



Jackie Hollis Richardson

November 15, 1939 - May 29, 2024

Jackie Hollis Richardson, age 84, of Russellville, passed from this life on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, at Huntsville Hospital.

A native of Franklin County, Jackie graduated from Russellville High School in 1957 along with his twin brother, Johnny. He had a contractual offer in football and played semi-pro football for the Russellville Rebels team, proudly wearing the #50 jersey. He was a florist by trade and was recognized as a state designer, being designated Florist of the Year for the State of Alabama in 1963. He was honored with the opportunity to make the State of Alabama floral arrangement for the grave of John F. Kennedy. Later, having moved to Jefferson County, Alabama, Jackie was a partner in Colonial Carpet and Interiors in Concord, Alabama. Also, in his time in Jefferson County, he enjoyed coaching little league football in Ensley and then coaching high school football at West Jefferson High School. For many years he took great pleasure in hosting an annual wild game supper. People came from far and near to enjoy the wide variety of dishes he prepared.

His life's work and greatest achievement, however, was as a preacher of the Gospel. He started preaching at a young age, first filling in and then speaking for several congregations. Early on, he helped establish the church at Valley View Church of Christ in Walker County and later, the Black Creek Church of Christ in Jefferson County. Through the years, he preached for congregations at Ligon Springs, Valley View, Fairfield Highlands, Black Creek, Belgreen, and Phil Campbell-finally returning to Belgreen where he retired after many years

of preaching. He also served in another way-building. He and his crew built over 50 buildings for congregations all around the country.

In 1980, he started Rustic Youth which remained one of his passions. He enjoyed his time at the Rustic Youth Camp and worked hard at the camp. He loved spending time with his friends and family and wanted only the best for them, here, and more importantly, in the eternity that is to come. He was also involved in his community through serving on the RC&D Council and the Advisory Council for Helen Keller Hospital.

He was preceded in death by his parents, H.H. and Jewel Mae (Vaden) Richardson; sister, Sybil Hedden; and brothers, Johnny, Bobby, and Billy Richardson.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife of 64 years, Bunny Norris Richardson; children, Scott Richardson (Sheila) and Lei-anne Hester (Jack); grandchildren, Stefan Richardson, Brandon Hester (Megan), Brock Hester (Kelley), Gavin Richardson; great-grandchildren, Grady Hester, Jase Hester, McKenzie Hester, Baylor Hester, Ellie Hester; sister, Peggy Ashburner Jones; and sister-in-law Nell Richardson and a host of nieces and nephews.

The visitation will be 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Monday, June 03, 2024, at Spry Memorial Chapel in Russellville. The funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. in the funeral home chapel. Van Cooper, Eric Hedden, Terry Benton, George Hutto, Gary Carter, and James Roy will speak at the service. The burial will be at Knights of Pythias Cemetery with no graveside service. Jackie's grandsons and nephews will serve as the pallbearers. The honorary pallbearers will be the men of Belgreen Church of Christ and the Board of Rustic Youth Camp.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the many friends for your thoughts and prayers during this time. A special thanks to Dr. Brasco, Dr. Jerry Williams, Dr. Brad Cavender, and the Huntsville Hospital STICU staff.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Rustic Youth Camp at:

blog.rusticyouthcamp.org or mail to 1520 Hwy 33, Russellville, AL 35653.

Spry Memorial Chapel assisted the family. To have us sign the book for you, please free to call or to leave private condolences, please visit our website at

www.sprymemorialchapel.com.

Tribute Wall

“Brother Jackie was like a modern ?Nehemiah,? a great builder. He was a builder of the cause of Christ by faithfully preaching the gospel and by living it before others. The churches with whom he labored were blessed by his steady leadership, winning demeanor, and Scriptural teaching.

