



Richard Dean Blackledge, Jr.

March 6, 1962 - January 1, 2010

Richard (Rick) Dean Blackledge, Jr.

Former resident of Mansfield and Florida, Richard Dean Blackledge, Jr, 47, of Wooster passed away Friday, January 01, 2010 at Glendora Health Care Center in Wooster, Ohio. Born March 16, 1962 in Mansfield, Rick was the son of Richard D. Blackledge, and Monica Simon Blackledge.

An ATV accident on July 4, 1996 left Rick a quadriplegic. Though his physical limitations kept him from hobbies of fishing and working on cars, it did not keep his spirits down. A fan of NASCAR and the Dallas Cowboys, Rick was always up for watching either sport or discussing them with you. He also kept his mind sharp and prided himself on answering questions, often before the contestants could, on the replays of the seventies quiz-game shows. Rick kept his care givers laughing and smiling with his charm and witty tongue. He spoke very highly of the entire staff and the care he received. He enjoyed the fellowship of the "outdoor group" and teasing the staff of Glendora Health Care Center in Wooster. Thanks to the tremendous love, support and care he received while there, his last two and a half years were spent at a facility he fondly called home.

Rick is survived by his mother Monica Blackledge Burrill of Wooster, step-father James A. Burrill; son Mathew F. Blackledge of Apple Creek; sister Amy

(Mitch) Myers of Mansfield, brother Michael (Jeanny) Blackledge of Westerville; aunts and uncles, Mary Kay (Eugene) Bozyski of Chapel Hill, NC, Paul (Kay) Simon of Perrysville, Ann Feldstein of Sanford, FL, Vicki (Randy) Smith of Mansfield, Susan (Gary) Hoovler of Mansfield, Edward (Rosa) Blackledge of Mansfield, Dr. Thomas (Carolyn) Simon of Fayetteville, NY, and Vicky Woerth of Mansfield; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Rick was received in heaven by his father, Richard D. Blackledge, the grandparent's Victor and Dr. Ruth Simon, Donald and Mildred Blackledge; and Uncle David Simon, all formerly of Mansfield.

The family would like to thank all the staff of Glendora Health Care Center for taking such excellent loving care of Rick.

The memorial service will be held at 11:00 A.M., Saturday, Jan.9, 2010 at First Presbyterian Church, 621 College Ave, Wooster, Ohio with The Reverend Dr. Jeff Paschal officiating. Visitations with family and friends will be held one hour prior to the service and during the luncheon following the service.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at: www.custerglenn.com.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that friends and family "pay it forward". Even though Rick lost his ability to physically reach out and touch someone, he never lost his ability to do so verbally. The family asks that in Rick's honor you do the same – reach out and touch someone; put a smile on someone's face and let them know that they are special to you.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **9**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
621 College Ave.
Wooster, OH

Service

JAN **9**. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
621 College Ave.
Wooster, OH

Tribute Wall



“ *Im having trouble putting into words.I lost contact with Rick after graduation but we were tight in high school I did not know of his accident until today im sorry for the loss to the family and to those that knew him recently . The best memory of rick is his green lamans and van and his popeye laugh, time passes to fast###imported-begin###nelson flinders###imported-end##*

January 08, 2010 at 07:05 PM



“ *Matt- So sorry for the loss, our thoughts are with you at this time!###imported-begin###Josie, Don Wright###imported-end##*

January 08, 2010 at 04:47 PM



“ *I was a Madison High School classmate of Ricky. He was always a very nice boy. I remember his smile.*

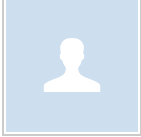
I am very sorry for your loss.###imported-begin###Jeanetta Hicks Porter###imported-end##

January 08, 2010 at 03:11 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy and my prayers will be with you even though I cannot. Cousiin Frank.###imported-begin###Frank R. Kaiser###imported-end##*

January 08, 2010 at 03:05 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. To whomever wrote the obituary, it was one of the very best I have read. It sounds as if Rick made the very most of an unpleasant obstacle in his life. I am sure the Lord is rewarding him and taking good care of him. I am also sure he, Uncle Dick and Uncle David are having a hoot in heaven as we speak. God bless you all and take care.

Vickie and Randy Starr##imported-begin##Vickie Kaiser
Starr##imported-end##

January 08, 2010 at 11:00 AM



“ Dear Family of Rich....We want to let you folks know....You have are Love & thoughts & care's and prayers!!!

We know he will be sorely missed and though we can't stop the pain and sorrow ya's might be feeling at this time!!!

We just wanted ya's to know....His Love of Life & Family and others will ALWAYS be close in your hearts!!

We only met him a short time ago...Our Mom Marilyn is staying currently at Glendora and one nite I was saying hello to Bob Gilmore in the TV room....Rich came by and said "Hello" to us...And he mentioned to Bob that two of the windows there were open...Bob closed them!!! Then Rich pulled his wheel chair up next to us and we watched alittle football on the TV....He then said "Goodbye fellers" and went down the hall to say hello to others....He always was freindly and said hello when we were there visting our Mom Marilyn Badertscher!!!

I got a kick out of his Santa hat that hung on the back of his motorized wheel chair....It made me feel good that he was sharing some Xmas cheer for all....

I just wish we could of known him alittle more.....He was quite the man for sure!!!

He will be sorely missed in deed!!!

Sincerely, and Best Wishes Always...Us DBsssss in Wooooootowns Ohio!!! ;-}##imported-begin##Dale & Deb & Dru & Marilyn & Dimples & Daisy & Dixie & Saddle & Domino & Tinkerbelle Badertschers##imported-end##

January 07, 2010 at 11:29 PM



“ Monica

Will not forget Dicks rambling on about his son when both ours were growing up That first day in heaven will have been the best day of his life

Gary Bonney##imported-begin##Gary Bonney##imported-end##

January 07, 2010 at 09:20 AM



“ My prayers are with you. Rick "Blacky" was a classmate of mine at Madison Comp. and we both were in the Machine Trades vocation 78' thru 80' and I always thought he was a swell guy. I don't live in Mansfield anymore and had not heard about the accident until now. I'm sure he will be sorely missed by his family. God bless.##imported-begin##Trent Hale##imported-end##

January 07, 2010 at 09:19 AM



“ Sorry for your loss, Monica. I can't imagine the sorrow you feel loosing a son. Our kids aren't suppose to die before us. Again I'm sorry. Will be keeping in my prayers.

Love Lenore##imported-begin##Lenore Douville##imported-end##

January 07, 2010 at 08:53 AM



“ Amy, Monica and family I would like to say how sorry I am for your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to you at this time for I know how hard it is to have the loss. I hope you will all find comfort in knowing the Rick is in a better place with the love of others. I do know he is watching from above and will take care of you every day. All my love Deb##imported-begin##Debbie Steward##imported-end##

January 07, 2010 at 08:21 AM



“ Sorry for your loss. I have only known Rick for a short time,I was one of his care givers at Glendora. he was a nice person. He is with the good Lord now not in pain and can walk again, ready to do whatever he wants to do.##imported-begin##Melissa Peter##imported-end##

January 06, 2010 at 04:48 PM



“ Monica, I am so sorry for your loss. I know that Rick was a great blessing to you and so many others. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Most sincerely, Leslie (formerly of Sunrise of Wooster)##imported-begin##Leslie Erb (Masters)##imported-end##

January 06, 2010 at 11:59 AM



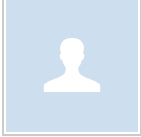
“ To his son Matt. We at Galion-Godwin are all thinking of you, and are deeply sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Debbie Mark##imported-end##

January 06, 2010 at 10:54 AM



“ His family and friends are in my thoughts and prayers, i met Rick a few years ago i was a care giver for his grandma Blackledge when i did private duty nursing awhile back. A wonderful man.##imported-begin##Kristi Butler##imported-end##

January 05, 2010 at 11:08 AM



“ Rick had a heart of gold. He will always be in my heart and I know he is in a better place looking down on all of us and saying look guys i can walk again. Rick I loved you in life and will love you in death, I will miss you so much I feel like a part of me has been taken. but I know you will keep an eye on me up above. the girls will always keep you in there heart. you were there favorite papa. I will see you when I get there. You may be gone but you will never be forgotten. My love always
Sandi###imported-begin##Sandi L. Blackledge###imported-end##

January 05, 2010 at 10:00 AM



“ Your loss is great. As the obituary says, Rick had a charm unlike any others. God knows he stole my heart a long time ago. I can so see him charming his way through therapy, baths and daily routines. I know he made a difference daily. He always did. When we were dating many years ago, Rick always made every effort to put a smile on my face. I only regret not seeing him after his accident. I will pray for your family and your grief journey. I too, have a sent a child ahead of me to heaven. God is so faithful in His promises. I am sure His plan is perfect and made Rick whole and healthy again. Many Blessings, Mari###imported-begin##Mari K. Colace (Harp)###imported-end##

January 04, 2010 at 04:47 PM