



Richard W. Fannin

August 6, 1945 - March 16, 2018

Richard Warren Fannin, 72, transitioned into the arms of His Lord on Friday, March 16, 2018. Born in Oakridge, TN, he was a long time resident of Northwest Indiana, having lived in Merrillville for the last 35 of those years. He served his country in the U. S. Air Force during the Viet Nam era. After his honorable discharge he settled in NWI and became a union Pipefitter through Local 597, having worked mainly through McCartin-McAuliffe Mechanical at Inland Steel. Affectionately known a 'Toby Ray', he retired in 2000 but never really retired. He enjoyed his flowers, traveling, home projects and several different jobs. Some that he enjoyed was shuttling for Coach USA to Midway and O'Hare airports, delivering orders for BerylMartin, delivery of parts for CarQuest and driving 'hiking' for Mike Anderson Chevrolet. Doing for others and giving from his heart was a true passion for him.

He is survived by his wife, help-mate and love of 36 years, Karen; 4 children, Paul (Sherry) Fannin of Elgin, IL, Heather (Victor) Orizaba of Lombard, IL, Janell Fannin of Elgin, IL and Michael (Megan) Cesare of Union Twp.

Valparaiso, IN; 8 grandchildren Emerald (Joseph) Garcia, Nicolette , Lillian and Sarah Fannin, Paul Henry Orizaba, Oliver, Liam and Grayson Cesare, 1 great-grandchild, Karsyn; sisters, Janice Wright of Portsmouth, OH and Brenda (Steven) Fitch of Columbus, OH; sisters-in-law, Kathy (Daris) Raico of Portage, IN, Jerri (Kevin) Toth of Cedar Lake, IN, Janet (Thomas) Schierlinger of Houston, TX; brothers-in-law, David (Jennifer) Groebner of Lowell, IN and James (Julie) Groebner of Portage, IN; many much-loved nieces, nephews

and extended family members, countless friends and co-laborers in Christ. Rich is predeceased by parents, Ernst Paul and Lillian Fannin; sisters and their spouses, Helen (Ralph) McKenzie, Betty Lou (James) Goodman; brother Tunas Fannin, special niece (sister) Carol Rose Meixner; brother-in-law, Luther Wright along with mother-in-law and father-in-law Patricia and Harry Groebner.

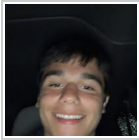
There will be a memorial celebration on Sunday, April 15, 2018 at the Family Life Center, 7950 Marshall St., Merrillville, IN at 1:30 pm-4:30 pm. Bright colors and jeans are the suggested attire.www.burnsfuneral.com

Tribute Wall

AM

“ Goodbyes are not forever..and it's not the end...It simply means..We will miss you greatly Uncle Richard❤️
Until we meet again! You are loved
Kevin & Angela

Angela McKenzie - March 25, 2018 at 04:54 PM



“ My papaw would do anything for others to be happy. I even remember when he would make the trip out all the way to Illinois just to watch an hour long football game were I barely played. He was there to support me and make me feel like I could make him proud every time I went in. These are the things that made my papaw who he was. I miss you and your always in my heart.



Pablo Orizaba - March 25, 2018 at 10:24 AM

JF

You DID make him proud. Always and all ways. You are a wonderful grandson, son, nephew, cousin and person.

Janell Fannin - April 08, 2018 at 02:11 AM

BN

“ *Uncle Richard was such a wonderful, loving, caring and giving person. He was such an example of Christ and His love. I know that when our Dad passed away, Uncle Richard stepped in for my brother and sisters, He was always there for us, in good times and in bad. He never failed to encourage us and pray for us. We will miss you Uncle Richard, but it makes me so happy to know you are worshipping in the presence of the Lord! No more pain, no more sorrow but an eternity to dance before Jesus !We will see you soon!!*

Beth Novina - March 24, 2018 at 09:47 PM

CC

“ *Richard, a warrior in the kingdom of God, with the heart of a lion, who never back down, never gave up, and never compromised the word of God, or what he believed in. There are few in this world I would call friend,, but Rich was definitely one of those few and not only friend but brother in Christ. He was always there for me, even when I was not there for myself. Thank-you Father God, for the privilege and honor of knowing this Awesome man of God! Love and miss you buddy ! P's Go rest high upon that mountain, son your work on this earth is through. Go to Heaven a shoutin" praise to the Father and the Son!*

Charlie Carter - March 24, 2018 at 02:48 PM

DC

“ It is so unbelievable to me that Uncle Rich is gone. He leaves a large hole in our family that could never be replaced. So thankful that our family is close and that I have fond (and hilarious) memories of him. Like taking the boys out on the scariest car rides in the hills haha! He wanted to make sure the men coming into this family knew those hills haha. Poor Victor and Alex!! Uncle Rich, Uncle Jimmy, Uncle Luther and my dad were the story tellers and jokers of our family. Now these characters are together again making noise in heaven I am sure haha! Rest In Peace Uncle Rich, we love you & miss you always!!
Love - Danielle & Alex Rose

Danielle Crim-Rose - March 23, 2018 at 11:07 PM

MJ

“ Uncle Richard was not only a wonderful Uncle, but he was also my friend. I will miss him more than words can say. Just feel blessed to know it's not over. I will see him again. Love you, Uncle Richard!

Martha Jo - March 23, 2018 at 10:42 PM

BF

“ Besides giving me way too many " knuckle sandwiches " when we were kids, I knew I could always count on my brother in times of trouble. He was such a rock for all of us when Carol was so desperately ill. He always stepped up to the plate to do whatever needed to be done. Will miss him , never forget him, cherish the good times, and never stop wishing he was still here with us not just st in spirit ! ❤️

Brenda Fitch - March 23, 2018 at 04:23 PM