time to come.

We love you,

*Bill Eargle*

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**Bill Eargle** - January 16, 2022 at 03:01 AM



“ [Memorial Trees](https://www.piercefh.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Richard Shaw Gates.

January 16, 2022 at 02:31 AM



“ Rich always waved and smiled when walking his dog by the house. He always had time to say hello and ask how things were going. He will be missed in the neighborhood. Condolences to your lovely family. The Stureks

**Julie Sturek** - January 15, 2022 at 09:34 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Shaw Gates.



January 15, 2022 at 02:38 AM



“ Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Richard Shaw Gates.



January 13, 2022 at 02:48 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Shaw Gates.*



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January 13, 2022 at 02:30 PM



“ *Zanethia Eubanks lit a candle in memory of Richard Shaw Gates*



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**Zanethia Eubanks** - January 13, 2022 at 02:06 PM



“ *To know the beauty of Richard's life, you need only observe the beauty of his family — each of them accomplished, contributing people! Susan probably deserves great credit for that family as well, but it was clearly a team effort with Richard setting the tone! We will miss you Richard til we meet again!*

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**Randall Rader** - January 07, 2022 at 10:54 AM



“ *A good man, husband and father - all could be proud of him.*

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**Luben** - January 07, 2022 at 09:09 AM

JP

“ Susan and family,  
My heart is full of love and compassion for you.  
May joyous memories fill your home as you heal. ~Joy and Adair  
Petty

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**Joy Petty** - January 06, 2022 at 06:25 PM

LB

“ To the Gates Family - my heart breaks for the loss of Rich, a dear  
co-worker with us at NOAA. I would always stop past his cubicle in  
the late afternoon and yell out hey Richie Rich, how goes it? He  
would respond back with a smile and helpful greeting as he knew I  
loved that tv cartoon with his namesake character. Rich was a class  
act--always looking out for others and interested in doing the right  
thing for the American public. He is missed and I will never forget  
his tireless efforts...may God continue to bless and keep your family  
in his perfect peace.

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**Lenear Bassett-King** - January 06, 2022 at 01:04 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the  
family of Richard Shaw Gates.



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January 05, 2022 at 01:17 PM