



Richard Mark Polka

September 26, 1946 - July 22, 2015

Funeral services for Richard Polka, 68 of Giddings, Texas, are scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Monday, July 27, 2015 at Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Giddings with Ryan Grube officiating. Burial will follow in the Giddings City Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Sunday, July 26, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Monday, July 27, 2015 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings. The family will be present for visitation Sunday evening from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Richard Mark Polka was born on September 26, 1946 in Marlin, Texas to Billy A. Polka and Gertrude (Grucholski) Polka. His mother later married Joe Biezenski of Bremond, Texas. He was raised by his maternal grandparents, Sam & Mary Grucholski. Richard was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary Catholic Church in Bremond. He graduated from Bremond High School in May of 1966. In February of 1968, he went to work for Southern Pacific Railroad and was stationed in Giddings where he met his wife, Arvella Baack. Six months later, on August 31, 1968, they were united in marriage at St. Mary Catholic Church in Bremond. In December of 1968, Richard went to work for Alcoa in Rockdale and retired after 34 years. After one year of taking it easy, he went to work for Giddings I.S.D. as a groundskeeper. He retired 10 years later after being diagnosed with cancer. Richard's passion in life was working hard, spending time with his family, keeping an immaculate yard and washing his pickup. He also loved the Dallas Cowboys and his Lone Star Beer.

Richard passed away, with his family by his side, the afternoon of Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at Seton Medical Center in Austin following a hard fought battle with cancer.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Billy Polka and Gertrude & Joe Biezenski; his grandparents, Sam & Mary Grucholski; his brother-in-law, Tommy Johnson and his father-in-law, Louis Baack.

Richard is survived by his wife of 46 years, Arvella Polka of Giddings; his daughter and son-in-law, Marla & James Roberts of Picture Rocks, Pennsylvania; his granddaughter, Megan Roberts of Picture Rocks, Pennsylvania; his two sisters and brothers-in-law, Bernadine & Clem Wachel of Bremond and Jo Ann & Ron Fealko of Pearl, Mississippi; his mother-in-law, Cedall Baack; his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Marlene & Leslie Sherfy of Giddings and his brother-in-law, Delbert Baack of Giddings. Richard is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews as well as his lap dog and companion, Pedro.

Serving as pallbearers will be Fred Warhol Jr., Ronnie Olexy, Gary Doyle, Dennis Mack, Britt Syler and Mike Dyess. Honorary pallbearers will be Richard's fellow co-workers from Alcoa and Giddings I.S.D.

Memorials may be made to the Lee County Cancer Resource Center, 165 West Austin Street, Giddings, Texas 78942, Martin Luther Lutheran Church General Fund, 573 North Main Street, Giddings, Texas 78942 or to the charity of one's choice.

Cemetery Details

Giddings City Cemetery

900 West Austin Street
Giddings, TX 78942

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **26.** 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Giddings
3950 East Austin St.
Giddings, TX 78942
(979) 542-3113
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Visitation

JUL **27.** 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Giddings
3950 East Austin St.
Giddings, TX 78942
(979) 542-3113
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Church Service

JUL 27. 10:00 AM (CT)

Martin Luther Lutheran Church
573 North Main Street
Giddings, TX 78942

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard Mark Polka*




Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - July 24, 2015 at 11:10 AM

LS

“ *Richard was a great neighbor. My late husband and I enjoyed visiting with Richard and Arvella every chance we had. It was a comfort to know Richard was there after my husband passed. I will miss him very much.*

Sue Schultz

Linda Sue Schultz - July 27, 2015 at 08:31 AM

 Joan
Moses

“ I so much remember what a trooper your dad was when we would stay at your house for sleepovers. I'm sure all the giggling and running around drove him crazy, but he never said a word. We always had such a good time and he always seemed to enjoy watching us have fun.

Now he is at peace and watching over us again. He will be so missed.

Love, hugs and prayers to all of you today and for the months to come.

Joan Painter Moses

Joan Moses - July 27, 2015 at 07:40 AM

GM

“ Arvella, Susie, Jimmy and Megan, I have many fond memories of Richard. He was good hard working man that always put his family first. The good news!!! One glorious day we will see him again!!
God's peace be with y'all.
Gary Mertz

Gary Mertz - July 27, 2015 at 01:52 AM

TM

“ We had a lot of good times in high school. Will always remember Richard as a good friend. So sorry to hear the bad news.
Tommy Mullins

Tommy Mullins - July 26, 2015 at 07:37 PM

MM

“ Marla, my deepest sympathies to you and your family. I pray that God will grant you comfort and peace during this difficult time. You are in my thoughts and prayers.... Michele Weiser Muniz

Michele Weiser Muniz - July 26, 2015 at 07:01 PM

DO

“ Miss you Uncle Richard. Now you and Tommy can really sit back with a cold one and enjoy watching the Dallas Cowboys.

