



Richard Michael Carter

February 22, 1940 - April 14, 2026

IN LOVING MEMORY

Richard Michael "Mickey" Carter, 86, of Corcoran, Minnesota, passed away peacefully at home on April 14, 2026, surrounded by those who loved him.

Born and raised in Sumter, South Carolina, Richard was the beloved son of Calvin Arthur Carter and Rosa Lee Wells Carter. He graduated from Edmunds High School in 1958, where he proudly earned a Gold Key as Drum Major, won the John Phillips Sousa award, and served as President of the Fellowship Club.

Richard proudly served in the United States Armed Forces. He enlisted in the Navy Reserves then served in the Army until 1963. He played the french horn in the band while stationed in Tokyo, Japan, participating in numerous military events.

He was a lifelong learner whose love of education shaped both his personal and professional life. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Psychology from Roosevelt University in Chicago and continued graduate studies at the University of Chicago in educational testing, psychometrics, educational sociology, and Mastery Learning. He later earned his master's degree in Adult and Professional Education from the University of Minnesota.

As a gifted psychometrician, statistician, and educational leader, Richard devoted his career to advancing professional education and assessment in healthcare. He served in Director roles at Rush University in Chicago, the Dental Assisting National Board, and finally the American Academy of Neurology in Minneapolis, which involved shaping innovative approaches to curriculum design and educational measurement, supporting standards of excellence in certification and professional advancement, and strengthening continuing education.

His expertise was recognized nationally through his work as editor and educational consultant to the Joint Committee on Education of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. He was also a published author, including *The Effect of Permissive Environment on Scoring of the Orthopedic In-Training Examination* (Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, 1973) and *Developing Instructional Programs for Health Science Education* (Educational Technology Publications, Inc., 1980).

Richard's thirst for knowledge continued post-retirement through online educational platforms, attendance at the Nobel Conference at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, and many years of volunteer service at the MS Society booth in the Minnesota State Fair Education Building.

Richard is survived by his loving fiancée and life partner Renee Houlehan; daughters Lydia Wilson (Leon) and Courtney Carter (Kevin Mosley); grandchildren Richard Michael and Randi Wilson; Renee's children Kelly Vinihan (Daniel) and James Houlehan II; brothers Robert and Lawrence Carter; and sister Sandra Carter Whittle (Bob).

He was preceded in death by his parents, Calvin Arthur Carter and Rosa Lee

Wells Carter, and brother Thomas Carter.

A special thank you to Superior Hospice for their extraordinary care during Richard's final months, especially Susan, Julie, Diamond, and Angela.

Richard's memory, laughter, love of life, devotion to family, and endless positivity will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

A memorial service will be held at a future date, with a private family interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Minnesota Public Radio or MS Society of Minnesota.

Tribute Wall

KV

“ Richard was a treasured member of our family and I am so grateful for all the time we had to spend with him. He always had a smile and a kind word to share, along with an interesting tale to entertain (some of them taller than others 😊). I still use many Richard-ism’s in my conversations, one of my favorites being “You writing a book? Leave that chapter out” 📖. Richard found joy in so many things and I enjoyed surprising him with creature comforts that would light up his face like special candies or fruitcake at the holidays. Richard was a wonderful partner to my mom and he will be greatly missed - love you very much, Richard! Included photo from my wedding in 2021.



Kelly Vinihan - May 01 at 10:51 AM

JD

“ Jeanne Doll lit a candle in memory of Richard Michael Carter



Jeanne doll - April 30 at 02:58 PM

JD

“ Richard was apart of our family for 27 years. He was my brother in law . He was understanding and caring and funny and so smart. I will miss him so much. He made my Sister Renee so so happy and I told Richard I will take care of Renee. Love you Richard and rest in peace. Jeanne

Jeanne doll - April 30 at 02:58 PM