



Richard F. Nicholson

September 23, 1967 - July 19, 2022

Richard F. Nicholson II, age 54, of Plymouth & East Tawas, MI, passed away July 19, 2022. He was born on September 23, 1967, in Belleville, the first child of Richard (Beverly) Nicholson and Patricia Jakimowicz Nicholson. Surviving is his wife, Andrea Nicholson; his children Rachel (Victor) Orozco, Rebecca Nicholson, Thomas Nicholson, Elizabeth (Brett) McKee, Joshua Polka, Darren Polka and Ryan Nicholson; his sister, Michelle (Jeff) Lee; his brother James (Rosemary) Nicholson; his niece, Riley Nicholson; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Rich always talked fondly about his childhood growing up on Anne Street in Allen Park. He had so much fun with the countless neighborhood children who lived on the same street. The group always gathered to play a large variety of activities, usually with Rich in charge. Curb ball and street hockey being his personal favorites.

Rich attended the University of Michigan, while he also worked behind the counter at Thunderbowl Lanes. At the same time, he played for the Canadian Junior Hockey League for several years and his ice time took him to several different rinks throughout Michigan and Canada. When his older body could no longer compete with the more youthful and agile players, he switched over to coaching for many years. After much time working the lanes at Thunderbowl, he then worked for McCulley Tools delivering supplies to countless construction sites. Before obtaining a degree, he was hired by Chrysler Corp. and then Ceva Logistics. After corporate downsizing, Rich

enjoyed working alongside his wife in several facets, lastly at Trainyard Tech. In addition, he was a devoted and loved coach of the Plymouth High School bowling team for several years. After his cancer diagnosis, he was forced into early retirement so that he could focus on his health.

Rich loved family time and simply hanging out with his wife and children. Although he was not the biological father to all of his kids, he loved them as if they were his own. He also found great joy in spoiling his beloved puppies, Zoey & Abby. Game nights were extra special. He excelled in Pinochle and Cribbage, as well as many other card and board games.

Rich's close group of friends held a special place in his heart. The friendship, support and love they shared with him was immeasurable. He felt extremely fortunate to have them in his life. He enjoyed the time spent together with each and every one of them.

Traveling was by far Rich's favorite pastime, cruising was at the top of that list. His travels took him to many destinations across the globe. He was lucky enough to cross off many places on his bucket list.

Rich's home on Cranberry Pike in East Tawas, MI was where he was the happiest. A perfect day included him being on Tawas Lake with a fishing pole in his hand. Catching "a keeper" was just an added bonus.

Rich enjoyed watching the Detroit Red Wings but he was a passionate fan of the Boston Bruins. He also enjoyed watching Michigan football and yelling at the TV during a Detroit Lions game.

Rich also enjoyed swinging his clubs on the golf course. He was thrilled that he was able to share his love for the game with his family and friends. The informal golf scrambles and competitions brought him much pleasure.

Being a bowling coach obviously came from many years of experience bowling himself. Although Rich never bowled a 300, he bowled two 298 games. And 796 was his high 3-game series.

In addition, he liked watching tv, especially war documentaries, anything sci-fi and his daily Wheel of Fortune fix. His day would come to a close with an episode of Hogan's Heroes. He also enjoyed playing games on his tablet,

going for bike rides along the lake, sipping on an ice cold can of Coca-Cola and taking Zoey & Abby for walks.

There will be a celebration of his life to be held Saturday, July 30th 12 noon – 3 PM at the family home at 10111 Wolfriver Drive, Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the Nicholson Children's Fund c/o Andrea Nicholson. To share a memory, please use the Share a Memory tab on this webpage.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL **30**. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Nicholson Home
10111 Wolfriver Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard F. Nicholson*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM

MJ

“ We will light a candle for Rich on the day and time of his celebration
♥ We wanted to share the following for his memoriam:

To our dear Rich,

*Some years ago we met you and Andrea on a cruise
A friendship immediately arose*

*The funniest table we had
And you were an amusing lad*

*We were sad leaving you and your friends
Thinking "here the story ends"*

*Two years later faith made us again meet on a ship
Which led to a decision together to book a new trip*

*Corona and illness stopped our seeing each other again
But in January this year we couldn't complain*

*We were happy to spend a week with you and your wife
And learning to know you as a person full of life*

*You never seemed to be sad, being with you made us happy. We
learnt to know you as an intelligent, caring, generous, friendly and
amusing person. We are lucky to have learnt to know you and will
always remember you with love. We will miss you!*

*Rest in peace,
Marina and Jan
(Cruising Friends from Sweden)*

Marina and Jan - July 27, 2022 at 08:36 PM

MC

“ I was fortunate to have met Rich back on 1990 working at Thunderbowl, my 1st job and Rich was my manager. Great guy, we both loved hockey and even playing it in the park on Sunday afternoons. We lost touch after I left Thunderbowl but once again in 2018 our paths crossed as I managed BowlersMart inside Super Bowl Lanes. Rich was a coach for one of the High School bowling teams, one thing I can say is Rich was always outgoing, willing to help anyone and he did it the right way NEVER expecting anything in return. He loved coaching, he loved bowling his passion for the kids was unmatched! I remember him bringing all his kids in to see me even when I moved out to 14 mile rd. I will miss the person Rich was, he was always great company and he was a genuine man! - Mike Calhoun

Mike Calhoun - July 26, 2022 at 06:04 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard F. Nicholson.

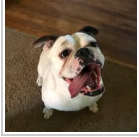


July 26, 2022 at 12:21 AM

SK

“ I was lucky to get to know Rich when we coached Plymouth together. I always enjoyed our conversations (and occasional “spirited debates”) about bowling and coaching. :) A very fine man who will be missed. I hope the family finds some solace that he can now rest.

scott kapke - July 21, 2022 at 10:38 AM



“ I definitely remember Richie being the organizer of all the goings on. You know now things wouldn't have been as fun without his organizational skills. I remember the year the movie Stripes came out and for the rest of the summer Richie marched everywhere singing the army marching song, we got really sick of hearing it. Rest in peace Richie.

Cheryl Simon Drys - July 19, 2022 at 07:31 PM

NM

“ Rich was seriously the best bowling coach. I learned a lot about bowling and coaching from Rich. I honestly believe I became a better bowler because of him. I'm so sorry for your loss. This hurt me just as much.

Nicki Marshall - July 19, 2022 at 04:54 PM

RN

“ Memories gathered around the table playing games.. board games and card games. Outdoor gatherings playing bocce ball! We will hold these memories close. Rest easy Rich

Rosemary Nicholson - July 19, 2022 at 02:58 PM