



**Homegoing  
Celebration**

**in loving memory of**

**Richard Damon Kidd**

Friday, January 21, 2022

The Dayton Steam Plant, Dayton, Ohio

# Service of Celebration

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**Processional**..... Clergy, Family, & Friends

**Musical Prelude** ..... Frances Rene Pate

**Prayer**..... Pastor John Edward Kidd

**Scripture Reading**..... Pastor John Edward Kidd

Old Testament ..... Psalms 23:1-6

New Testament..... John 14:1-6

## **Tributes & Reflections**

Please limit your remarks to 2 minutes

## **Obituary**

You are invited to read silently

**Eulogy** ..... Reverend Dr. Earl Harris

**Musical Selection**..... Frances Rene Pate

## **Recessional**

The interment will follow the service of celebration at  
Woodland Cemetery, 118 Woodland Avenue, Dayton, Ohio.

Even for the dead I will not bind my soul to grief;  
Death cannot long divide.  
For is it not as though the rose that climbed  
my garden wall  
Has blossomed on the other side?  
Death does hide,  
But not divide;  
You are but on Christ's other side!  
You are with Christ, and Christ with me;  
In Christ united still are we.

## Pallbearers

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Devin Johnson

DeAndre Thomas

David Rutledge

JaMon Gaskins

John Riazzi

Thomas Smith

## Flower Bearers

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Friends of the Family

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## Psalm 23:1-6

### A psalm of David.

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd,  
I lack nothing.
- <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
<sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul.  
He guides me along the right paths  
for his name's sake.
- <sup>4</sup> Even though I walk  
through the darkest valley,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.
- <sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.
- <sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love  
will follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD  
forever.

## John 14:1-6

### Jesus Comforts His Disciples

<sup>1</sup> “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup> You know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

# Richard Damon Kidd

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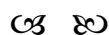
On August 6, 1965,  
as the sun rose brightly,  
the world welcomed  
**Richard Damon Kidd.**

On that day the world  
became a little brighter  
and a little better.

Nearly two weeks ago, Monday, January 10, 2022, Richard took his final breath, surrounded by his family. Although his life was cut short, he filled it with laughter, kindness, and service to his community.

Rich never met a stranger, and he was constantly on the move. Sometimes a five-minute conversation was all he could spare. Nonetheless, he instantly had that almost irresistible, sometimes mischievous, but always incredible smile for anyone he met. His personality and charm were magnetic and once you knew him, you were sure never to forget him. He will be fondly remembered and forever missed.

Rich is survived by his parents John Kidd and Sarah Roberts who both were remarried and gave Rich the gift of stepparents. Sandra, the wife of John, and Dennis, the husband of Sarah. Rich was one of a set of two twins. He is survived by his twin sister, Roxanne Kidd-Cooley, and twin siblings, sister, Sonya Kidd and brother, John Kidd, his sister, Kyasa Mills (Larry), and Susan Williams (Shye) and Pam Roberts. While he never married, his love for family guided him to pursue legal adoption which gave him the opportunity to bring his son, Phillip, as well as his siblings into his life whom he met while volunteering at Adventure Central. He was also a surrogate father to Jonathan Powell and Max Kidd (Phillip's younger brother) who he graciously shared his namesake with. In addition to Jonathan and Max, he affectionally adopted in heart, spirit and service many young boys over the past 25 years who fondly referred to him as "Uncle Rich." Rich is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, and grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his maternal and paternal grandparents and his brothers JaMon Gaskins and Dennis Roberts.



After graduating from Patterson Co-Op High School in 1983, Rich went on to study carpentry, which led him to the Carpenter Apprentice Program at the Miami Valley Carpenter's Union – Local #136 kicking off a career in skilled trades. He possessed a solid background in general maintenance and a strong mechanical aptitude, with knowledge of building technology, construction, electrical systems, carpentry, painting, and plumbing. In 1997, Rich was employed as a carpenter for Dayton Public Schools and was responsible for all maintenance and facilities districtwide, which included 150,000 sq. ft. in each educational facility in the district. In 2007, he became the Maintenance Department Supervisor and Carpentry Shop Foreman.

