



Richard E. Lewis

July 28, 1937 - June 19, 2012

Major Richard "Rick" Elkin Lewis, USAF (retired), 74, died June 19, 2012 at his home in Alexandria, Virginia following a decline resulting from a malignant melanoma brain tumor six years earlier.

Rick was the son of David Norman Lewis and Helen Elizabeth Armstrong Lewis. He was born on July 28, 1937 in White Township, PA and grew up in Indiana, PA and Los Angeles, CA. He was pre-deceased by his only brother, William Armstrong Lewis.

Rick's identity was grounded in his deep Christian faith. He was devoted to his family. Rick was a drummer and strong tenor, and a student of Scripture and history. He had a witty sense of humor and an infectious, full-body laugh. His family cherishes memories of his corny jokes and his response to many life situations: "That reminds me of a song..."

Following graduation from University High School (1955), Los Angeles, Rick enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1958 because it was more family-friendly, and attended Officer Candidate School in 1960. Rick met Andra Deanne McGuire in the chapel choir at China Lake NAS, CA in 1957. Following their marriage on October 30, 1960, Rick and Andra enjoyed life in service to their country, living in Japan, California, Germany, Louisiana, and Virginia. Rick served in Vietnam in 1969-70. Following retirement from the Air

Force in July 1975, Rick and Andra made their home in Woodbridge, Virginia. Rick worked in Christian bookstore and church ministry. The couple moved to Lancaster, PA in 1992 and returned to Alexandria, VA in 2000 to be near their children and grandchildren. Living in the parsonage at Faith Fellowship Assembly of God, Rick played the drums, sang, and served as church board Secretary.

Rick held a Bachelor of Science in Military Studies from the University of Maryland and a Master of Arts in U.S. History from George Mason University.

Rick is survived by Andra, his wife of 51 years, children Kimberly Lewis Dawson (Don) and David A. Lewis (Barbara S. Delap), and grandchildren Nathan R. and Joshua A. Lewis, and Lauren and Jocelyn Dawson.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, June 23, 2012 at 11 a.m. at Faith Fellowship Assembly of God, 7800 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA 22315, 703-971-3802. All are welcome to join the family for luncheon in the church Fellowship Hall following the service. Interment with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery will take place in early 2013.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his name to "Rick Lewis Memorial Bible Fund," Faith Fellowship Assembly of God, 7800 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA 22315, OR to American Cancer Society (www.cancer.org)

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard E. Lewis*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM

RG

“ (second try)

I met 'Rick' while we were sailors at the Naval Ordnance Test Station at China Lake, CA in 1956. Personality-wise, we clicked and became friends. In Oct. 1957, I left China Lake and went to sea until I got out of the Navy in 1959. Rick and I kept track of each other through his mother who was living near North Island in San Diego. Through letter writing, I was aware that Rick wanted to be an Air Force officer and that he left the navy, went to Atlas missile school and went to the Air Force Officers candidate school. In August 1960, I married my wife Alice, and Rick came to our wedding in Elmira, IL. After we married, we moved Urbana, IL where I was a student at the University of Illinois. Rick was at the Air Force training school at Chanute AFB at Rantoul IL just up the road from Urbana and Rick and a friend come down to visit us once before he left.

I remember some time later finding out that he married a young lady from China Lake. Also he was 'miffed' that he was going to be in charge of a "motor pool" in Japan in spite of having electronics experiences with Navy guided missiles and the Atlas missile.

I also remember that they also had several children.

After that we lost contact.

*I went on and had a career as an electrical engineer. I tried in the 1980s-90s to find Rick,
.....no luck. This morning I had flash thought to search Ancestry for a Lewis marriage in Ridgecrest, CA. I found Rick and Andra's marriage information..*

A web search for 'Richard Elkin Lewis' came up with a Jefferson Chapel photo of him in his uniform and sadly, his memorial. He was a very smart and funny guy and I am shocked to find his passing.

I know how the passage of 10 years doesn't diminish the pain, but

he was friend and I am sorry that we couldn't have shared a few future moment with families together.

Robert Griswold - March 21, 2022 at 12:15 PM



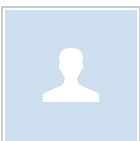
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Jefferson Funeral Chapel - January 28, 2019 at 09:41 AM



“ How do you thank and honor a man who touched your life in such a positive way. He was always nothing but kind. His presence fills the church. He was always doing something in the church, helping someone, but he always had a smile, a kind word, and even a hug to give to you. Though just a man, he was a shining example of what it is like for someone to truly follow Christ, to put aside self, to care for others and want to bring out the best in them, not because he demanded it, but because he set the example. So many in our churches forget that we are not here to judge others, but to love one another. Rick Lewis never forgot and he is loved, he left a legacy of love and service, and he will be missed by those he left behind, until we see each other again, with smiles, hugs, and celebration.

June 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My prayers are with you at the passing of this great and special man of God. Be comforted in knowing that although he is now absent from the body, he is present with the Lord. Thanks be to God, and may God's blessings be with your family.

June 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Andra, Kim & Don & family, We send our love & condolences to you & the Faith Fellowship church family. We comfort one another with God's Word in 1 Thessalonians 4:13,14. God Bless You, George & Marilyn Levar

June 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I will always be thankful and remember him for giving me his daughter's hand in marriage, being my 3rd father, changing light bulbs without a step stool whenever I ask him, for all the things he did at church,for fixing all those little things that my girls brought to him so I didn't have to fix them and for the hope that we have of being reunited with him in the presence of our Lord - Maranatha!

June 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Nancy and I will be holding all the family in our hearts and prayers through this time. We have walked this valley before, and God has always be there to bring us to the other side. God bless you all! Rev. Paul and Nancy Harrup

June 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Kimberly and Family, David and Family, Beyond the shadow there lies the promise of everlasting life with our Savior, Jesus Christ. May you find comfort, knowing Mr. Rick is safe at home with the Lord. Praying God's grace will not only keep you, but will also lead you through each day. God Bless you all

June 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *May God's peace and comfort be yours! I know that beautiful memories will always live within your hearts. Be blessed! With love, Marcia*

June 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *I've never been any good at things like this. How do you put into words what a person means to you? Especially someone like Papa Duke. My entire life, I don't think I ever heard anything from him that was anything but kind. He was one of greatest men I know. The way he lived his life, as a servant to God and his family, is something I will always aspire to, and probably never fully live up to. I can't express how proud I am to be able to call him my grandfather, and I will miss him more than I am able to express. At the same time, I know that he's in a better place, especially compared to the last few weeks, so I'm glad that he's with the Lord, and I know that one day I'll see him again.*

June 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Momma, Kimberly, and family, my deep love and sympathy over the loss of Dad/Papa Duke/Rick. He is now with God and filled with His joy, peace, and happiness. Dad's faith and hope are complete. Have comfort in knowing that Dad is home with the Lord. Much Love, David*

June 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *We were blessed to have known Rick! He will be greatly missed!*

June 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM