



Richard W. Golze Jr.

February 15, 1970 - January 9, 2026

Richard W. Golze, Jr., 55, passed away on January 9, 2026, in Vancouver, Washington. Born on February 15, 1970, in Seattle, Washington, Rich lived a life marked by dedication to his work, compassion for others, and an enduring commitment to learning and service. Rich was raised in Vancouver and attended local schools including: Marshall Elementary, McLoughlin Junior High, and Fort Vancouver High School. His pursuit of education continued at Clark College and Washington State University. Throughout his life, Rich remained a devoted student—not only of formal academics but of the world around him—constantly seeking knowledge to better himself and support those around him. For over three decades, Rich built a respected career as a Real Estate Broker and Mortgage Lender. Known for his problem-solving skills and deep understanding of the industry, he was always eager to learn new information that could benefit his clients and colleagues. His professional life was not just about transactions; it was about relationships and helping others achieve their goals. Beyond his career, Rich gave generously of his time to causes close to his heart. He volunteered with the local humane society and other nonprofit organizations throughout Clark County. His love for animals was evident in the care he gave to his beloved dogs, Evie, Lili and JoJo. Music played a significant role in Rich's life. He played the trumpet throughout school and college—a passion that reflected both discipline and creativity. He also found joy in mentoring others and engaging in lifelong learning. Whether through formal education or personal exploration, Rich believed deeply in the

power of knowledge to transform lives. Rich's faith became an even more profound source of strength during his final months. As he faced physical challenges, he leaned into the beliefs formed during childhood—drawing comfort from them and offering that same comfort to those who stood by him. Though his body weakened, his spirit grew stronger with each passing day. He is survived by his parents, Richard (Sr.) and Sandra Golze of Vancouver; his brother Ryan S. Golze of San Diego, California; as well as numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, and beloved friends whose lives were touched by his kindness and wisdom. Rich was predeceased by his cherished grandmother Martha E. Siebold and grandparents Richard and Mary Golze. The Golze family extends heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Legacy Medical Center (Salmon Creek) for their compassionate care during Rich's final months—and to the close friends who offered their presence and support during this time. A Celebration of Life memorial service will be scheduled at a later date to honor Rich's memory among family and friends. Please share a memory @ www.columbian.com/obits or www.evergreenmemorialgardens.com

Tribute Wall

ME

“ *Rich was a very thoughtful friend. He liked to help others get what they need and he did it with a sense of empathy and a little humor. Gonna miss ya, Rich!* ”

Mark Eshelman - January 16 at 02:17 PM

TT

I met rich way back in 1988 when we both worked there.. we became friends. I left Kmart and moved to Eugene. We reconnected 5 yrs later. Great guy. He helped us buy a house in Vancouver and he always keep in touch over the next 27 yrs. I considered him a friend and watched I career bloom. He always send a Christmas card and info so we could always call and connect . When we decided to sell, it was always , after all these years yrs, going be Rich as our sales agent. What great Jonas always. Rich's parents Im d ad ire we very proud of him . I was proud to call him my friend. RIP

terry tess - January 19 at 05:20 PM

TO

So long, Rich. We had a lot of great musical memories, like going to PLU band camp together. I remember going with you to find our first jobs after high school and laughing at the overly serious Marine recruiter. I'm happy that we had a chance to chat a few years ago.

Todd - February 20 at 11:17 PM