



Mr. Richard Stephen Rabon

July 25, 1953 - April 16, 2014

Steve Rabon, 60, of Salisbury, NC and formerly of Florence, SC passed away peacefully Wednesday, April 16, 2014 in Salisbury with his family by his side. Steve was born July 25, 1953 in Conway, South Carolina to the late Richard Tillman Rabon and Jo Rabon Jordan. He graduated from Southside High School in Florence, SC in 1971.

Steve met his wife on a blind date while attending the College of Charleston. After graduating from Francis Marion University, he taught Chemistry at Wilson High School in Florence, SC. In 1978, he moved the family to Salisbury, NC for a career at Frito Lay, Inc. He offered 36 years of exemplary service as an innovator for the company. He was a sharp dressed man, appreciating a freshly starched shirt and continental pants. He adored his wife as well as his three devoted sons. He loved beach music and took his family to the beaches of South Carolina every year – wearing Sperry Docksidors and humming to the Four Tops and Temptations on the drive down. His favorite songs were “Maggie May” by Rod Stewart and “Miss Grace” by The Tymes. He loved sitting on an oceanfront balcony and listening to the sound of the waves late into the night with his wife. His favorite restaurant was “Nibils” on the Surfside Pier; always ordering the Neptune Salad. Often, he could be found fishing on the pier, by riverside, or crabbing in the “swash” with family and friends. He loved nothing more than to watch Sunday afternoon golf with his family – only to fall asleep in his chair by the 16th hole. In April of 2013, he realized a life-long dream – to step on the hallowed grounds of the Augusta

National Golf Club with his family to watch the Masters Tournament. He enjoyed playing golf with his family as a means of teaching them life lessons and always taught by example.

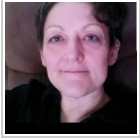
He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Lonnie Lou Neely Rabon of Salisbury, NC; three sons, Ashley and wife Shannon of Tega Cay, SC, Jim and wife Rebecca of Raleigh, NC, Graham and wife Shanna of Denver, NC; seven grandchildren, Hannah, Ellie, Sammy, Riley, Gavin, Macy, and Leland; his mother, Jo Rabon Jordan of Bluffton, SC; and three sisters, Cynthia Hartley-Leonard of Atlanta, GA, Pam Brown of Bluffton, SC, and Bettye Anderson of Bluffton, SC.

A celebration of his wonderful life with family and special friends will be held in Tega Cay, South Carolina on Saturday, April 26.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society and Rowan Hospice & Palliative Care.

This is not goodbye... This is so long for now. We love you so much. We can't wait to see you again. For now, Dad's gone fishin' and maybe playing a few holes at Augusta in Heaven. Keep a spot ready for us...

Tribute Wall



“ Steve was the nicest manager I ever had. It was at Frito Lay in Salisbury NC.
Johnnie Reeder

Johnnie Taylor - November 29, 2022 at 05:27 PM

LR

“ Lonnie Rabon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard Stephen Rabon



Lonnie Rabon - May 03, 2014 at 10:20 PM

LR

“ Lonnie Rabon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard Stephen Rabon



Lonnie Rabon - April 30, 2014 at 10:10 PM

RE

Lonnie, Thinking of you and keeping you in our prayers. I know this is very very difficult for you, but Christ will give you comfort.
Rosetta & David

Rosetta Everhart - May 02, 2014 at 11:51 AM

LH

Lonnie im sorry for your loss, just finding out , be strong , Linda your laundry lady

Linda Headley - May 10, 2014 at 10:24 AM

BH

“ My sympathies to the Rabon family. Lonnie Lou and her children. I only remember one of the three sons, Ashley. It has been way too many years since we have visited. My wife, Frankie, and I mourn the loss of a son for you Jo, a brother for Cynthia, Pam and Betty. I know that Steve gave his best to all of you.
Do any of you boys have long hair. If so, do you toss it to one side with a flick of your head? How about, can you drive a car with a stick shift? Did Aunt Betty tell you to hold a hot wash cloth on a pimple? I bet your Grandmother Jo still easy going? Lonnie Lou we are so sorry for your loss.

Love,
Barry and Frankie Hodges

Barry Hodges - April 24, 2014 at 08:19 PM

CE

“ To Jo and family- I am so sorry for your loss. To Steve's family you have my deepest sympathy for the loss of your husband and father and granddad. Your loss is God's gain. Our prayer's and our love are with you all. Love Charles and Elsie Edmunds.

Charles Edmunds - April 24, 2014 at 03:38 PM

NS

“ Lonnie and family, So sorry for your loss. I know Steve was a fine family man. May you all cherish your great memories, and find peace knowing he is at peace.

Nora & Charles Smyre

Nora Smyre - April 22, 2014 at 12:09 PM

JF

“ *Joseph Brown & Family lit a candle in
memory of Mr. Richard Stephen Rabon*



Joseph Brown & family - April 22, 2014 at 08:48 AM

“ Steve was a gentle soul much like the 1970s beach and shag music he used to love as a tall, lanky teenager with lots of jet black hair. While a high school student, Steve was always extremely protective of the "girls" in his life at that time: his loving Mom (Jo Frieda) and his three little sisters - Cynthia, Pam, and Bettye. Steve always wanted to do the right thing. Steve always wanted the best for his family. What a special son, brother, and friend Steve was even as a young man.

