



Dennis Todd Riggs

April 12, 1960 - January 12, 2017

Dennis Todd Riggs died unexpectedly on January 12, 2017 in La Plata, MD at the age of 56.

Dennis is survived by his wife, Joyce Conlon Riggs; children, Jennifer Riggs Driban and husband Nick of Baltimore, MD and Allison (Riggs) Madden and husband Daniel of New Orleans, LA; one grandchild, Caroline Driban; parents, Georganna Bender of Longwood, FL, and Clarence Riggs of Winter Park, FL; grandmother, Margaret Hawkins; and siblings, Mindy Rhoades and Becky Forrester. Dennis is preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Lloyd Hawkins, and his paternal grandparents, Mable and Chester Riggs.

Dennis was born on April 12, 1960 in Terra Haute, IN. He graduated from Lake Brantley HS in Longwood, FL in 1978. He attended Florida Technological University (now University of Central Florida) before joining the United States Air Force, where he served on active duty for 4 years, followed by 6 years in the DC Air National Guard. He married Joyce Conlon, his high school sweetheart in 1982. After moving to Waldorf, Dennis worked as a Civil Engineer for Lorenzi, Dodds, & Gunnill, DH Stefens, and most recently Ben Dyer.

Dennis was a member of the New Life Church in La Plata, and before that St. Joseph's Church in Pomfret where he volunteered in many capacities. He was

also a member of the Knights of Columbus, Pomfret Chapter and the Rotary Club of La Plata. Dennis was an accomplished cook and enjoyed using his talents for the benefit of others in the community through volunteering at the Wayside Food Bank and numerous other soup kitchens in Charles County, MD. He served on the building committees for St Joseph's Church and Archbishop Neale School after the La Plata tornado. He also served as a Eucharistic Minister at St Joseph's and as a youth advisor at St. Philip's church in Camp Springs.

He was a devoted husband and generous, dedicated father who coached soccer, volunteered at dance recitals, and became an honorary member of the Girl Scouts for his daughters. Dennis loved the water and enjoyed sailing, surfing, diving, water skiing, and flying his kite at the beach. His favorite place in the world was the four-wheel drive section of the Outer Banks, NC. His other passions included camping, woodworking, tennis, classic rock, and driving his jeep with the top down.

Dennis never met a stranger. He treated everyone as a friend, generously gave of his time and talents, and never hesitated to help a person in need. He was fun-loving and charismatic. He had a big heart and was dedicated to his family and friends who meant everything to him.

Friends received on Thursday, January 19, 2017 from 11:00AM until Memorial Service at 11:30AM at New Life Church in La Plata, with a reception immediately following. Pastors Chris Wagnon and Aaron Rummage will officiate the ceremony. All are invited and welcome to attend and celebrate Dennis' life.

Contributions in memory of Dennis may be made to the Joseph C. Ferrante Memorial Scholarship Fund at <http://www.josephferrantefoundation.org/donate-now/> or sent to Joseph C. Ferrante Memorial Scholarship Fund, Golden Beach Patuxent Knolls Civic Association, P.O. Box 229, Charlotte Hall, MD

20622.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Life Wesleyan Church
9690 Shepherd's Creek Place
La Plata, MD 20646

Tribute Wall



“ *Dennis Todd Riggs*

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ *Dennis Todd Riggs*

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *Mindy Rhoades lit a candle in memory of
Dennis Todd Riggs*



Mindy Rhoades - March 22, 2017 at 12:48 PM



“ *Dear Joyce and family;
We are so sorry for your loss. You, your daughters and family are in
our hearts and prayers.
Steve and Donna Emrick*

Donna Emrick - January 25, 2017 at 09:38 PM



“ *Dear Joyce and family - We were saddened to hear of your loss.
Our prayers are for your comfort at this difficult time. Darlene and
Tom Fairfax*

Darlene Fairfax - January 23, 2017 at 03:02 PM

SB

“ I worked with Dennis at LDG for what I think adds up to about 18 years. Through the years he shared many stories of his adventures. He truly enjoyed life to the fullest - but nothing made him happier than his time with family. He gushed with pride whenever he spoke of his daughters and of Joyce and all of their accomplishments. He always had a smile when he talked about his sisters, grandmother and his parents as well. He was also a great listener and problem solver. I learned a lot from Dennis - with work and with life lessons. The services today were a perfect tribute to this man. I know he is sorely missed by all those that were fortunate enough to call him friend. I send my sincerest condolences to all of his family. I will keep all of you in my prayers. Rest easy Dennis.
Sue B.

