



Dr. Richard James Beck

May 10, 1945 - March 17, 2018

Dr. Richard Beck, 72 of Carbondale, passed away on Saturday, March 17, 2018 in Heartland Regional Hospital.

He was born on May 10, 1945 to James and Florence Beck in Madison, WI.

Richard married Pilar Torres on August 31, 1968. They shared 49 years of marriage.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army National Guard.

Dr. Beck received his doctorate in Rehabilitation Counseling Psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1987 in the field in which he worked all of his life, which was rehabilitation counseling. He also earned a Master of Science degree at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in Educational Psychology, and a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Political Science.

Dr. Beck retired due to illness from severe heart condition from Southern Illinois University in 2003, where he was an Associate Professor in Rehabilitation Counseling. His specialty was the psychological management of chronic pain. He always believed that the field of rehabilitation counseling

was a promise unfulfilled to persons with disabilities, because the American society in which it was practiced did not devote the resources needed to enable it to help the disabled. And in the case of the practice of rehabilitation counseling in the private sector, he believed that counselors became glorified claims managers who helped insurers to avoid paying permanent and total disability claims. His 1987 dissertation research documents this belief.

Dr. Beck's interest included music and reading. He played classical guitar, jazz guitar and mandolin. He read extensively in various subjects, but his special area was history, particularly Civil War history, since his great-grandfather was a Wisconsin volunteer who fought with Sherman's Army of the Tennessee in Sherman's March to the Sea. He loved oil painting, with an emphasis on nature and oceans.

Dr. Beck would like his epitaph to be a quote from the song "You are my Special Angel" by Bobby Helms, especially the phrase: "the Lord smiled down on me and sent an Angel to love" which he took to refer to his beloved wife, Pilar.

Dr. Beck is survived by his loving wife, Pilar Beck; his children, Joseph W. Beck and Cristina Lashbrook; two grandchildren, Mark Provo and Morgan Lashbrook; two brothers, Ronald Beck and James Beck, both of Fountain Hills, AZ; other relatives and many friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents; three infants; a brother, Robert and sister, Margaret.

Funeral Services for Dr. Richard Beck will be Monday, April 2, 2018 at 7:00 pm in Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home. Military Rites will be accorded.

Visitation will be from 5:00 pm until the hour of service.

Cremation rites will be accorded following the services.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Richard James Beck*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Liala Slaise lit a candle in memory of Dr. Richard James Beck*



Liala Slaise - August 02, 2018 at 10:01 AM



“ *Bobbi Bischke lit a candle in memory of Dr. Richard James Beck*



Bobbi Bischke - April 08, 2018 at 06:56 PM

BB

“ To My Dear Friends, Pili and Richard, I'm so saddened to hear of Richard's passing. We have been friends for over 35 years and even though we live miles apart, I'm so happy that we've kept in touch and remained close. I've always looked forward to our visits and have enjoyed the laughter and songs we've shared over the years. You are such genuine, caring, loving people and I am honored to know you and share life's journey with you. Pili, Joe and Cristi, I know your hearts are broken. I pray that you reach out to friends and family you have around you and spend time doing special things together. My thoughts are with you and they will never be far from the love you share. Love, Your Forever Friend, Bobbi

Bobbi Bischke - April 08, 2018 at 06:55 PM

CS

“ Cynthia S. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Dr. Richard James Beck.



Cynthia S. - April 03, 2018 at 02:46 PM

RM

“ Dr. Beck it was a Honor and a hoot to be a student of your classes. Also, I was honored to have you as a great friend. You shared great knowledge we me. Thank you Dr. Beck one of the three amegos, your friend Bobby

Robert E. McCain - April 02, 2018 at 03:29 PM

PK

“ *Phyllis Khaaliq lit a candle in memory of Dr. Richard James Beck*



Phyllis Khaaliq - April 02, 2018 at 03:22 PM

PP

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Paola Premuda-Conti - March 29, 2018 at 08:16 PM

PP

“ *Paola Premuda-Conti lit a candle in memory of Dr. Richard James Beck*



Paola Premuda-Conti - March 29, 2018 at 07:29 PM

PP

“ *Querido Ricardo,*

You were an unconventional and wise professor. More than fifteen years after being in your class, I still remember the knowledge you passed on. You formed generations of rehabilitation counselors. That is part of your legacy too. I will miss you very much. You and Pily opened your home to me and other international students and make us feel welcome and appreciated.

