



John Roger Richey

May 5, 1921 - August 8, 2009

JOHN ROGER RICHEY, 88, of Bluffton, died on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009, 2:30 a.m., at Bluffton Regional Medical Center. Born on May 5, 1921, in Bluffton, son of the late John L. Richey and Carrie E. (Heche) Richey, he graduated from Bluffton High School in 1939 and studied for 2 years at the International Business College. Mr. Richey was a World War II U.S. Marine veteran, having served our country from 1942 to 1945. Mr. Richey was awarded The Purple Heart Medal for wounds received as a result of enemy action in the Asiatic-Pacific Area on Feb. 22, 1945. He married Rosemary (Lucas) Richey on June 16, 1945, in Bluffton; she survives in Bluffton. He was an Industrial Engineer for Franklin Electric Company for 28 years, retiring in 1982. Prior to his employment with Franklin Electric, he worked nine years at International Harvester Corporation. He was a member of the Bluffton Tiger Athletic Hall of Fame, Bluffton Elks Lodge, American Legion Post 111, Disabled American Veteran's and First Reformed Church of Bluffton. In addition to his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Diana Brennan (husband, Gary) of Fort Wayne; one son, Doug Richey (wife, Lori) of Fort Wayne; five grandchildren, Natalie Bassett (Marty) of Fort Wayne, Nathan Hay of Bluffton, Stacey Hubbard (Ryan) of Chicago, Ill., Meghann Whetstone (Jeremy) of Fort Wayne and Katie Richey of Vincennes, Ind.; and five great-grandchildren, Spencer Massey of Montpelier, Grant Bassett and Patrick Bassett, both of Fort Wayne and Jase Small and Taylor Small of Montpelier. He was preceded in death by one sister, Josephine Warner; and one brother-in-law, Glenn Warner. Funeral is 10:30

a.m. Wednesday at Thoma/Rich, Chaney & Lemler Funeral Home, 308 W. Washington Street, Bluffton, with calling one hour prior. Dr. Gene Bell officiating. Calling also from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial in Elm Grove Cemetery, Bluffton, with Military Graveside rites by American Legion Post 111 and the U.S. Marine Corps Honor Guard. Preferred memorials to First Reformed Church of Bluffton, Wells County Animal Shelter or Panos Free Clinic. Online condolences may be sent to www.thomarich.com

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 11. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich,Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
(260) 824-3850
info@thomarich.com

Visitation

AUG 11. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich,Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
(260) 824-3850
info@thomarich.com

Visitation

AUG 12. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich,Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
(260) 824-3850
info@thomarich.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Roger Richey*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - August 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *John Roger Richey*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Our condolences to Rosemary and Diana and the family. We have many memories of neighbors and good times. Wishing you comforts in your loss and strength in carrying forward the enduring family legacy.##imported-begin##Tom Butler Family##imported-end##*

August 15, 2009 at 02:47 PM



“ Dear Rosemary and family,
I just heard of your loss. I send my thoughts and prayers of comfort to you and all your family.
I have such warm memories of the numerous summer days at the Psi Ote pool and gatherings at the Smiths. Uncle Jim Smith and "Squirt" would talk of the old times and laugh, laugh, laugh.
My favorite memory of Roger is the time he told me when I was about 8 years old, that it was time for me to swim to the raft at the Psi Ote pool. I told him I wasn't ready. He said, "Sylvia, I will be beside you and if you get tired, you can ride on my back." I made it to the raft but took his offer for the ride back to shore! Fortynine years later, I still hold that memory in my heart. What a special man with a ready smile and always . . . a twinkle in his eye!
Love and blessings,
Sylvia###imported-begin##Sylvia Johnson Solomon###imported-end##

August 12, 2009 at 09:19 AM



“ Dear Rosemary, I was so sorry to hear about Roger. Growing up in Bluffton on Arnold Street in the 60s was a wonderful experience for me. Roger was a big part of that. He was a true good neighbor and very kind man. I remember playing basketball with him and other kids from the neighborhood in your driveway. He taught us how to play "horse". He was always full of life. Rosemary, I am so glad I had the chance to visit with you and Roger this past June. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Kevin Riley (Point Lookout, Missouri)###imported-begin##Kevin Riley###imported-end##