Sue Brummitt - January 19, 2017 at 08:32 PM



Mindy Rhoades

Thank you for coming to the service for Dennis. Thank you for your beautiful words!

Mindy Rhoades - January 23, 2017 at 09:54 AM



“ My condolences to the family and such a hard time my heart and prayers are with you
Love Rita



Rita King - January 19, 2017 at 04:00 PM

JH

“ Condolences to Joyce, family and friends from your Knights of Columbus council # 12128 Pomfret, MD Brothers and field agent : John Herron. Rest In Peace Dennis

john herron - January 19, 2017 at 06:38 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



January 18, 2017 at 04:56 PM



“ *Charlie, Theresa, Amanda and Laura purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



Charlie, Theresa, Amanda and Laura - January 18, 2017 at 02:10 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



January 18, 2017 at 11:54 AM

LB

“ *Dennis will always be that sweet, first little boy who came into our Baldwin-Hawkins family, oh so long ago! Our daughters, especially the first two who were nearer him in age, adored him and were always excited when he visited. I do remember also his SHARING his measles with Missy when he was just a young child! Just a brief visit but one to remember!*

Larry enjoyed Dennis's evening calls these past few months and will miss them.

May our Lord and Savior give rest to his soul and peace and comfort to all of you who will miss him as we will.

As you mourn, may the Peace of God help you.

Marcia and Larry

Larry and Marcia Baldwin - January 18, 2017 at 10:41 AM



Mindy Rhoades

Marcia, Dennis loved to share! Shared the chickenpox with me when I was little! He loved You, Button, Missy, Laurie & Christy.

Mindy Rhoades - January 18, 2017 at 02:41 PM

YF

“ *Your Pi Lambda Phi Family purchased the Heartfelt Memories for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



Your Pi Lambda Phi Family - January 17, 2017 at 08:55 PM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



January 17, 2017 at 05:01 PM



“ *Joyce, may you know that my thoughts and prayers are with you. Your friends and colleagues care and can support you through this difficult time.*

Mary Beth Klick - January 17, 2017 at 11:14 AM



“ *May he Rest In Peace and love give comfort to his family. 🦋*

Maria Bryant - January 17, 2017 at 09:58 AM



“ *When I was 16 (Dennis was 13), Dennis' Dad would let me take Dennis and my brother for drives in their MG Midget - we thought that was just SO COOL! He was kind hearted. Hugs Dennis, Diane Haenel Grunseth*

Diane Haenel Grunseth - January 17, 2017 at 09:24 AM



“ *Joyce, my deepest sympathy to you and your family with the unexpected loss of your husband. May you find comfort in all the loving memories of your life together.*

Judy Rudolf

Judy Rudolf - January 16, 2017 at 08:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



January 16, 2017 at 08:22 PM



“ *Dennis had always had a kind spirit and a joyful heart. When I lived in Waldorf we always talked about our latest recipes and good wines to accompany them. Sending my love to you all.*

Jonna Climie - January 16, 2017 at 07:31 PM



“ *Joyce: words cannot express the sadness I feel having heard the news of Dennis from my brother. I knew Dennis once upon a time, many years ago as we water skied to our hearts content one summers day on some lake in some state - - I can still picture in my minds eye the ease with which Dennis hit those waves. If I've but that one single memory, you must have thousands others of equal joy and happiness. Remember them because its those memories, along with the support of family and friends that will keep you going until time itself does what it does best: heal. My name is Michael Cuellar - - Hector's little brother. God Bless you.*

michael Cuellar - January 16, 2017 at 04:02 PM

TA

“ *The Taylors, Baldwins, Starkstons, and Adkins purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



The Taylors, Baldwins, Starkstons, and Adkins - January 16, 2017 at 02:49 PM

JJ

“ *I worked with Dennis for around 13 years at LDG. I fondly remember all the good times we had together both at work and in the neighborhood. I remember right after he started working at LDG he turned 30 and Joyce had his desk area all decked out with balloons and stuff - he was always happy when it came to anything family. Sometimes we would take a long lunch break and drive to Alexandria to grab a few cigars and have one on the ride back to work.*

We had a lot of fun golfing many times, hanging out in his garage in Waldorf drinking beer and messing with his woodwork stuff. My daughter Jessica is in between Jenny and Allie in age so it was easy for them to play together while the grown ups also played. Dennis' cooking was indeed amazing - so many good dishes. I remember him grilling up deer at my Roadkill party in 2000 and it was so good.

