



Richard Rankin

July 14, 1960 - May 16, 2025

Richard Rankin, 65, of Quitman, Texas, passed away Friday evening, May 16, 2025, suddenly while visiting family in Iowa.

Richard Wayne Rankin, son of Vernon Sr. and Vivian (Strahan) Rankin, was born July 14, 1960, in Bryan, Texas. The family lived briefly in Houston, where Richard started school, before moving to Chireno, Texas. While in high school, Richard played on the basketball team and was a member of the F.F.A. organization; he graduated in 1978. He then moved to Arlington and began his career at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, eventually becoming the lead machinist.

In 1978, Richard moved to a duplex, and after meeting his new neighbor, Richard and she became fast friends. Richard and Deanna Holtkamp were married on March 5, 1988, in Chireno, Texas. They remained in Arlington for a year before moving to Irving, Texas, where they made their home and were blessed with three children. Throughout his life, Richard enjoyed deer hunting (in his youth, skipping school to do so) and later competitive fishing with Deanna (he always lost due to having to bait and remove fish from Deanna's hooks). Richard was very soft-spoken, but when he spoke, people listened. He was also a skilled craftsman and carpenter; after his retirement in 2018, Richard and Deanna built their lakefront home in Quitman. They also assisted their son, David, in building his home and their son, Eric, in remodeling his home.

His family includes his wife, Deanna, of Quitman, TX; his children: David (Emy) Peacock of Quitman, TX, Tara (Benjamin) Hardy of Fort Worth, TX, Eric Rankin of Irving, TX; siblings: Vernon (Christy) Rankin Jr. of Sugarland, TX, Karen Rankin of Timpson, TX, Charles (Belinda) Rankin of Conroe, TX; and special friend Denise Peacock of New Sharon; and many loving nieces and nephews.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents.

Richard's arrangements in Iowa have been entrusted to Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory. Celebration of Life arrangements are pending in Texas.

Tribute Wall

MC

“ Richard and I became great friends when he moved to Chireno back in the early seventies. We were in the same grade with a small class of about 15 students. We would go fishing together and catch catfish down on the river bottom just down the road from his home! We would camp out and fry up fish and French fries on the banks. I was amazed at this so called city boy from Houston knowing how to out fish and cook me day one! When we were 13 or 14 years old I had a 53 Chevrolet truck that had a bad passenger door that would open if you leaned on it. One day we were all packed in the truck and Richard was on the passenger side. When going around a corner the door flew open and out he goes. We were on a sandy dirt road and I look back to see what happened to him. He hit the ground, rolled a few times jumped up and ran and jumped in the back of the truck before I could bring it to a stop. Tough dude! We laughed all day long! Although we lost touch after graduation the fond memories I have of Richard are seared into my heart and will remain with me forever! I love you Buddy!

Mark Cruze

Mark Cruze - May 30, 2025 at 10:31 AM