I was once Steve's brother-in-law. He made me feel like his brother. I regret our paths drifted apart over the years. However, I have memories of Steve which will last me a lifetime. I saw Steve several years ago after a lapse of probably 20 years, but the twinkle in both our eyes let each other know with few spoken words that we shared special times gone by which neither of us ever forgot.

Lonnie Lou was Steve's soul mate and best friend from day one. From the very beginning, it was a true love story. Steve was the perfect gentleman for Lonnie Lou; and Lonnie Lou was the perfect classy lady for Steve. What a great storybook couple! No wonder that Steve and Lonnie Lou created a precious family. I know Steve's sons will look after their Mom as Steve did his Mom and sisters.

I heard of Steve's death today and immediately became melancholy, introspective, and very sad just as if we had never been apart. I am truly saddened for Lonnie Lou, Steve's precious children and grandchildren, Jo Frieda, Cynthia, Pam, and Bettye. I rewound 40 years of memories . . . each one a good one. Then I thought about the fact that everyone who knew Steve will always have fond memories of laughing and joking around with him.

Although probably nearly 40 years ago, I remember like yesterday all of us "20 somethings" (Steve, Lonnie Lou, Gene, Pam, Cynthia and me) piling in my way-too-small car like circus clowns going way-too-far to Columbia to watch a way-too-scary movie. I am sure that whoever had the most money in his pocket at that particular time

paid for the tickets and popcorn. Those were the "good old days" which I will always cherish!

God bless Steve and his entire wonderful family . . . all of you had a great son, brother, husband, and father. I had a great friend!

Daryl

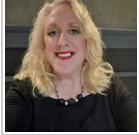
Daryl Corbin - April 21, 2014 at 07:08 PM

DE

“*Lonnie, I have no words to express the sadness I feel for your loss. Even though I knew Steve only a few years, his impact on me has lasted for the remainder of my life. After leaving Frito Lay, many times I would have liked to have spoken to him on many different matters. I will continue to miss him as I go into the future. Rosetta and I have many fond memories of the "outings" we had with you all. We know he loved you and his children. We will keep you all in our prayers and thoughts for comfort as Christ gives you his peace during these difficult times..*

David L. Everhart

David L. Everhart - April 21, 2014 at 07:07 PM



“ Dear Lonnie,
Ashley, Jim and Graham and all the extended family. So sorry to hear of the passing of Steve. He will always be fondly remembered in our hearts as we saw him at many a family gathering that we were blessed to be invited to. Our deepest sympathies go to all of you at this very difficult time. He is at peace now . I know he left a legacy of love that will continue to grow beyond many generations of Rabon families.

All our Love goes to all of you,
Sincerely,
Diane & Peter Warner

Diane Warner - April 21, 2014 at 01:36 PM

MI

“ Lonnie Lou, Ashley, Jim and Graham, I am so sorry to read of the loss of your husband/father. Cherish your many fond memories as you throw all your anxieties on the God of all comfort to help you through this time of grief.

Minnie - April 21, 2014 at 09:41 AM

JB

“ Lonnie and family. I have missed Steve on our Fall Golf trips the past 5 years as he was unable to come. I will miss him on all of those trips that we may take in the future. I will miss him but certainly will not forget him. I will remember his humor and his most competitive nature. Steve would get better every day we played and was almost impossible to beat on the last day. I hope all of you have some measure of peace in the memories of all the good times with Steve.

Jim Berlin

Jim Berlin - April 20, 2014 at 06:55 PM

MM

“ Our condolences are offered to Lonnie and the family. We first met y'all in 1979 when we joined the Frito-Lay Salisbury Team. Steve and I worked closely together for many years. I will always remember his tenacity and his desire to treat everyone with the highest level of respect. I know he loved his family!

Mike McGuffie - April 19, 2014 at 12:14 PM

BA

“ Steve, you'll always be my big brother. I always love you and I'm going to miss you.

Bettye Anderson - April 19, 2014 at 06:38 AM

LR

“ Lonnie Rabon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard Stephen Rabon



Lonnie Rabon - April 18, 2014 at 11:44 PM

JR

“ Jim Rabon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard Stephen Rabon



Jim Rabon - April 18, 2014 at 02:08 PM

JR

“ 26 files added to the album Steve



Jim Rabon - April 18, 2014 at 01:21 PM

BS

“ *Lonnie and family..... I am saddened to hear the news of Steve's passing. Steve was a great friend. It was an honor to work with him and all of the great employees of Frito-Lay in the Salisbury plant for almost 11 years. Steve was driven to exceed and he passed along that passion to those with whom he worked. We got to play a few rounds of golf together over the years and it was fun to needle each other, especially if Steve needed a 3 foot putt to win a "cat". May God bless you and your family. Boyce Sherrill*

Boyce Sherrill - April 18, 2014 at 01:10 PM

PB

“ *My "favorite" brother, I'll forever love you.....What? A hole in one already!!!and a 14 lb big mouth bass!!!!!!:):)*

Pam brown - April 18, 2014 at 12:33 PM