



## Richard Francis Schubert

November 2, 1936 - July 12, 2024

Richard Francis Schubert passed away on Friday, July 12 in Fairfax, Virginia. Richard was born on November 2, 1936, to Yaro and Frances Schubert of Trenton, New Jersey. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Austin Schubert and his children Robyn Schubert Wilber, Tom Austin, Michael Austin, Elizabeth Austin Howell, as well as his sister Deborah Schubert Long, husband Russell Long, and many loving grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Richard is predeceased by his first wife Sarah Jane Lockington Schubert, a daughter, Karen Lynne Schubert, and son, David Mark Schubert.

Richard attended public schools in Trenton, NJ and then graduated cum laude from Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, MA, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. He graduated from Yale Law School in 1961 and joined the Legal Staff of Bethlehem Steel's Labor Relations Division. In 1966 Richard was promoted to Assistant Manager of the Division. In 1970 he accepted an appointment as Executive Assistant to the U.S. Under Secretary of Labor and the next year was nominated by President Nixon and confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Solicitor of the Department of Labor.

Richard returned to Bethlehem Steel in 1973 as Assistant to the Vice President for Industrial Relations but was then nominated by President Nixon and served as U.S. Under Secretary of Labor. He returned to Bethlehem Steel in 1975 serving in various leadership roles and was named president in 1979

and then elected vice chairman of the company in 1980.

Richard then served as President of the American Red Cross from 1983 to 1989, and Chief Executive Officer of the Points of Light Foundation from 1990-1995. Overlapping these activities, he served for 21 years on the Board of Directors of Weirton Steel.

Richard was awarded honorary doctorate degrees from seven universities including Eastern Nazarene College, Allentown College St. Francis de Sales, Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio, and Lafayette College in Easton, PA.

Richard was a pioneer in working across public, private and civil society – believing the best solutions are often found by engaging diverse talent and experience across all sectors of society. He served on the boards of more than 30 organizations, helping to create, lead, and guide their efforts across more than 100 countries.

He was Founding Chair of the International Youth Foundation and the Peter Drucker Foundation; a founding board member of Management Training Corporation, American Friends of Czech Republic, Friends of Zambia, and the International Center for Religion and Diplomacy; and he chaired the National Job Corps Association and Nazarene Compassionate Ministries.

Richard held many titles and wore many hats....farm boy, debater, crooner, barrister, negotiator, chairman, president, volunteer, servant, Christ's One, Rich, Dick, Shub, Son, Brother, Dad, Papa, and Husband/Sweetheart. When he took over Bethlehem Steel the papers described him as "A new breed... who thrives on work, family, and God." He described his "Last Words" in the Washington Post Profile as..." I hope I've made a difference in the world at the end of my fingertips." You've done that and more, Dear One. Rest at Peace.

A Memorial Service will be held on 28th September 2024 at 10am at the McLean Presbyterian Church located at 1020 Balls Hills Road, McLean, VA 22101. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to any of the following organizations:

American Red Cross

[<https://www.redcross.org/donate>]

International Youth Foundation

[<https://iyfglobal.org/donation>]

Richard F. Schubert Memorial Scholarship Fund to benefit Job Corps students attending college:

1015 15th Street, NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005

Nazarene Compassion Ministries

[<https://give.ncm.org/donate/227>]

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP **28**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

McLean Presbyterian Church  
1020 Balls Hills Road  
McLean, VA 22101

# Tribute Wall

KJ

“ I worked with Dick Schubert at the points of light foundation. He was a tremendous mentor to me. I loved him a lot. I eventually became director of communications under Bob Goodwin. Dick was a tremendous guy and a great leader.

Keith Johnson - April 27 at 11:05 AM

PK

“ Condolences to Virginia Austin and family. Dick was a man of rare qualities, kind and fatherly. I will always remember my interactions with him when he came to Zambia. He helped shape my educational life. May the God of all comfort continue to strengthen and comfort the family. Perry Kakunka- Australia



Perry Kakunka - May 13, 2025 at 10:19 PM

BM

“ My mentor. This is sad news indeed. My deepest sympathies go out to the family. Virginia and David, I would love to hear from you. My heart is full with sweet sorrow. Barry Matt (worked closely with Dick for 5 years at NARC). barryjoelmatt@gmail.com

BARRY J MATT - March 15, 2025 at 04:44 PM

FT

“ RIP Dick



Frank Titus - September 29, 2024 at 11:11 AM

PD

“ *Dick was a friend to the Bethlehem YMCA and a friend to many in that city. My best to his family. Philip Dwyer, YMCA CEO, Retired*

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**Philip J Dwyer** - September 12, 2024 at 05:24 PM

KK

“ Dear Dick,

*Thank you for being my hero!*

*I was tremendously fortunate to have crossed paths with you at the American Red Cross. You were hired to transform the organization....so you modernized it from a World War I/World War II-era operation and brought it into the 20th Century. When I arrived, the National Headquarters receptionist used an “old fashioned,” cable/cord switchboard system, and everyone used typewriters. A few years later, through your leadership, we were communicating through sophisticated computer technology and a satellite system. I was hired to help launch Personal Excellence, your nationwide executive leadership initiative. You set us up for success by securing global management expert Marshall Goldsmith and IBM loaned executive J.D. Wallace, who was the top sales representative and executive trainer at IBM. You created and installed the Tiffany Award to motivate excellence in leadership throughout the American Red Cross.*

