



## Ricky Lee Pence

August 22, 1955 - May 3, 2020

### Ricky Lee Pence Obituary

After a courageous year-long battle with cancer, Ricky Lee Pence died peacefully at Prince William Hospital on Sunday, May 3, 2020. He was 64 years old. Ricky was a native Virginian who grew up in Arlington, graduating from Washington Lee High School in 1973. He spent his entire adult life in the Manassas area.

Ricky cultivated a love for sports, playing baseball as a young man. He turned this passion for sports and hobby of collecting sports cards into a business and opened Ricky's Card Shop in Manassas in 1990. His mother Clara ran the shop during the day and his son helped after school and on weekends.

Ricky was an avid NASCAR fan. For several years, weekends were spent at every NASCAR race within a day's driving distance cheering on his beloved driver, Dale Earnhardt #3 with his employees and friends. He was a season ticket holder for many years with the Redskins, Nationals, and Capitals where he and his son Kevin regularly attended games.

While Ricky loved sports, his true passion was his work. Ricky began working with his brother Earl at the age of 10. The two brothers started a lawn business that grew and gave both brothers the skills and drive to become entrepreneurs. After graduating from high school Ricky became an electrician.

He served as the Master Electrician for Washington National Cathedral from 1975 to 1983 where he was instrumental in the electrical construction of the West End Towers of the Cathedral. During this time, he was also the Electrical Manager for the Cathedral's two private schools, St. Albans and National Cathedral School.

After leaving the Cathedral, Ricky founded and managed his own company, PENELEC, for 24 years. PENELEC grew into a successful electrical and carpentry business that included large electrical commercial jobs including Quantico Marine Corp Marathon Building, FBI office renovations, multiple Motorola 911 cell sites in Fairfax, Loudoun & the City of Alexandria. Residential projects for custom home builders included Morris Day Custom Homes, George Sagataw, and Sticks N Stones Custom Homes. Ricky mentored many of his employees to further their education and obtain their Electrical Journeyman and Master certifications in hopes they would further their own careers.

Most recently, Ricky served as the master electrician for American Home Maintenance Services, ending his career working again with his brother, Earl. Ricky's skill and attention to detail earned him the reputation as one of the best electricians in the Northern Virginia area.

Ricky was a respected member of both Prince William and Loudoun County communities. Ricky was an active member of Buckhall United Methodist Church where he had many friends whom he considered extended family. He especially enjoyed serving as Trustee Chair for the last 3 years and helping with fellowship refreshments and grilling for any outreach service event. He continued his role of preparing food for others even after his cancer left him unable to eat. Ricky will be remembered by his annual participation and contributions to Christmas in April; Habitat for Humanity, Good Shepherd Alliance, Grace Ministries, Warming the Homeless in DC, Franklin Square

Food & Fellowship, English as a Second Language (ESL), and REACH Work Camp For Youth.

While on the surface Ricky might have appeared a simple hard-working man, he was a person of many dimensions. Well respected by his peers and employees for his knowledge and honesty, Ricky was as cantankerous as he was kind, and as stubborn as he was generous. He decompressed from work by sipping a glass of Jack Daniels Gentleman Jack while watching movies, his all-time favorite being "Days of Thunder." Besides sports, his love of the outdoors and hunting was known by all and he loved to take frequent trips to South Carolina, always bringing back multiple coolers of venison to share with friends and family. His family, friends and faith kept him grounded and helped him through life's challenges.

Ricky was predeceased by both his parents and his son Kevin. Remembered for his selflessness, generosity, and sense of humor, he will be missed beyond measure by the many lives he touched. In addition to his brothers Earl and David and extended family members Jeff and Gamble Hanes; he is survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins, and countless friends, clients, and business associates. Ricky's passing leaves a hole in our hearts, but his loving and caring soul will not be forgotten.

A celebration of life will be held at Buckhall United Methodist Church, Manassas, VA on Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 10:30 AM. Graveside services will immediately follow at Cedarwood Cemetery in Edinburg Virginia. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Pierce Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Manassas, VA.

In lieu of flowers, memorial remembrances in his name can be made to Buckhall United Methodist Church 10251 Moore Drive, Manassas, VA 20111.



# Cemetery Details

## Cedarwood Cemetery

214 Main Street  
Edinberg, VA 22824

# Previous Events

## Service

JUL 2. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Buckhall United Methodist Church  
10251 Moore Drive  
Manassas, VA

# Tribute Wall

EP

“ Goodbye Little Brother,  
Indeed, the road was long with many a winding turn. And so, it has  
led us here. I will always cherish the memories of our journey  
together.  
Love you and miss you,  
Earl

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**Earl C Pence** - June 29, 2020 at 09:54 AM

LA

I knew and cherished the work your brother, Ricky Pence, did for me in  
my properties over the past 12 years . I am sorry he is gone and so  
very sorry for your loss. He was a great guy and a no nonsense  
electrician who always came to my rescue in my rental properties and  
provate home's electrical needs.