Richard had a tireless work ethic, an eye for quality, and a disdain for mediocrity. He was a perfectionist in his work and took pride in his craft. He had high expectations for himself and all with whom he was involved. He set a high bar of accountability when dealing with clients and with those he mentored. He understood the importance of team and collaboration and knew so much more could be achieved when people worked together.

This was evident as he coached students on the basketball court at Chaminade-Julienne High School. Rich loved sports, especially basketball. He was extremely proud of his position as Assistant Coach at CJ and enjoyed the opportunity to put both his knowledge of basketball to good use, as well as his mentoring skills. He was intentional and constantly striving to bring out the best in his team to accomplish goals, win games, and build character.

Rich coached on and off the court and not just at CJ. He tutored and provided homework assistance to youth in an afterschool program at the Adventure Central Youth Center. He was an Intervention Specialist at the Diversion Alternatives for Youth and mentored young people after school.

He had an extraordinary gift of being able to catch the attention of students who needed a bit of encouragement, inspiration, or direction. His way of getting them to listen and convincing them to realize their best selves was exceptional. Rich's imprint on so many young lives throughout the years will be his true legacy. The guidance, discipline, encouragement, and inspiration he gave will inevitably have a profound impact on this community for years to come.

Aside from basketball and mentoring, Rich loved working with wood and was intrigued by the beauty and artistry of fine craftsmanship. One of his greatest pleasures was looking for and acquiring antique pieces of furniture. He traveled all over Ohio looking for pieces that quenched his curiosity. He was fascinated with old architecture, which is what sparked his interest in real estate in the Dayton area. He enjoyed restoring and renovating pieces of property.

Richard became quite the businessman while still maintaining his carpentry responsibilities in the public school system. In 1991, he established Rich Investments, LLC in Dayton, a business of which he was the owner and sole proprietor. This business allowed him to develop plans and renovate institutional, retail, and various commercial and residential buildings. He managed and supervised design, development, and the implementation of several residential renovations. He completed several commercial and carpentry projects for companies or organizations such as: Coates Vision Center, Uniform Ways, Nationwide Insurance Company, and Chaminade-Julienne High School.

Since 2017, Rich has partnered with businessman and entrepreneur, John Riazzi to manage and operate the Dayton Steam Plant. Rich provided leadership for the complete renovation of this beautiful facility, inclusive of determining the overall plan for implementing project requirements, developing time schedules for each phase of the work, inspecting the condition of the building, and scheduling continued maintenance. The Dayton Steam Plant is a premier facility for hosting weddings, group celebrations, and for area companies and organizations including Premier Health, Wright State University, Dayton Children's, the Humane Society, Red Cross, and many others. Rich supervised the facility's team to ensure that all events were coordinated and managed on time and in alignment with customer expectations.



A foundation will soon be established in Richard's name to honor the selfless devotion he gave to mentoring young men in our community who needed direction, support, and encouragement on their journey to adulthood. We will update you on that endeavor as soon as plans are finalized. You are encouraged to donate to this foundation in Rich's honor as an alternative to flowers.

## **ETERNAL LOVE**

I hear your laughter loud and clear  
But yet, there are so many tears.  
I feel your presence,  
It gives me inner peace.  
Somehow, it's still hard to receive.  
You have gone so far away.  
I feel so hurt that you could not stay.  
Watching down on us from up above  
Soaring high like a majestic dove.  
I'm on my knees pleading  
PLEASE Lord, bring him back to me.  
Richard, your love is scattered everywhere.  
I can feel it in the air,  
It is the imprint that you have left on our hearts.

## **Acknowledgements**

The family gratefully acknowledges with heartfelt appreciation the generous acts of love and kindness extended to them during the life and transition of Richard Damon Kidd. May God bless each of you.



Arrangements by Roberts Funeral Home, Dayton, Ohio