*You launched the American Red Cross Presidential Fellowship program, which I applied for and served under you for six months--- shadowing you and learning how to be an executive. Following my presidential fellowship, I was appointed as a secretary for the American Red Cross National Board of Governors. That experience taught me how to work with your executive team and the National Board to support and manage board functions. Because of chapter connections and experience, I was able to move into chapter development work, helping to strengthen fundraising throughout the American Red Cross nationwide. This experience of observing and working under your leadership served me throughout the rest of my career and life.*

*Yes, you are my hero! I never would have had these opportunities without you. Your vision, leadership, guidance, integrity, and generosity touched me and many others throughout the organization. I am forever grateful!!!!!!*

*With Love and Respect,*

*Kathleen Rae King*

**Kathleen Rae King** - September 10, 2024 at 05:43 PM

JS

“*Dick was a very kind man and made everyone feel welcome and gave the glory to God in all he did. Jim and I were so blessed to have known Dick, Sarah and David and to still have Robyn to talk to. The Lord allowed us to know them through our church at the time, The Church of the Nazarene in Easton PA. We enjoyed listening to him teach and sing for the Lord. He is now singing in the Lord's mighty choir and being told he fought a good fight and to now rest in the presence of the Lord, as this is his reward. He loves you dearly Robyn and we are so glad to have called him friend. You will be missed our friend.*

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**Jim and Kim Spade** - August 15, 2024 at 08:21 PM

JS

“*I am fortunate to have known and worked with this amazing man. He taught me so much about politics, and people, and life, and affirmed to me the necessity of being willing to make tough decisions. I enjoyed our regular lunches over the course of a couple of years, as he mentored me in Job Corps affairs. I very much admired, respected and liked him.*

*John Sparkman*

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**John Sparkman** - August 13, 2024 at 11:23 PM

LL

“*Nobody had a greater influence on my career than Dick. I don't know what was bigger... his heart or his intellect and judgment. He made the successes in Job Corps joyful. He made the setbacks tolerable. There will never be another more beloved or more effective advocate for Job Corps than Dick. Tim and I extend our deepest sympathy to Virginia and the whole family. Lovingly, LaVera*

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**LaVera Leonard** - August 03, 2024 at 12:20 PM

DK

“ My favorite memory was when he taught me to waterski. I was with Robyn and her family at their house in Stone Harbor, NJ. I was behind the boat but not standing. He gave instructions including, in a very loud voice, "just stand up"! When I did, he shouted, "IT'S A MIRACLE"! This still makes me smile! This miracle was also after several attempts. I loved his gentle yet determined spirit!

Thank you Mr. Schubert  
Rest in Peace

Debbie Knight

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**Debbie Knight** - August 03, 2024 at 08:55 AM

RW

Debbie,  
I loved your memory! I remember that and he was so proud of you!  
This made me smile, Thank you. Love you!

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**Robyn Schubert Wilber** - August 09, 2024 at 02:56 AM

SB

“ Space does not allow me to say all that Dick and Sarah meant to me. He sang for my youngest child's baby dedication. Sarah was a mentor to me as I grew in the Lord. Robyn was in my teen Sunday school class. So many blessed memories that I will cherish forever.

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**Shirley Bryft** - August 02, 2024 at 04:58 PM

SB

(oops Shirley Bryfogle)

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**Shirley Bryft** - August 02, 2024 at 04:59 PM

AS

“ I remember what good friends he and Sarah were to Mimi and Paw Paw. You’ve had superb parents Robin. What a blessing. You and Sarah are in our thoughts and prayers. I know it’s a great loss for you. Wish so much we could be there for the service! Sending lots of love.

Ann Smith - August 02, 2024 at 03:13 PM

RH

“ Ruth Herman lit a candle in memory of Richard Francis Schubert



Ruth Herman - August 02, 2024 at 12:15 PM

FT

“ RIP Dick.



Frank Titus - August 02, 2024 at 11:00 AM

MR

“ I was a management intern at the Department of Labor (DOL) in the early 1970's. Dick Schubert was Special assistant to Luther Hodges, Secretary of Labor. During training for management interns on equal employment opportunity, we interns decided to take some action regarding employment opportunity at the Department of Labor. Through a White House Intern serving as another assistant to the Secretary, we asked to be allowed to form a task force to review Department of Labor policies and statistics on equal employment. We were established as the Secretary's Task Force. We presented our findings to Secretary Hodges and Undersecretary Larry Silberman and were treated with dignity and respect. Our organizational repositioning of the Office Of Equal Employment Opportunity to the Secretary's staff was immediately signed and implemented. Dick Schubert was important to this whole process. He liked to talk with us and whenever he was back at the DOL he would set up a lunch with us and two other interns. He visited with us as Solicitor of Labor and later as Undersecretary of Labor. He was a fine man and great leader. He never had a harsh word for anyone. His passing is the world's loss. Margaret (Peggy) Richardson

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**Margaret Richardson** - August 02, 2024 at 09:16 AM