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**Lisa Anderson** - October 11, 2021 at 09:54 AM

AC

“ I met Ricky through his brother Earl, who then became my client. In the early years, our conversations were mainly centered around the health insurance that I was providing him and staff. But soon thereafter, these conversations became more cathartic in nature, with Ricky sharing stories with me about crazy jobs and situations that his work had gotten him into (always with a laugh), his deep love of family, and his musings about what the future held. I always looked forward to these talks, because he was such a genuine human being; no pretense or agenda, just a natural curiosity about life and the people that he met along the way, that I found refreshing. Toward his final days, I marveled at his sheer determination and courage in the face of overwhelming odds, and found strength in both his leadership and example - and that of his family, who has faced more than their fair share of tragedy of late. In the end, we all hope that our time here on earth has made a difference somehow, big or small, and that we have touched the lives around us for the better. Ricky was such a man...

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Arthur P Cosing - June 11, 2020 at 04:58 PM

KF

“ Ricky was a godsend to Buckhall UM Church in so many ways. Being a small congregation, getting things done is usually dependent on the time and energy volunteered by it's members. Ricky set that volunteer bar high for the rest of us. He seemed to be ever present in his quiet, humble and unassuming way. Wheteher it was assessing the need for new lights in the sanctuary and installing them at no cost to the church, leading the efforts of the Trustees, manning the BBQ at church functions or providing food for Sunday morning fellowship, Ricky was always there to get the job done. He has left some big shoes to be filled.  
May he rest in peace.  
Kevin and Kathey Foskett

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K and K Foskett - May 15, 2020 at 10:13 AM

AF

“ While I don't remember the date, I do remember the first time I met Ricky (at Buckhall UMC). After service we gathered in the fellowship hall. We introduced ourselves as he was new to the church. He asked us if we knew a Jerry Falkenstein (we are Falkensteins as well). Jerry was my husband's uncle and we have very fond memories of him and his sons. That common bond began a very wonderful and caring relationship. Ricky's devotion to Buckhall matched our own and we were mutually involved in many of the same functions, activities and events. There wasn't an event that you didn't see Ricky part of the food service/cooking. We worked and got pretty grimey at our "clean-up" events. And we attended many of the same meetings and fellowship in support of Buckhall. When Steve had his cardiac arrest and subsequent brain damage, Ricky was incredibly supportive. He always chatted with Steve when he came to church even if Steve didn't remember names and faces. He always made Steve feel he was still a part of the church fellowship.

*Ricky started me in the process of updating my kitchen, which I absolutely love and am glad we did. We will miss him very much.... but know he is resting easier and in the arms of our Lord.*

*May he rest in peace.... Steve and Anna Falkenstein*

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**Anna Falkenstein** - May 14, 2020 at 07:37 AM

JM

“Gretchen and I met Ricky through Buckhall UMC. It seemed he was always involved in some manner regardless of the activity going on and often times, especially after I became a Trustee with Ricky, he would say "come take a look at this and tell me what you think" only to show me something he had completed or was working on at the church in his "spare time". He did so much I don't know how he had any spare time - from serving as Chairman of the Trustees, to manning the grill at barbeques and constantly looking into necessary repairs and upgrades with our facilities. As he began his battle with cancer, Ricky and I worked more closely together to continue the work of the Trustees. I will miss not having him to weigh options and get his perspective on the myriad of issues we dealt with. He seemed to be a quiet man and never really bothered "taking credit" for all the things he did at Buckhall. He just did them. And for those that are aware of all he did, he will forever be a part of Buckhall. He will be missed, but not forgotten.

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**Jeff McDonell** - May 13, 2020 at 11:38 AM

KH

“Gamble, Thank you for sending this tribute to Rick. I have known him for a very long time, on both sides of the counter here in Arlington. As a pastor we had some really nice conversations and he always seemed to rise above whatever troubles he had to deal with.

*My prayers for you and all who were touched by this man, he left this world a better place, for his perseverance and determination to serve and mentor.*

*Blessings,  
RevKev Havens*

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**Kevin Havens** - May 13, 2020 at 07:48 AM

DO

“ Almost every memory I have of Ricky revolves around him being extremely generous and giving. He donated his time, talents, and energy into so much at Buckhall Church: re-doing the lights at church, organizing work days, cooking at bbqs, making food for Sunday morning fellowship, organizing fireworks, supporting fund raisers, and serving on committees.

*In addition to everything Ricky did at church, he also was very kind to members of his church family. Every time I look at our yard, I think of how much he helped us recover from that huge sinkhole. I often smile as we pass IHOP ,and think of the time he treated us all to breakfast.*

*Although he is physically gone, Ricky remains in my heart and fond memories.*

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**Donna Gibson Obeldobel** - May 12, 2020 at 01:17 PM

DL

*Ricky was very proud, in a good way, of his many years at the National Cathedral and the vast amount of responsibility he seemed to love. He was extremely generous in giving and very humble in seeking credit! It was easy to call him friend! So glad he is not suffering anymore.*

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**Dian Lees** - May 13, 2020 at 05:40 PM

JO

“ Sad to hear ricky had past and prayers to the family. i really got to know ricky when he ask me over to his house to show me his card collection, Nascar and Jack Daniels collection and me being a collector myself i loved every minute off it. i bought some stuff and it was fun going through his cards and talking about his business. we will miss him at REXEL and his business. GOD BLESS.

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**john** - May 12, 2020 at 11:39 AM