



# John Ashley Richards

MAR 17, 1941 - OCT 1, 2017



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# John Ashley Richards

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## John Ashley Richards

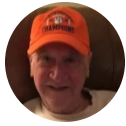
Passed away at home on October 1, 2017 after a 4-year battle with Lambert-Eaton Syndrome. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Kay; and wonderful daughters and sons-in-law Kristin (Shane) Abernathy, Cassie (Joe) Donaldson, and Courtney (Peter) Darke. He is also survived by 6 grandchildren whom he adored - Michael Joseph, Michael Shane, Ashley, Kayla, Avery and Chase; a brother, Charles, and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by parents Robert and Lucy Richards and brother Robert.

John was a graduate of Clemson University and remained one of their most loyal fans. He retired, after 36 years of service from the Department of Commerce as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs. For seventeen years he represented the Department on a NATO committee in Belgium; seven years of which he was chairman. He spent a year at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and received his masters from George Washington University. He went on to work for General Dynamics Corporation for almost 10 years as Director of International Affairs (Asia). In retirement he had been active with, among others, one of his favorite programs - Operation Homefront.

The family would like to thank the many family and friends who sent thoughts and prayers; and who visited John over his most recent couple of months in hospitals and rehab facilities. These all lifted his spirits so much. He fought hard and is now at peace.

Services will be for immediate family, per John's wishes.

Please share online condolences with the family at [www.loudounfuneralchapel.com](http://www.loudounfuneralchapel.com)



## Tribute Wall

**John Ashley Richards**

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MC

**Michael Cohen** posted:

We hope the wonderful memories of your Grandpa...Father & Husband will bring you all comfort during this difficult time. We know our memories of John and your family as wonderful neighbors and friends brought us joyous thoughts of the past. We will always remember John bringing us those wonderful Belgian Chocolates on his many trips to Europe. He will surely be missed by us all. Our love and condolences.Ronda & Michael Cohen

October 5 at 2:00 PM

ST

**Steve Taylor** posted:

John Richards, a life well lived! I knew John for the last 15 years and always admired his passion for causes and people he believed in. He was a people person and cared deeply about those he knew and those he had never met. His support for Operation Homefront during those years was a big reason we had so much success at River Creek in raising funds to help military families. He fought hard through his recent medical issues and set an example I hope I could follow in similar times of pain and hardship. John, you are the best. Steve Taylor

October 5 at 1:50 PM

LR

**Loudoun Spine And Rehabilitation** sent a Gracious Lavender Basket to the Richards family.



October 4 at 12:23 PM

PH

**Pamela Hickey** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. I will always remember his sweet smile. Pamela Hickey

October 4 at 7:40 AM



**Mary Sakraida Cohen** posted:

Don't know what happen to my first post but this is a continuance ! John was so proud of his girls and so blessed that they stayed in the area and was able to enjoy his grandchildren. We love you all and loved John!Sincerest sympathy with love, Mary and Bobby

October 4 at 7:36 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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