



Mr. Ricky Murphy

January 5, 1959 - November 16, 2015

Ricky Murphy was born January 5, 1959 to his Mother Dorothy Ware. He passed away on Monday, November 17, 2015.

He attended Jackson City Schools and became interested in football in Junior High. He was a standout player at Jackson Central Merry High School. Upon graduation from JCM in 1978 Ricky attended University of Tennessee @ Martin and Lane College where he played football. He left Lane College and joined the United States Air Force on March 27, 1981.

On October 28, 1982 Ricky married his high school sweetheart, Gayle Denise Goodman. From this union they had three beautiful children: Ricky Lamont, Ronald Pierre and Lauren Dior Murphy.

The life that Ricky and Gayle built together was filled with Joy. High school sweethearts, traveling the world together, building a family and trusting in the Lord. Few people get to experience this type of Love, real Love the kind you pray for and celebrate. I found this photo album of Big Rick's it was filled with pictures of Gayle and it said "Destiny.... If I could sit across the porch from God I'd Thank Him for lending me You!"

Ricky loved cooking, sports, especially football and spending time with family and friends. He never met a stranger and lit up a room everywhere he went.

Ricky loved the Barkays, old school music and laughing.

Family time meant everything and he will be missed by his loving wife of 33 years, Gayle D. Murphy, his children, Ricky (Julia), Ronnie, and Lauren Murphy. His beautiful mother, Mrs. Dorothy Ware. One of the greatest loves of Ricky's life was being a grandfather of Ricky Thomas, Kaden, Kaleb, Jada, and Jade Murphy. He loved his siblings, Linda Ware, James Ware, Jimmy (Thelma)Murphy, Calvin Price, Doris Ware, and Sharon Ware. Ricky was a brother to Gayle's siblings and a son to her mother Mrs. Frances Goodman. Ronald McGhee, James Thomas (Tonya) Goodman, Cheryl (Michael) Brady. A host of nieces and nephews, cousins and other relatives are celebrating his home going but struggling with their sadness. He was preceded in death by a grandmother Mrs. Mary White, a sister Ms. Gloria Murphy and his father in love Mr. James T. Goodman Jr.

In the words of "Big Rick" Don't pity me I know where I am going. Get yourself ready!

Cemetery Details

Middle Tennessee Veterans Cemetery

7931 McCrory Lane
Nashville, TN 37221

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **19**. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home, Inc.
807 N. Hays Avenue
Jackson, TN 38301
(731) 427-7411
info@stephenson-shaw.com
<https://www.stephenson-shaw.com>

Service

NOV **20**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Berean Baptist Church
214 North Royal Street
Jackson, TN 38301

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Ricky Murphy*

January 28, 2023 at 12:37 PM



“ *Murph is one of my first memories of the Air Force. His big smile and knowing that he was always there. Even after his retirement, he and his family took in my toddler and I when we had to leave for hurricane evacuation. I still find myself loudly announcing "Good morning my fellow Americans" when I come into work in the mornings. My heart and prayers go out to his family, whom I miss dearly.*

Candace (Weber) Wagner

Candace Wagner - November 23, 2015 at 08:55 AM



“ *My prayers go out to Mrs. Gayle and the family. I met Big Rick at West Station Post Office in 2008. He had the most upbeat personality. Kept A smile on his face and always had something encouraging to say. Big Rick will truly be missed*



crystal - November 19, 2015 at 09:02 PM

HD

“ Howard and Tina Hicks (Washington DC) purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Mr. Ricky Murphy .



Howard and Tina Hicks (Washington DC) - November 19, 2015 at 08:38 PM



“ We are deeply saddened by the news of Big Rick’s passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Murphy family. I have so many fond memories of the times I spent together with you Murphy’s in Cali. May your many memories of Big Rick help to sustain you at this most difficult time. As the days and weeks pass, and as you return to life’s routine, may you continue to feel comforted by the love and support of family and friends.
As my dearly departed dad (Harry Hicks) use to say, “a person that departs from this earth never truly leaves, for they are still alive in our hearts and minds, through us, they live on”.

Please accept our heartfelt condolences, BIG RICK you will not be forgotten Bruh!

Tina and Howard Hicks

Howard Hicks - November 19, 2015 at 07:41 PM

RJ

Went through Basic and Tech School with Murph and 1st station in OKC. Was my best friend in the military and unfortunately we lost touch. Looked for him in Jackson as I went there often as truck driver. May he rest in peace.

