



## Ricky V. O'Neal

November 28, 1949 - February 6, 2025

Early in the morning of February 6, 2025, Ricky Van O'Neal entered his eternal home, where he was lovingly welcomed by his God and his eldest son Aaron. Rick was born in Wewoka, OK on November 28, 1949 to Harold and Doris O'Neal, and spent part of his early years as a missionary kid in the Philippines. His family later settled in Santee, California, where his dad was a preacher and teacher and his mom a teacher. After graduating from Pepperdine University, Rick followed in his parents' footsteps and became a teacher. In 1987 he moved to Battle Ground, WA, and devoted the remaining 26 years of his career to teaching math at Battle Ground High School and RiverHomeLink. Rick met the love of his life, Colleen Bogard, in 1971, when, to attend San Diego State University, she moved in with her grandparents, neighbors to the O'Neals; he literally married "the girl next door." One of the many joys of Rick's life was countless games of wiffleball with his three sons, Aaron, Joshua, and Sean. Everyone who knew Rick, knew he loved baseball, especially his favorite team, the Dodgers. He also enjoyed traveling, running, sunning, and reading. The house was often filled with music as he played guitar with his boys and later his grandson, Tiernan. Rick's favorite scriptures were Micah 6:8 and Matthew 22:37-39, core principles for his life which truly reflected his love of God and his neighbor. His life motto was, "Life is hard; it is not my job to make it harder for others." He made people's lives better with his smile, his stories, and his encouraging words. His laugh was loud and contagious! Always positive and grateful for his blessings,

even after years of pain and multiple strokes, he would wave and smile to passersby as he was wheeled through the neighborhood; he invariably received a smile and wave in return. Rick was preceded in death by his son Aaron, his parents Hal and Doris, in-laws Tom and Grace, his sister Peggy, and his sister-in-law Rosie. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Colleen, his sons Josh (Jen), Sean (Katie), Becki, sister-in-law Nettie (Russ), six grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. He was deeply loved and will be greatly missed. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Clark County or North County foodbanks or Battle Ground High School ASB. Rick's memorial service will take place Saturday, February 22, 2025, 11:00 am at Landmark Church in Battle Ground, WA. Non-perishable foods can be donated at his service.

# Tribute Wall



“ *We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory*

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**A Memorial Tree was planted for Ricky V. O'Neil - February 07, 2025 at 12:00 AM**