You will be truly missed my old friend. Until we meet again...

Jerry

Jerry Jochum - January 16, 2017 at 02:25 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



January 16, 2017 at 01:33 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



January 16, 2017 at 09:05 AM



“ *With Love, Kathee purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



With Love, Kathee - January 16, 2017 at 08:39 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.*



January 16, 2017 at 08:19 AM



“ Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of Dennis Todd Riggs.



January 16, 2017 at 03:43 AM



“ I served with Dennis in the Air Force. I admired his military bearing. I saw him as a great role model. He treated everyone as a friend and me like a brother. I loved the long chats we would have over coffee or even a beer. He taught me many aspects of engineering that I never knew existed. I will miss Dennis and I will cry for him tonight. I will cry every April 23rd, for that is the anniversary of our enlistment together.

Daniel Leskinen - January 15, 2017 at 10:06 PM



Daniel and I both served with Dennis in the Air Force. It was an honor and privilege to have served with him.

Dorothy Salko, SMSgt USAF Ret. - January 16, 2017 at 12:50 AM



Thank you for sharing your memories of Dennis!

Mindy Rhoades - January 16, 2017 at 11:51 AM

LF

Dennis touched our lives when we were kids in Glendale, Missouri and reading about some of what he did later gives a glimpse into the person he became. His exuberance, energy, love for people and quick smile were obviously never diminished. You are in our thoughts and prayers as you mourn his passing. We are blessed to have known him. Praying you each receive an extra measure of our awesome God's incomprehensible peace during these difficult days. In Christ's love,
Lynn Haenel Finer

Lynn Haenel Finer - January 17, 2017 at 08:35 PM



Joyce Riggs

Thank you, Dan. Great memories, Love, joyce

Joyce Riggs - January 25, 2017 at 09:11 PM

GA

“ *Gail lit a candle in memory of Dennis Todd Riggs*



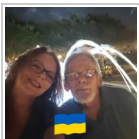
gail - January 15, 2017 at 09:54 PM

AC

“ *Joyce and family, so sorry for your loss...God bless all of you...*

Art and Bonnie Conlon

Arthur Conlon - January 15, 2017 at 09:00 PM



“ *I talked to Dennis via cell phone recently. Had a great conversation. The words that keep coming to my mind were great. Making a joke about something during that talk he said "Lar, you crack me up!"*

Larry Rhoades - January 15, 2017 at 07:52 PM



Mindy Rhoades

I love this! My brother and husband laughing together, not surprising!! Another thing they have in common is their talent for building blanket forts!!

Mindy Rhoades - January 16, 2017 at 12:21 AM

JE

“Dennis and I were surfing buddies from Sweetwater Oaks. I still surf regularly nearly 40 years later but we had one of the worst shark sitings that I have ever encountered.

We were surfing Bethune beach on a sizable day with no one else out. The semi-choppy waves were breaking way off shore, probably at least 300-400 yards or more. There was a light onshore wind and as we sat there talking to each other about 15-20 feet apart waiting for the next set of waves, Dennis suddenly said, "What is that boil in the water behind you!" I immediately jumped down on my board and took a couple of paddle strokes towards Dennis and at that moment, right in between us, a huge hammerhead shark surfaced looked right at me and rolled back under towards Dennis. The shark's eye was as big as a horse's eye and only about four-five feet from face. The left side of its hammer shaped head was about 2-3 feet out of the water on my side. As the shark rolled back under as we were left with the image of a huge dorsal and tail fin sinking slowly beneath the surface.

Dennis walked on water that day! I've never seen anyone paddle that fast since. We talked about this for a long time and then we lost touch with one another after High School. Dennis was a really good dude. Rest in Peace my friend!

Jim Emmons - January 15, 2017 at 07:34 PM



Thank you for that story, Jim! Dennis loved surfing! Your description was so great, I could picture my brother running on water! He talked to me a lot in recent times about those days. Your name came up often and always fondly!

Mindy Rhoades - January 15, 2017 at 11:45 PM