August 12, 2009 at 07:53 AM



“ Rosemary ,Diana, Doug & families,you are in our thoughts & prayers . Your Dad always had a big smile & a deep laugh whenever we met .Our sincere condolences to all, he will be missed.
Mrs Bill (Joan) Garrett & Darlene & Jerry Garrett###imported-begin##Jerry Garrett###imported-end##

August 12, 2009 at 07:17 AM



“ Dear Rosemary & family. We extend our sympathy to you in the death of Roger (Squirt)as Jim called him. He always had a smile & a story or two to tell & such a nice guy. All of you are in our thoughts & prayers.
Jim & Mae###imported-begin##Jim & Mae Cobb###imported-end##

August 11, 2009 at 08:48 PM



“ My sister Lara is right when she said that we couldn't have asked for a better Uncle. We all had such a great time whenever we went to Bluffton to visit Grandma and Grandpa Warner. No trip was complete without walking over to Uncle Rogers and Aunt Rosemary's to visit on the porch, see Uncle Roger's dog, drink juice out of those little glasses, and go to the park to see who could swing the highest. I will miss him, and like Lara, can't wait to meet up again in heaven.###imported-begin##Annette Stebbins-Moore###imported-end##

August 11, 2009 at 08:03 PM



“oMrs. Richey and family, Please accept sympathy from the Dwight Wilson family. Mom (Doris Ann) had a knee replaced recently. Please know we are thinking of you. I worked with Roger at FE for about 3 years in the hay day (1977-1980). He was very sweet to me. I remember Dad and the guys (I noticed an entry from Jeff Eltzroth) going on their fishing trips around Dale Hollow for years. The thing I will ALWAYS remember Roger for is the many years he and Lee Lakes left flowers on Dad's grave. Dad passed in 1995 and it took us a bit to figure out who had left the flowers. What a guy. And now I have learned he earned a Purple Heart. A true American hero and wonderful guy. God bless you at this difficult time. Valerie, Doris Ann, Stan and family###imported-begin###Valerie Wilson Jackson###imported-end###

August 11, 2009 at 06:36 PM



“Dear Rosemary, Diana, Doug and the entire family, Roger was one special guy, he will be missed. I have such great memories of spending time with your family. I will never forget his BLUE EYES and his smile. My heart and prayers go out to you all.###imported-begin###Susie Speheger Tinnel###imported-end###

August 11, 2009 at 03:00 PM



“John was a long time friend of my dad's. I'm sure my dad would want me to give our condolences. I'm sure John and my dad will find a good fishing spot in heaven. Jeff Eltzroth###imported-begin###Jeff Eltzroth###imported-end###

August 11, 2009 at 09:21 AM



“ To all the Family, We were all sadden to hear about the news of Richey. Richey was one of our favorites to have coffee with in the mornings. We would shake him for his coffee & when he would win you would hear the yelling, laughter would make our day but when he lost Richey would let you have it. [All in good humor] Richey was big on going to the graves yards to visit all his family & friends. He told me that they were all over the place. I thought that was very special of him caring for everyone. I'm glad to hear that his neice will take that special place for him. You are a guardian angel, too. Our thoughts & prayers our with all of you. Richey's memories will always be in our hearts. ##imported-begin## Penny Gehrett & Stag Bar Crew ##imported-end##

August 10, 2009 at 05:56 PM



“ Dear Rosmary, I know how you feel to lose Roger. Jerry enjoyed traveling with him. He will be missed by many, especially you. I remember when he played basketball in high school. You are in my prayers. ##imported-begin## Mary Kizer ##imported-end##

August 10, 2009 at 04:32 PM



“ Uncle Roger was the best Uncle a girl could ask for. He always made me smile. I will always remember our trips to the State Park and rides in his big boat. He and Rosemary became like Grandparents after my own Grandparents passed away. Many years ago, we took a tour of all of the family grave sites. He took such pride in sharing stories about each of our relatives. The next year, he gave me pictures of each site with directions. He said, "When I'm gone, I'm counting on you to place flowers each year on Memorial Day." With pride, I will honor my Uncle by doing as he wished. I will miss talking with him at his kitchen table and hearing, "how are ya kid." I look forward to seeing him again in our eternal home Heaven; what a great day that will be.##imported-begin##Lara Stebbins-Devine##imported-end##

August 09, 2009 at 01:41 PM