



Richard Walter Watts

September 13, 1948 - August 28, 2022

Richard Walter Watts

Franklinton native, Richard Walter Watts died peacefully on August 28, 2022, at the age of 73. He was born on September 13, 1948. Richard spent his career practicing law in Franklinton as a member of the 22nd Judicial District.

In addition to representing the majority of the Washington Parish Fire Districts, he served as representative and board member to Riverside Medical Center. He was the consummate southern gentleman who loved his family, the opera, and a martini.

Richard received a Bachelor of Arts in History from Centenary College in Shreveport in 1970. He went on to receive his Juris Doctorate from Louisiana State University School of Law in 1973. When he returned to Franklinton, he practiced in the areas of real estate, domestic law and family relations, personal injury, estate and probate, wills and criminal trials. His retirement in July 2022 ended a 103 year span of his family practicing law in Washington Parish.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Dr. Elizabeth Ann Mylius Watts, his parents Elizabeth and France Watts, Jr., his brothers Judge France “Budge” Watts and Charles Kendrick Watts, and his sister Susan Richardson.

Richard is survived by beloved companion Dianne Thomas; his sister Pam Rudnicki, his sisters-in-law Clara Sue Driftmier and Paula Watts, and “all my children:” Cynthia Greer and Robert Greer; John Watts, Sarah Driftmier, and Chris Watts; Suellen Richardson, Russell Richardson, and Thomas Richardson; Robert Rudnicki and James Rudnicki; Marion Brown and Kendrick Watts.

Visitation will be at Crain Funeral Home, Friday, September 2, 2022 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. A memorial service will follow at 3:00 pm with Father Howard L’Enfant as officiant. Burial immediately following in Ellis Cemetery.

Honorary Pallbearers are Abron Magee, Bill McGehee, Jay Seale, and Joe Loupe.

Memorials may be sent to St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 208 Georgia Ave, Bogalusa, Louisiana 70427, where Richard worshiped and served as Senior Warden.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ *May Richard rest in peace and may God comfort his family. He was our 'go to' real estate attorney. He will be missed.* ”



Judy McCasland Micelle - September 02, 2022 at 12:57 PM

KG

“ *Mr Richard Watts a man I appreciated a lot my years of knowing him it was a pleasure work with him in the Courthouse. He will be dearly miss. My prayers going out to family and Ms Diane* ”

Karen Graves - September 02, 2022 at 12:31 PM

CM

“ *Richard Watts was a fine man and a brilliant attorney. I knew him professionally and personally, and you could not find a better friend, more competent lawyer or more enjoyable companion. I always enjoyed discussing old books, history and religion with Richard. I practiced law with his brother, Charles Watts, for over 35 years and the two them were so much fun together. Richard will be missed by all who knew him. Love and prayers to the family.* ”

*Chuck and Pam Morgan
Baton Rouge*

Chuck Morgan - September 02, 2022 at 10:53 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Richard Walter Watts.*



September 01, 2022 at 05:45 PM



“ *To all who knew and loved Richard, "Rest in peace my friend, and may light perpetual shine upon you". As a Deacon at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, I knew Richard as a very spiritual man who followed Christ in his life and served those in need. I am thankful for his friendship and wish all who mourn his death "the Peace that surpasses all understanding". Louis Ogle*

Louis Ogle - September 01, 2022 at 08:05 AM

JN

“ Mr.. Richard gave me some free legal advice from time to time for which he never charged me a dime. My last time seeing him was several years ago when he helped a friend of mine. I guess the last time I talked to him was in early February of 2020 when my Mama (my rock...Margie Pope) died... which he thought the world of and I called to let him know she had passed away. Lots of times when I had legal problems Mama would say "go talk to Mr. Richard". in his little office tucked away across the street from the back of the courthouse. Franklinton will never be the same without Mr Richard and I regret and am sad that I can never pick up the phone and hear his voice again! He always gave straight forward advice and "pulled no punches"! I didn't even know he was retired as I was injured badly and paralyzed from a fall at home in 2020 shortly after my beloved Mama's death so I can't get out much anymore. Goodbye my loyal and generous (with your free advice) friend! I will miss you"Mr. Richard"! I will light a candle for you my friend. Joy "Pope" Nielson Franklinton, La.



Joy Nielson - August 31, 2022 at 04:14 PM

MC

“ A friend from many years ago. Richard was eloquent in delivering the eulogy for my mother at her funeral in 1998. Had not seen him in person since then but very fond memories. Hugs and best wishes to the family.

Michael Calmes - August 31, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Walter Watts.*



August 31, 2022 at 11:10 AM



“ *Joanie Varnado lit a candle in memory of Richard Walter Watts*



joanie varnado - August 30, 2022 at 07:24 PM



“ *Richard was my FHS Class of 1969. Condolences to his family. Jimmie D Varnado*

joanie varnado - August 30, 2022 at 07:16 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Richard Walter Watts.*



August 30, 2022 at 12:12 PM

 Linda Bateman

“ *Richard is a loss to our Class of 66 as well as the community. My condolences to family and friends.*

Linda Bateman - August 30, 2022 at 10:59 AM

CJ

“ *Prayers for love ones. Saddened to hear of Richard's passing .. fond memories of MYF at Centenary UMC .. Richard was a close friend.*

Clyde Bickham Jr - August 30, 2022 at 09:38 AM

JB

“ *I am so saddened to learn of my classmate and friend's passing. My prayers are with his family and friends. God blessings to each of you.*

Judy Rollins Burch - August 29, 2022 at 09:47 PM

SK

“ *It is with much sadness that I learned of the loss of our great friend, neighbor and former colleague of my husband. Richard was a wonderful person with a great sense of humor. My prayers are with his loved ones. He will be missed greatly.*

Sarah Kuhn - August 29, 2022 at 06:56 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Walter Watts.*



August 29, 2022 at 03:02 PM