



## Ricky Rudd

November 23, 1951 - July 27, 2025

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“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

—2 Timothy 4:7

Richard (Ricky) Glenn Rudd, aged 73, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, July 27, 2025, surrounded by loved ones.

Born on November 23, 1951, Ricky loved people. He loved to have great conversations to make people laugh and had a gift of storytelling. Above all, he loved Jesus and faithfully prayed for those he loved.

Ricky proudly co-owned and operated Rudd Plumbing, a business originally founded by his grandfather in the early 1920s. Before retiring in 2012, he carried on that legacy with pride, earning the respect of customers, colleagues, and friends through his honest work ethic and commitment to quality service. His work wasn't just a job—it was a family tradition and a cornerstone of the community.

Ricky Rudd will be deeply missed and forever remembered for his deep faith, hard work, generosity, the legacy he built, and the love he gave so freely.

Ricky is survived by his son Ken Rudd and wife Mary; daughter Niki Rains

and husband Jason; step-daughter Jessica Ogden and husband Robert; step-son Jeff Carroll and wife Jessica; brother Ross Rudd and wife Tammy; grandchildren Baylee Wilabay, Blake Wilabay, Tanner Rudd, Addison Rains, Jett Stanger, Belinda Ogden, Krystal Ogden, Dalton Ogden, Vanessa Ogden and Alfie Ogden, Max Carroll, Caidy Carroll; and great-grandchild Hayden Wilabay.

He is preceded in death by his first wife of 37 years, Carolyn June Rudd, and his second wife of 12 years, Laura Jane Rudd. He is also preceded in death by his parents, Richard and Janice Rudd, his sister, Sara Jones, and his brother, Rodney Rudd.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, July 30, 2025, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Stewart Family Funeral Home. A private family graveside service will take place Thursday, July 31, 2025, at Rudd Family Cemetery. Graveside service will be officiated by Bruce Rudd. Pallbearers: Tanner Rudd, Blake Wilabay, Jett Stanger, Robert Ogden, Tony Sinclair, Chance Cansler, Aaron Smith, and Mark Beck.

## Cemetery Details

### Private Family Graveside - Rudd Family Cemetery

Tyler, TX

## Previous Events

### Visitation

JUL **30**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home  
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy  
Tyler, TX 75703  
(903) 581-2008

# Tribute Wall



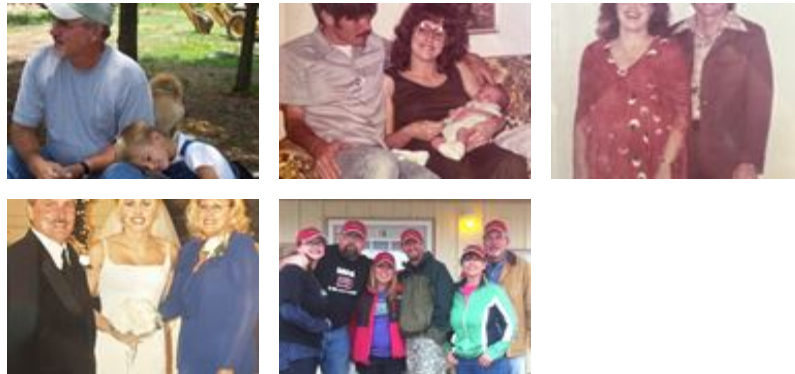
“ *Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ricky Rudd*



Stewart Family Funeral Home - July 30, 2025 at 04:38 PM



“ *80 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Stewart Family Funeral Home - July 30, 2025 at 04:24 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Ricky Rudd.*



July 29, 2025 at 10:33 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ricky Rudd.

July 29, 2025 at 10:33 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ricky Rudd.



July 29, 2025 at 10:19 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ricky Rudd.

July 29, 2025 at 10:19 AM

“Ricky & June were such instrumental people from my childhood. Seems like I spent as much time with them as my own family. Ricky loved to talk to anyone he could. He was so genuine and thoughtful, he had such a light about him. He was always smiling and looking to make someone else smile. He devoted so much time not only to Ken and Niki, but to every single one of their friends like me. He made us feel welcome and cared for, and we all had so much respect for Ricky because of the way he carried himself and his devotion to his family. Whether we were hunting, fishing, playing sports, or anything in between, Ricky was there to watch and encourage.

Growing up between soccer, football, and basketball, I can honestly say I don't think Ricky not only missed a game, but he would never even miss a practice. He was always there, squatting down low to the ground and grabbing a piece of grass to chew on. Looking back, I don't know if it was a nervous habit, or if he really liked the taste of grass, but I always remember seeing him grabbing a blade of Bahia grass and he always had it to chew on. He and my dad spent years coaching us in soccer, even though neither one knew the slightest bit about the sport, they just wanted to help us grow and spend time with us. In middle school, Ricky would show up to every single football practice we had in his little silver compact single cab Nissan truck. He would just roll his windows down and watch and after practice he would always make me laugh by telling me some funny story or joke.

His love for talking to people was such a big deal that we had a T-shirt made for him that said "The Ricky Rudd Talk Show" and would encourage him to wear it. I remember he turned so red when we gave it to him, such good memories. It seems like we were always to the last ones to leave any event when you rode with Ricky - because he wanted to talk to every single person he could on the way out of the practice, games, tournaments, grocery stores - literally wherever you went with Ricky, you were the last to leave. Ken would get so frustrated, but we just laughed at it because we

*loved Ricky so much, and he was so genuine about it.*

*Ricky - we love you and will miss you. Brad & Wendy Cooper & family*

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**Brad & Wendy Cooper** - July 28, 2025 at 09:53 PM

JK

*So beautifully said Brad Cooper. And all true! He and June were devoted parents and friends to all of Chapel Hill. You will be missed. Bennie and Janis Killion and family*

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**janis killion** - July 29, 2025 at 12:23 PM