Donna - July 25, 2015 at 10:47 PM

BG

“ So sorry for your loss, Arvella. Our prayers are with you and your family.
Love, Bruno & Bonnie Grych

Bruno & Bonnie Grych - July 25, 2015 at 10:07 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Mark Polka.



July 25, 2015 at 03:23 PM

MS

“ Michelle Schuetz lit a candle in memory of Richard Mark Polka



Michelle Schuetz - July 25, 2015 at 10:46 AM

MS

I am so sorry for your loss Arvella, Marla, and your families. May God give you all strength, comfort and peace during this time. Remember all the good times, those will not be forgotten, we have a special angel watching and taking care of us all.

Michelle Schuetz - July 25, 2015 at 10:48 AM

BC

“ Arvella, my deepest sympathy to you and your entire family who are being remembered in my prayers. Richard was a very special person to the Bremond High School Class of 1966. The memories that were created then will remain in all our hearts forever. God bless all of you and be with you during this very difficult time. Richard was loved by many.

Barbara "Berger" Crouch

Barbara Berger Crouch - July 25, 2015 at 09:27 AM

SL

“ Sidney L. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard Mark Polka.



Sidney L. - July 24, 2015 at 11:39 PM

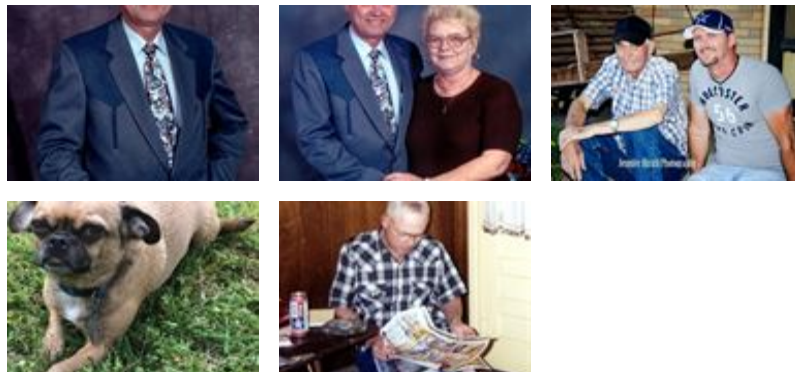
JL

“ We are so sorry to hear about Richard!! He will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!! God Bless you! Rodney & Joan Lange and Family

Joan Lange - July 24, 2015 at 02:55 PM



“ 29 files added to the album LifeTributes



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - July 24, 2015 at 10:54 AM

SH

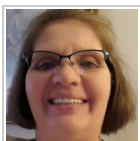
“ Marla and family, you and your family have our deepest sympathy.
May God bless you,
Shirley Higgins

shirley higgins - July 24, 2015 at 07:59 AM

MS

“ Arabella, Marla and all of your family. You are all in our thoughts
and prayers. We are out of state but know we are sending our love!
Donnie & Mary Ann

Mary Ann & Donnie Simmang - July 23, 2015 at 11:57 PM



“ Sorry for your loss. Marla Sue, your dad was
amazing and I had so much fun at your
house. Your dad always made everyone felt
so welcomed. .



Rashel Carrico - July 23, 2015 at 10:32 PM

DB

“ *What can I say but " I LOVE YOU RICHARD" GODSPEED!!*

Drlbert Basck - July 23, 2015 at 09:06 PM

DB

“ *Drlbert Basck lit a candle in memory of Richard Mark Polka*



Drlbert Basck - July 23, 2015 at 09:05 PM

BC

“ *buddy and janice chew purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Richard Mark Polka.*



buddy and janice chew - July 23, 2015 at 05:35 PM

 Tammy Barrow

“ *Thoughts and prayers to you all in this difficult time.*



Tammy Barrow - July 23, 2015 at 04:17 PM

DS

“ *Marla, I will never forget how kind your father was to us. It didn't matter how many of us showed up at your house and how loud we were, he always greeted us with a smile. Praying for you and the family. Love you.*

Dahlia Shane - July 23, 2015 at 03:57 PM

JJ

“ *My deepest sympathies to you all.*



Joyce Jenke - July 23, 2015 at 10:19 AM

TM

“ *Teresa And Howard Muniz lit a candle in memory of Richard Mark Polka*



Teresa and Howard Muniz - July 23, 2015 at 09:49 AM

LG

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Travis and Lynn Gunter



Lynn gunter - July 23, 2015 at 09:41 AM

JP

*Arvella, Susie, Jimmy, & Megan No amount of words can be said for what you have gone through in this time of Richard's illness. He will be with your dad now & he is at peace. God bless you in your journey without his presence but with good memories. God's blessings.
"Painter" (Jo Ann) & CL*

JoAnn & CL Painter - July 23, 2015 at 07:30 PM