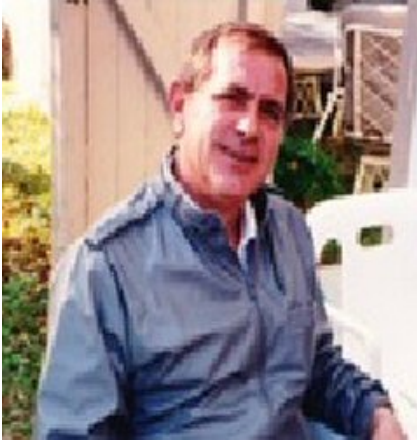




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11/22/2013 - Richard Mathis



Funeral services for Richard Mathis, age 69, of Chadron, Nebraska will be Friday, November 22, 2013 at 1:30 PM at Chamberlain Chapel in Chadron with Reverend Mark Crist officiating.

Burial will take place at a later date at Memorial Park Cemetery in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Richard was the second of 5 children. He graduated from Chadron High school and attended Chadron State. He spent most of his life in Phoenix, Arizona where he had two children.

Among Richards greatest qualities were his mind for mechanics and unbelievably hard work ethic. Richard was always 'doing something'. He always had a project he was working on; whether it was improving his house in Muskogee by adding a second living room (largely by himself), installing carpets, remodeling bathrooms, or buying "fix'er up-er" cars. Richard loved working with his hands and virtually all activities that allowed him to be outdoors.

Richard married Delores Jean Staten in 1993. Jean was a perfect complement to Richard and together they did everything. The two of them had many adventures; from travel to business. Their first idea was to buy a marina and heated fishing dock near Muskogee, Oklahoma. Though neither of them had any experience in merchandising, cooking, and running a bait shop, marina, and fishing dock, the two of them did fantastically well with it. By the time they sold the marina in order to be closer to Jean's family, Richard's years of 'improvements' truly transformed the business into something he was proud of.

When Richard and Jean moved to Texas, they found themselves again by the water... Though this time in Crystal Beach. The entrepreneurial bug bit once more and Richard & Jean found themselves leveraging their merchandising experience to run a beach surf shop. Again, Richard was always 'doing something'. When not repainting, repairing, or generally keeping up the surf shop, Richard was remodeling and building additions to their beach houses. Every time someone would visit, they would always see something new that Richard had built.

Richard and Jean were resilient, but when Hurricane Ike swept through Crystal Beach, it took with them several properties and nearly all of their possessions. The two of them relocated to Beaumont, Texas and lived there until Jean's passing in 2010.

After Jean's death Richard moved to the family home in Chadron. For health reasons he relocated to Phoenix to be close to

his children.

Immediate survivors:

Son: Loren (Wendy) Mathis of Phoenix, Arizona

Daughter: Ambie (Ruben) Perez of Phoenix, Arizona

Brothers: Jerry (Mary) Mathis of Fort Wayne, IN; Randy (Lynn) Mathis of Chadron, NE

Sisters: Sandy Schommer of Brainard, NE; Gae (Denny) Selting of Hermosa, SD

Mother: Sidone Mathis of Chadron, NE

Grandchildren: Lex and Leila Mathis

A memorial has been established for the Chadron Volunteer Fire Department. Donations may be sent to Chamberlain Chapel, PO Box 970, Chadron, NE, 69337.

Online condolences can be made at www.chamberlainchapel.com

Chamberlain Chapel of Chadron is in charge of arrangements.