Randy Jones - February 10, 2023 at 03:06 PM

ST

“ *Shelia Tope sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Ricky Murphy*



Shelia Tope - November 19, 2015 at 01:33 AM

ST

A Big Red Heart in memory of Big Ricks Big Heart. RIP Big Guy

Shelia Tope - November 19, 2015 at 01:35 AM

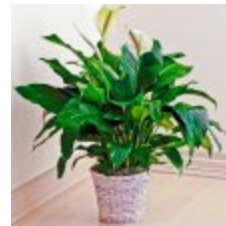
ST

“ *My heartfelt condolences to the Murphy family. I worked with Big Rick as we all called him at West Post Office. He was always smiling no matter what was going on in his life. He loved the Lord, and I know he is up in heaven, making it a better place. Heaven gained a wonderful loving person. I will miss him so much. Praying you will lean on God in your time of sorrow. Rick always said when God calls me home I am ready. RIP Big Rick. God Bless you. Shelia Tope Nashville TN*

Shelia Tope - November 19, 2015 at 01:20 AM

TF

“ *The Robert "Butterbean" Goodman Family purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Mr. Ricky Murphy .*



The Robert "Butterbean" Goodman Family - November 18, 2015 at 10:24 PM

WS

“ Murph, I am SO thankful we got to see you during your last visit and God allowed me to come get my "meat sandwich!" I still smile when I remember the autographed football you gave me for my 40th birthday. How you got Babe Ruth, Muhammad Ali and Michael Jordan to sign it is a testament to your skill and ingenuity!

You are genuinely a good man and friend who always had a bright smile and a kind word for everyone you encountered. You are loved and missed! Rest in peace, my Brother!

Stro, Hayley, Tabatha, Will, TJ and Nou Nou

Will Strozier - November 18, 2015 at 08:30 PM

L(

“ "BIG RICK".....I really have no words. You were a great person to know and I am blessed to just have known you the few years that I did. You always had a smile on your face and nothing bad to say no matter what was going on around you. You kept your head up and spirits high through this battle and I looked to you for your strength and encouraging words thru this fight we were dealing with. I would give anything to see you walk thru those doors at the post office and yell out "Good morning my peoples!". We all smiled when you walked in the building. You will be truly missed. My deepest prayers go out to your dear wife and family. May God hold her hands through out this time and keep her covered. For she knows you have no more pain. Keep smiling.....



LaToya Holt (West) - November 18, 2015 at 08:03 PM



“ Sorry for loss.god have gain an angel.you got your wings



Martha Parks Ross Carter - November 18, 2015 at 06:19 PM

MB

“ Big Rick, although I retired last March, I haven't forgotten the mountain of a man in every way, that always had a positive outlook on life and his fellow man. I am very proud and enriched to have known you and to have worked along side you for many years. My heart is heavy for your family and your loving wife whom I got to meet some time ago when delivering a storm door to your home. You will be sorely missed and the world will seem to be a little less without you in it. My condolences to your family and I will try to make it to Jackson.

Your friend always,
Mark Brockman, SFC (Ret)

Mark Brockman - November 18, 2015 at 05:43 PM

GN

“ George Dannibale(West Nashville) purchased the Love's Embrace Roses – Purple for the family of Mr. Ricky Murphy .



George Dannibale(West Nashville) - November 18, 2015 at 12:51 PM

WF

“ Willard "Stro" & Hayley Strozierl and Family purchased the Fields of Europe for the family of Mr. Ricky Murphy .



Willard "Stro" & Hayley Strozierl and Family - November 18, 2015 at 11:25 AM

DM

“ Ricky, you have been a joy to be around since high school. I remember (laughing at) you wearing a denim jumpsuit with a zipper down the front. Thank you for always having a welcoming spirit and a positive word. I always enjoyed being a part of the home, family and life you and Gayle built together. I thank God for your 33 years of marriage, your children and grandchildren. You were an awesome man, always taking care of family and full of wisdom. I know God is saying, " Well done good and faithful servant". With respect, love and admiration, I salute you. Your memory will live on forever.

Deanea Mercer - November 17, 2015 at 08:21 PM

SS

“ God's blessings and peace to you all. Sally Diffee Slack

Sally D Slack - November 17, 2015 at 06:10 PM