



Richard L. Hanson

February 2, 1942 - February 28, 2022

Richard L. Hanson of Fairfax, Virginia passed away on Monday, February 28, 2022. He is predeceased by his parents and brother. Richard is survived by his wife, Allena Opper, step-daughter, Hilary Dover, and two sisters.

Richard served the United States of America for over 40 years, first as a US Army soldier (1967 – 1969) and then as a contracts trial attorney for the US Air Force. While serving in Viet Nam he was twice awarded the Bronze Star Medal for ground operations against hostile forces, once as a lieutenant and once as a captain. He retired as the Deputy Chief Trial Attorney of the USAF in 2005 so that he and his wife could move to the Washington DC area. After a few years as a partner in a large DC law firm, Richard was called to serve the United States again to lead the transition of the contract litigation mission from Wright-Patterson AF Base to Andrews Joint Base. When he retired from the USAF for the second time, it was as the Air Force Chief Trial Attorney and Chief, Commercial Litigation, on 31 December 2011.

Richard spent his retirement reading and learning, playing with the family dogs, and bringing joy to others.

A graveside service to honor Richard's military service will be held at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you make a donation to the ACLU in Richard's honor. Please view and sign the family guestbook at JeffersonFuneralChapel.com

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

1 Memorial Drive
Arlington, VA 22211

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall



“ I worked on several ASBCA cases with Dick when I was the lead attorney at the Boeing Air Force Plant Representative office in the late 1970s. Dick was an astute advocate. I learned a lot about contract law litigation from him.

Jeffrey M Denson - May 15, 2024 at 06:31 PM



“ *Richard L. Hanson*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *The Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps lost an icon with the passing of Dick Hanson.*

I was not a procurement attorney and that is precisely why Dick was so important to me during our service together. His leadership of our Air Force's contract law community gave JAG Corps leadership the confidence we needed to promote and defend our nation's interests. His friendship during difficult times in my Air Force career gave me the fortitude I needed to fly through the turbulence. His determination to always do the right thing was my compass.

I join the legions of Air Force legal professionals whose lives were touched by Dick's magnificent professionalism, sense of humor, and wisdom. Rest in peace, my friend. I will always treasure our friendship.

Steve Lepper

Steve Lepper - April 07, 2022 at 02:39 PM

FE

“ I remember Dick for his patience with young attorneys (like me) who thought they knew it all. I loved his ironic sense of humor and caring attitude. He will be missed.

Frank Esposito

Frank Esposito - April 01, 2022 at 09:59 AM

DD

“ I worked with Dick on the contract trial team at WPAFB in the late 1990s. He was one of the nicest guys I have known. He always lent an ear whether to talk about a case or about anything else. He taught me a lot about patience and leadership. I will miss him.

Dan Doogan - March 28, 2022 at 11:19 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Richard L. Hanson.



March 28, 2022 at 10:01 AM

CB

“ I am so very sorry to hear of Dick's passing. I had the privilege of working with him when I was a young contracts trial attorney, cutting my teeth (AFLOA/JAQ). He was always kind, patient, and took great pride in being a mentor. He was a ray of sunshine in the office and I truly enjoyed knowing and working with him. He was an honorable man that I'm happy to have crossed paths with in this lifetime.

Christy Barry - March 28, 2022 at 09:56 AM

RM

“ I had the pleasure of serving with Dick at WPAFB when I was a young Captain on the Trial Team from 1977-1980, I also continued to interface with him during my years in the Reserves. I always looked forward to seeing him at the Year in Review in DC. He was a great person, a great trial lawyer and a friend. He will be missed. I am sure he and Don Kinlin are arguing a case in heaven. PAX
Rocco Maffei Col USAFR (Ret)

Rocco Maffei - March 28, 2022 at 09:20 AM

XG

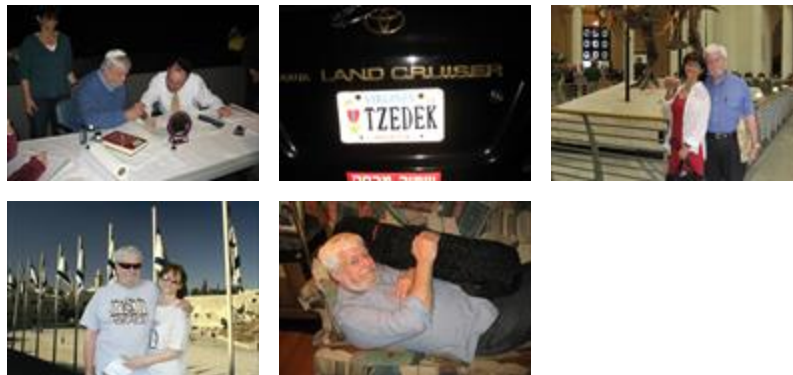
“ Xiaofeng Guo purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Richard L. Hanson.



Xiaofeng Guo - March 16, 2022 at 11:56 AM

AO

“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Allena Opper - March 05, 2022 at 07:32 PM