Jackie was a builder of church meeting places. He effectively used his knowledge of building and his ability to organize and delegate work, to assist numerous churches throughout the United State in acquiring or adding on to their meetings places. It was my privilege to work side by side with him in many of those projects (Laws Hill, MS, Gulfport, MS, Moulton, AL, Fayetteville, NC, Gadsden, AL, Fayetteville, AK, and in Florence, AL where I was laboring as an evangelist at the time. Jackie and his crew enabled us to expand the building by adding a new auditorium where the saints there continue to meet to this day. Typically, after he had made his building assignments to the crew, he would say ?Felker, come with me.? And he would show me how to lay out the framing for the buildings. I learned so much from him that has continued to bless me throughout my life.

Jackie was builder of camps. It is hard to imagine how many hours he spent in building the facilities at Rustic Youth Camp. Some of the happiest days of my life were in the experiences of working with him as well as others he had recruited from time to time to build and improve the facilities there. It was a privilege to work not only with Jackie, but with other good men like Johnnie Richardson, Harold Young, Raymond Harville, Richard Roper, Hubert Black and many others who are no longer with us. They all gave their time to help Jackie achieve his vision of Rustic Youth Camp as well as the aforementioned church buildings.

Jackie was a builder of people. He was a source of guidance and encouragement to the thousands of young people that participated in his camps including my own children. And he was a source of encouragement to me as a fellow-evangelist.

He has left his impress upon so many of us by his servant-leadership. I will always be grateful for his friendship and fellowship in the gospel. I am grateful for the grace of God that worked in him;

and I am grateful that there awaits him ?a city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God? (Heb. 11:10). Until the day we join him, ?let us arise and build? (Neh. 2:18).

Johnny Felker - June 02, 2024 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *My condolences to the Richardson family, in the passing of Jackie. My pleasant memories of both Jackie and wife Bunny have now well passed the five-decade mark. When death takes our loved ones, who have died in Christ, comfort is felt, by the great and wonderful promises revealed in Holy Writ, such as " Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them" Rev. 14:12-13. My best wishes, thoughts and prayers. Don*

Don Craven - May 31, 2024 at 12:00 AM

CH

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Chris - May 30, 2024 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ *The pic of Jackie and Johnny that Chris tried to send*

Lei-anne - May 30, 2024 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ I had wanted to meet this cousin. I am sorry he has passed from this earthly life before I could make another visit to the South. Rest in Peace.



Jackie Hollis Richardson 1939-2024 3rd cousin 1x removed (half)

Harris Henry Richardson 1908-1990, father of Jackie Hollis Richardson

Robert Jesse Richardson 1851-1941, father of Harris Henry Richardson

R. Catherine Jones 1833-1919, mother of Robert Jesse Richardson
Jesse Jones 1796-1856 (my GGG-Grandfather), father of R. Catherine Jones

(her mother was Rhoda Bolton--Jesse's 2nd wife)

Dianna M. Jones 1824-1910 (my GG Grandmother, wife of A.T. Bonds),

daughter of Jesse Jones (her mother was Jane Horton, Jesse's 1st wife)

Bryce M. Bonds 1863-1939, son of Dianna M. Jones

William Lewis Bonds 1894-1956, son of Bryce M. Bonds

Dinah E. Bonds, daughter of William Lewis Bonds

Brian C. McNeil, son of Dinah Elizabeth Bonds

Brian C. McNeil - May 30, 2024 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ Love the Richardson family so sorry for your loss will keep you all in our prayers

Rodney and Judy Jones - May 30, 2024 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ I'm reminded of the book, "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie." Everything Jackie did affected so much more than anyone but God could have known. Because of RYC, I'm a Christian today, and my life has impacted so many others, including my two Christian sons. I'm forever grateful for the love and sacrifice that the Richardson family (and extended "family") has made, and will always hold Jackie in my heart as one of those witnesses who surrounds us in Hebrews. Lots of love to the whole family. Can't wait until we can meet forever with never a tear to shed!

Chrystal Smith - May 29, 2024 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Lei-Anne, Scott and family. We are out of town but our hearts are there with you both and your families. There are not enough words to describe your dad! He was the best! Love to you all and you are in our prayers. 💎

Ray and Judy Williams - May 29, 2024 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Jackie and Johnny

Chris Richardson - May 29, 2024 at 12:00 AM