



Charles Richard "Dick" Bush

September 9, 1938 - February 24, 2021

Charles Richard "Dick" Bush, Sr., age 82, of Starke, Florida, passed away at the Rehab Center of Lake City, on February 24, 2021, following a brief illness. A native of Florida, Dick played football for the University of Florida Gators. He was the founder, owner and operator of Bush Nursery in Palatka, FL, for 25 years. Dick then worked 30 years as an arborist for the Department of Transportation as the Director of Florida's beautification project, overseeing the Wildflower Program. In his early years, he enjoyed cultivating wildflowers in his homes throughout the local area. Dick was also passionate about fishing, traveling and, above all, his family. More than anything, he was a devoted husband, and a loving father and grandfather. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Henrietta Bush, of Federal Point. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Jane Canova Bush of Starke; sons, Charles Richard "Rick" Bush, Jr., and his wife, Joyce, of Spotsylvania, VA and Roan Canova Bush, of Savannah, GA; and his beloved grandchildren, Charles Richard Bush, and his wife, Erika, and Garrett Glenn Bush, and his wife, Lauryn. Dick was very excited about becoming a great-grandfather to his expected great-granddaughter.

A private burial will be held. Even as his wildflowers have brightened the Florida highways, so did Dick brighten up the lives of all those who loved him. St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

WM

“ Dick's influence on the FDOT roadside extended well beyond his own District. His knowledge and wisdom of all-things-wildflowers was shared by him used across the State to make the entire State more beautiful. I recall those sharing sessions as fond memories and will not forget the lessons he taught me and others in District Three.

Willson S. McBurney - March 08, 2021 at 04:02 PM

JR

“ Having worked for myself and family run tree / ornamental nursery,... I thought I knew quite a bit; but coming to DOT (back in 1992), to work for Dick, I soon began to increase my horticulture knowledge 10 fold. He gave me so many opportunities to exhibit talent and ability. He was really kind of my papa bear, always looking out for me. I am forever grateful for the education received from him . Dick if ya can check up on me once in awhile you will see I'm still carrying on your legacy ; sowing wildflower seed, landscape projects always, and keeping that right of way beautiful. This springs wildflower blooms I dedicate to Dick. I owe much to this man, yes indeed .

john ryan - March 02, 2021 at 11:39 AM

JB

Thank you for this beautiful posting. ❤️ His grieving family

jbush - March 02, 2021 at 06:30 PM

LR

“ Dick made a huge difference to Florida's environment and its roadside wildflower program. His work propelled FDOT District 2 to the forefront of roadside beautification efforts, making it a national standout. Florida is a better place to live, work and play, thanks to Dick's devotion and passion. Our hearts, thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

<https://flawildflowers.org/in-memory-dick-bush/>

*Lisa Roberts
Executive Director
Florida Wildflower Foundation*

Lisa Roberts - March 01, 2021 at 04:09 PM

JB

Thank you , Lisa ! Long live his legacy ! 🌸

jbush - March 02, 2021 at 06:31 PM

AP

“ Thoughts and Prayers to Family and Friends. As a former FDOT Secretary and D2 employee, Dick was the passion behind FDOT's Wildflower Program. I had received many compliments from Legislators who were heading home after the Legislative Session ended in early May each year on the beauty and the color of the bloom along I-10 in Madison and Suwannee Counties. TY for your friendship and counsel over the years and you will be missed. Hope FDOT keeps your legacy going forward.

*Ananth Prasad
Fmr FDOT Employee*

Ananth Prasad - March 01, 2021 at 03:41 PM

TD

“ *Mr. Dick Bush was a awesome man and coworker. He was always smiling, and was very kind to everyone that knew him. I'm so sorry to hear of his passing. I pray you find comfort during this difficult time. He was loved by all.*

*Terri Lee Davis
FDOT*

Terri Lee Davis - March 01, 2021 at 03:00 PM

BM

“ *Condolences to Mr. Dick Bush's family. He will be missed and will always be remembered for his passion, work, and dedication to plant wildflowers.*

*Sincerely,
Belqis and his FDOT family*



Belqis Majboor - March 01, 2021 at 03:00 PM

BM

“ *So sorry to read of Dick's passing. Prayers and sympathy to all the family.*

Benjamin T Maltby, Jr.

Benjamin T Maltby - February 27, 2021 at 06:21 PM

HH

“ *It was great to know and spend time with Dick he will surely be missed we know he is in good hands know. Harold and Markleyann*



Harold Hill - February 26, 2021 at 04:26 PM