



## Richard Kenneth Brooks

March 9, 1937 - April 27, 2026

Richard Kenneth “Rich” Brooks, 89, of DeLand, Florida, passed away on April 27, 2026, at AdventHealth DeLand. Rich was born in Ohio to a military family, an upbringing that helped shape his strong character and adaptable spirit. He went on to build a successful career as a mechanical engineer, dedicating 23 years to Motorola. It was there, in Plantation, Florida, that he met the love of his life, Cheryl. Their connection quickly grew into a lifelong partnership grounded in love, respect, and devotion.

The couple married and eventually made their home in Crescent City, where they spent 20 happy years together before relocating to DeLand three years ago.

Rich had a deep appreciation for the simple joys in life. He was a talented painter whose work reflected both skill and passion, and he also enjoyed spending time on the golf course. Known for his warmth and humor, Rich had a natural ability to make others laugh and feel at ease. He was widely loved by those who knew him and left a lasting impression wherever he went.

Above all, Rich was a caring and generous man who cherished his family. He treated his wife with unwavering love and admiration, always making her feel like a princess.

He is survived by his wife, Cheryl Brooks; children, Andrea Galino (Michael), Richard Brooks (Betsy); blended family, Ashley Hall, Erin Edgar; brother, Roy Brooks; grandchildren, Kristen, Michael (Kristina), Alexis, Tyler, Blake, Eric(Blythe), Samantha; great grandchild, Liam. He was preceded in death by

his parents Roy and Reva Brooks.

# Tribute Wall

LM

“ Rich was one of my earliest mentors when we worked together (at Motorola) in the 80s, and we even shared an apartment while working on assignment in Penang, Malaysia! I think the 80s were the cusp of the computer era, which meant that engineering was changing from a hand-drawn and hand-made workflow to a computerized everything approach. As a new grad, I was comfortable with computers, but didn't know anything about making real world products. Rich taught me how to engineer in a way that combined both, and I've carried his thinking with me throughout my career. I will miss him (and his little paint brush necklace)!

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**Larry Marvet** - May 14 at 08:44 PM

LP

“ Sending our deepest condolences to the Brooks family. Mr. Brooks took me in like I was one of his own children and always treated me like family. I have so many good memories of him coaching us, encouraging us, and trying to give me the kind of parental guidance that made a lasting impact on my life. He was a good man who truly cared about others, and he will be greatly missed. Praying for comfort and peace for your family during this difficult time. Larry Payne

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**Larry Payne** - May 11 at 11:02 PM

RW

“ We were very saddened when we heard of the passing of Rich. He was not just a great man who loved and adored his wife Cheryl, he was a great brother-in-law who became a beloved member of our family. Rich was a caring and giving man who would reach out a helping hand to those in need. He had a great sense of humor and could always put a smile on our face and a chuckle in our hearts. We will cherish so many wonderful memories and will miss him greatly!

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**Rhonda & Michael White** - May 10 at 11:35 AM

SS

“ I painted with Richard for almost 20 years in the Tuesday afternoon class at the Larimer Art Center in Palatka. He was a good friend and I will really miss him. There are not enough words to express our loss. He was kind, helpful, funny, caring and very talented. He was always willing to guide us in our painting journey. I wish to send condolences to Cheryl and his family. My prayer for them is for peace and understanding at this time. He will be missed. Sharon Saple

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**Sharon Saple** - May 09 at 04:07 PM

JG

“ Rich was a wonderful man who didn't know a stranger. He was full of joy and shared it with all who knew him. He will definitely missed. Love and prayers to the family.

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**Jill Goodman** - May 08 at 10:14 PM

DS

“ The world was a better place with Rich in it.... He will sorely be missed by all of those who knew him. Besides his love for Cheryl and the rest of his family, he leaves his art to remind us of his presence.

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**diane sykes** - May 08 at 08:16 PM

ES

“ Rich always made us younger cousins feel so special always shared his time and absolute attention to us. He will always be remembered in our hearts.

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**Earlene Ash Stewart** - May 05 at 07:15 PM

BB

“ Bob and I so enjoyed spending time with Rich and Cheryl at the family reunions. Bob's early memory is of the four of the Brooks boys growing up at 1397 Honodle Avenue, Akron, Ohio.

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**Bob Brooks** - May 05 at 02:26 PM

TT

“ We will miss Rich terribly. He always put a smile on our faces. We loved playing trivia with him and it just won't be the same without him. We will always cherish the paintings he did for us and we will think of him every time we look at them. There are so many memories that we will always keep close to our hearts. We send our deepest condolences to Cheryl and the rest of Rich's family. Tracey and Jeff

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**Tracey Tapman** - May 04 at 08:09 PM