

## Mr. Donald Kenneth Rice

May 25, 1929 - January 31, 2021

Donald Kenneth Rice, 91, of Lexington, died Sunday, January 31, 2021 at Autumn Care of Salisbury. Born May 25, 1929 in Washington, DC, he was the son of the late Jean Lucille Mosser Rice and Louis Kenneth Rice.

Mr. Rice was educated in the District of Columbia public school system graduating from McKinley Technical High School in February 1947. After graduation he worked briefly for the Army Map Service as a cartographic draftsman before entering the University of Maryland as a freshman. In the Spring of 1948 Mr. Rice was accepted into the Aviation Cadet program and after basic training, received his wings as a rated pilot and was commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the United States Air Force in July 1949, Class of 49 B. Capt. Rice was a member of the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing Association and a member of the USAF Pilots School Class of 49 B Association.

After graduation from the University of Maryland with a BA Degree in Business Administration and graduate studies in Industrial Psychology at American University he was employed by Peoples Drug Stores where he worked for 20 years and served in various capacities; Retail Store Manager, an executive position in Sales Promotion, and Director of Distribution. In 1977 he left Peoples and was employed by the Bob Banning Automotive Group where he worked in an executive capacity until he fully retired in December 2002.

Mr. Rice was an active member of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Annapolis where he had served on the Diaconate and as an Elder and was a

long time participant in several Bible study groups and facilitator for a men's theological discussion group. In addition to his interest in Reformed Theology and the study of Scripture he loved sailing or just to spend time on or near the water.

Surviving is his loving wife of (72) years, Claire Palmer Rice. They were high school sweethearts. They met in South Anne Arundel County, where their parents owned summer residences at Owings Beach, and they were married on 21 December 1948. Also surviving are three children; Sharon Rice Wickstrom (Dave) of Lexington, NC, Scott Palmer Rice (Patricia) of Warrenton, VA, Christopher L. Rice (Cindy) of Raleigh, NC, 15 grandchildren; Beth, David, Lori, Matt, Rebecca, Patrick, Mary Ann, Lisa, Christopher, Philip, Calvin, Heidi, Leigh, Kevin and Nathan, 46 great grandchildren and one brother, B. Lynn Rice (Linda) of St. Leonard, MD.

A private family Graveside Service will be held 11 AM – Friday (Feb. 12) at the Salisbury VA National Cemetery. Military Graveside Rites will be conducted by the United States Air Force and the Rowan County Veterans Honor Guard. There will be a private family only (due to Covid) celebration of life service at The Meadowview Reformed Presbyterian Church, 1 Grace Way, Lexington, NC on Friday, February 12th. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Gideons Bible Memorial Fund, [gideons.org/donate](http://gideons.org/donate).

# Tribute Wall

IC

“ To the family of Don,

*Thank you, Chris for letting me know about your dad. Your notice brought tears to my eyes because he was such a spiritually and emotionally uplifting, gentle giant—always taking life in stride. He was a wonderful human being and I will miss him.....but I know for sure he is just as ‘at home’ with Jesus!*

*Even when surrounded by many of the, then, thirteen grandchildren, two of whom would spend vacation time each summer with Grandma and Grandpa Rice in their trailer in Florida, where Charlie and I, our daughter, Christine, and your Mom and Dad would head off to Walt Disney World day after day and, upon their return home to you, you would have to bring them back to the real world.....(so sorry, please forgive us all!)*

*Charlie and I had met your dad in the Annapolis area in the 80’s, where they discovered they both enjoyed sailing; and your Dad would take Charlie out in his sailboat frequently throughout many following years.*

*However, a memory I have of your Dad is his sitting at his computer for many hours, evening after evening, in the Florida-room addition of the trailer home where we were also next-door neighbors at Lakewood Park. He loved that activity.*

*I am so saddened but know, without any doubt, that he is present with the Lord and may have even met up with his friend, Charlie, (my husband), who went Home to Jesus 2-1/2 years ago. I will continue to have such fond memories of your folks for the remainder of my life and we will find each other in Heaven someday soon! Your parents were not only good friends to us—but also to my my Mom, Millicent Mileto, whom they led to the Lord at the age of 88 years!*

*If you receive this message, Chris, you and your siblings and all*

*your children, please accept my most sincere condolences; say 'Hello' to your Mom for me; and let her know that I will remember you all in prayer and also let her know how much I loved the video—that was stupendous!!*

*Til we meet in Heaven,*

*Irene Clagett*

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**Irene M. Clagett** - March 15, 2021 at 10:51 PM

FP

“ *From the family of Nancy Palmer Propst purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Donald Kenneth Rice.*

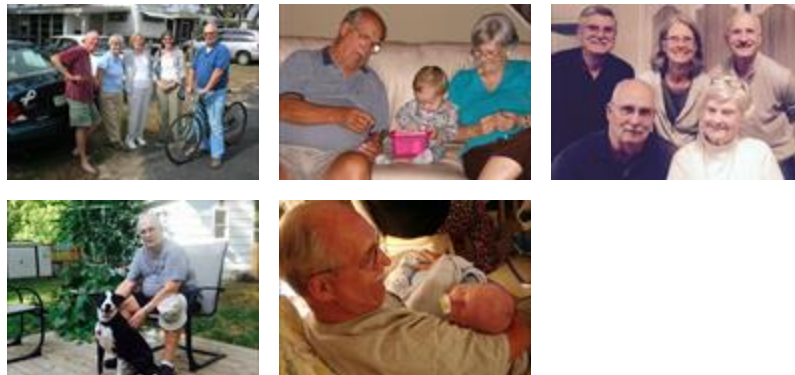


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**From the family of Nancy Palmer Propst** - February 09, 2021 at 04:16 PM

SW

“ *8 files added to the album Family photos*



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**Sharon Wickstrom** - February 05, 2021 at 03:36 PM

LS

“ Len and Jeannie Sershen purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Donald Kenneth Rice.



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**Len and Jeannie Sershen** - February 05, 2021 at 12:06 PM

DC

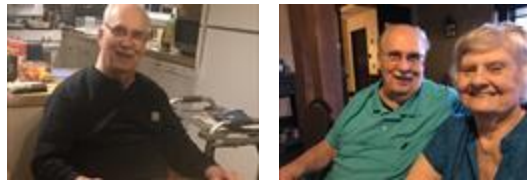
“ I got to know Don when I joined EP Church in Annapolis and attended the same Sunday School class that he and Claire attended. I got to know him just by talked to both he and Claire. When I found out he was a pilot in the war, I use to always call him "Fly Boy". He and I use to email back and forth with anything about flying. He would send me emails from other guys in his unit. We all missed he and Claire when they moved, but were happy they were with family. Love to Claire, Dee Chalfant

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**Dee Chalfant** - February 04, 2021 at 09:27 PM

SW

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



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**sharon wickstrom** - February 02, 2021 at 09:40 AM

CR

“ 1 file added to the album *70th Wedding Anniversary Video*



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**Chris Rice** - February 01, 2021 at 05:38 PM