Hasta siempre,

Paola Premuda-Conti



Paola Premuda-Conti - March 29, 2018 at 07:28 PM

GA

“ *Dr. Beck and I worked together many years in the SIU Rehabilitation Institute. He was always one of my favorite colleagues and always put the needs and feelings of others above everything else. I always admired his willingness to find a solution to what ever we were confronted with. I hope that his children and grandchildren know of his generosity. I know Pilar will miss him always and was a great asset to Richard. Dr. Gary and Jan Austin.*

Gary Austin - March 27, 2018 at 06:19 PM

DL

Dr. Richard J. Beck. Among my many professors, He has made the greatest impact on my life and academic development. He was always a positive influence regardless of the situation. I'm grateful to have learned from teachings, personal philosophy, and his life examples!! He was indeed a man of substance!! I shall cherish his remembrance forevermore!! I feel very grateful that he was my professor, mentor and friend. On Race relations. He quoted that "the only thing in this world that is biased Free is Music ". He was a Good man to me! May peace be with his family during your time!! Job Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant". I miss you already!! Love ya much!

Dr. Phillip D. Lewis

Dr. Phillip Lewis - April 02, 2018 at 06:49 PM



“*Dad I love you and will always miss you. I know we did not talk alot. When we did we laughed about Bob Dylan and his music. Mom use to make fun of Bob Dylan and we laughed about it. You loved your Grandkids and they loved you alot. I know you are probably playing Guitar singing to Brandy, Cookie, Cocoa and Snooky. I know you are looking over Mom (DreamBoat) is what you called her all the time. I will miss you singing with mom your Spanish songs. We miss you.*

Cristina Lashbrook - March 26, 2018 at 04:01 PM

CR

“ *Richard, in such a short time I have so many memories from you, Pilar, and of course Christina and Jason and family. You all have always opened your hearst and homes to me. I was part of your family. I can still see you sitting at the table and talking with me for hours, and it was like that is where I needed to be. I love your entire family they are my family. I love you and had the most up most respect for you, you always gave me good advice and the love you had for your wonderful wife Pilar, I know she has a whole in her heart, the two of you were best bud's. I love you and I will miss you more than words can say. You earned a lot of respect from many people, and I know your looking down on us today playing your guitar and singing a fvorite song. Save a place for me, I hope to see you again....I love you and I will miss you more than words can say..Thank you again Claudia*

claudia Rheinecker - March 25, 2018 at 05:01 PM

CR

“ *Claudia Rheinecker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Richard James Beck*



claudia Rheinecker - March 25, 2018 at 04:52 PM

CR

“ *Claudia Rheinecker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Richard James Beck*



claudia Rheinecker - March 25, 2018 at 04:51 PM

HA

“ *Rest In Peace, Dr. Beck. Your legacy will live on throughout the numerous counselors you trained, including me. My sympathy to the family. He was one of a kind.*

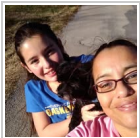
heather austin - March 24, 2018 at 08:00 AM

UF

“ *Uncle Mark, Aunt Cindy, and family purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Our Family Chain Is Broken" for the family of Dr. Richard James Beck.*



Uncle Mark, Aunt Cindy, and family - March 22, 2018 at 09:41 PM



“ *Cristina Lashbrook lit a candle in memory of Dr. Richard James Beck*



Cristina Lashbrook - March 22, 2018 at 08:40 PM

CR

“ *Richard I will miss you so much you and Pilar opened your home on many occasions for great food and conversation. Your in heaven smiling down on us.Love Claudia*

Claudia Rheinecker - March 22, 2018 at 04:58 PM