



Richard Carl Nelson Jr.

January 13, 1959 - September 20, 2023

Richard Carl (Rick) Nelson Jr., 64 of Ocala, Florida, passed away on the evening of Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 at Ocala Regional Hospital.

Rick was born in Springfield, Massachusetts to Jeannette Nelson (Calabrese) and Richard C.

Nelson Sr. on January 13th, 1959. He attended Technical High School and graduated in 1977.

Rick went on to enlist in the United States Army in 1978, serving the United States Army for 7

years, where he became a certified Master Diesel Mechanic and received many awards and

accolades from his superiors. He was very proud to have had the opportunity to serve his

country. Rick enjoyed his time outdoors, fishing, spending time with his family, especially his

grandchildren. He also enjoyed helping others however he could- even people that he did not

know. His heart was larger than his life here on earth, and those who knew him would attest to

that. Rick was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and a friend to all.

Rick is survived by the love of his life for 38 years, Michelle Pepin of Ocala,

FL, his eldest son
Christopher J. Nelson and daughter in law Amy of Somers, CT, his daughter
Caitlin Y. Perez
(Nelson) and son in law Andres 'Sapo' of Ocala, FL, his cherished Aunt
Marlene Danio of
Longwood, FL, his grandchildren Andrew, Abby, and Arianna of Somers, CT,
Jayce, Andres,
lanella, and Mariano of Ocala, FL, his father's life partner, Debbe Manfredi of
Springfield, MA,
his step-mother, Marilyn Ann Nelson of Springfield, MA, his brothers Eric
Nelson and his wife
Melonie of Oneonta, NY, Jason Nelson of Chicopee, MA, Derek Nelson of
Chicopee, MA, his
sisters Teri Lee of Chicopee, MA, Stacey Nelson and her partner Michael
Feliciano of Chicopee,
MA, Kristen Nelson and her partner Pete Cordova of Springfield, MA, Kara
Nelson and her
partner Robert Cain of Sturbridge, MA, his former spouse Pamela Grant (Kerr-
Nelson) of East
Longmeadow, MA, his cousins Larry Tourigny and his wife Shirley of Bushnell,
FL, Sherlene
Danio and her partner Lana of Belfield, ND, David Danio of Deltona, FL,
Naomi Danio of
Casselberry, FL, Paul Danio of FL, his brother in laws Robert Pepin of Land O
Lakes, FL, Mark
Pepin of Newark, NJ, Bradley Pepin of Tampa, FL, his sister in law Lori Stepp
(Pepin) and her
husband Jaime Stepp of Land O Lakes, FL, Carolyn Powell of Springfield, MA
and many cherished
nieces, nephews and cousins. Rick was preceded in death by his son Ian
Nicholas-Gunnar

Nelson of Ocala, FL, mother, Jeanette Nelson (Calabrese) of Springfield, MA, his father Richard

C Nelson Sr of Springfield, MA, his brother Karl V. Nelson of Orlando, FL, his brother Mark

Nelson of Springfield, MA, his grandmother Yvonne Nelson (Goodrow) of Springfield, MA, his

grandfather Ralph Nelson of Springfield, MA, his grandmother Lena Calabrese of Springfield,

MA, his aunts Jennie, Patsy and Josephine Calabrese, his uncle Alfonso Calabrese of

Springfield, MA, his maternal great grandparents Domenico and Maria Concetta Calabrese

(Lucia) of Springfield, MA, his mother in law Carol Pepin (Demchuk), of Springfield, MA, and his

father in law Robert A Pepin of Lake Wales, FL.

A visitation will be held at Roberts Funeral Home, Downtown Chapel, 606 SW 2nd Ave,

Ocala, FL 34471, on Wednesday September 27th, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

A funeral service will be held at the funeral home on Thursday September 28th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. followed by a committal ceremony at 12:30 p.m. at Florida National Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Florida National Cemetery

6502 SW 102nd Avenue
Bushnell, FL 33513

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 27. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Roberts of Ocala Downtown Chapel
606 SW 2nd Ave
Ocala, FL 34471
(352) 780-1267
<https://www.robertsfunerals.com/>

Funeral Service

SEP 28. 10:00 AM (ET)

Roberts of Ocala Downtown Chapel
606 SW 2nd Ave
Ocala, FL 34471
(352) 780-1267
<https://www.robertsfunerals.com/>

Committal Service

SEP **28**. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Florida National Cemetery
6502 SW 102nd Avenue
Bushnell, FL 33513

Tribute Wall



“ *Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard Carl Nelson Jr.*



Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations - September 27, 2023 at 04:39 PM

SN

I love you and I will miss you float like a butterfly sting like a bee and sting like a bee that's why they call me Little Richie

Stacy Nelson - September 27, 2023 at 05:20 PM

CB

“ *Rick was honestly one of the most Caring, giving, and loving friends I was privileged to have.. Have fun fishing in the sky with Ian Pops...*

Charles A Brown - September 27, 2023 at 01:15 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Richard Carl Nelson Jr..*



September 27, 2023 at 01:06 PM

CP

“ Rick was a good man who enjoyed his kids and grandkids there wasn't anything that he wouldn't do for them gone is the big hearty laugh that will be missed but the memories will always be remembered Michelle my deepest condolences to you and Caitlin you both are two strong women God bless you .

Carolyn Powell - September 27, 2023 at 03:34 AM

MP

“ Rick, 38 years will never be enough. You were the love of my life and together, we conquered the world. Not a day went by without you telling me you loved me nor me telling you. We've been through the best and the worst when we lost our son Ian. You never got over it and your grief was so consuming. You were a peacemaker, a lover, a fighter, a grandfather and a father and a great man. You my love, we're my hero. Until we meet again, one day closer.....R.I.P❤️
Michelle

Michelle Pepin - September 26, 2023 at 10:38 PM