



William "Bill" Vernon Ritchie

January 4, 1936 - August 24, 2025

William "Bill" Vernon Ritchie, 89, of Salisbury, NC passed away Sunday, August 24, 2025 at his home.

Bill was born January 4, 1936 in Davie County, NC to the late Mary Grubbs Ritchie and William Melvin Ritchie. He was a graduate of China Grove High School and attended NC State College. He was a Veteran of the U.S. Army. He worked for the Department of Corrections for 36 years and retired as General Command Manager.

Bill was a member of Neel Road Baptist Church. He received two Order of Long Leaf Pine Awards. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and playing music. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Jeannine Sims Ritchie on November 14, 2001.

Left to cherish his memory is his daughter, Kimberly Ritchie Sikes (Ronnie) of China Grove; sons, Darrell Glenn Pruett (Sherri) of Salisbury, William Michael Ritchie (Charlene Gobble Ritchie) of Mocksville; grandchildren, Kaitlyn Brooks, Amanda Pruett, Tori Pruett, Dakota Ritchie (Emily Sowards), Ryan Brooks, Kolton Ritchie (Madey Whitt), Julian Meyers, Jordan Meyers, Kristian Meyers; great-grandson, Nash Ritchie; and companion, Judy Sloop.

The family will receive friends from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Thursday (August 28) at Neel Road Baptist Church. The funeral service will follow at 12:30 p.m. with Rev. Jason Pierce and Rev. Franklin Myers officiating. Burial will follow the service at Rowan Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to Neel Road Baptist Church, 135 Neel Road,

Salisbury, NC 28147.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Ritchie family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Rowan Memorial Park

4125 Franklin Comm Center Rd
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 636-8751

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 28. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Neel Road Baptist Church
135 Neel Rd.
Salisbury, NC 28147

Funeral Service

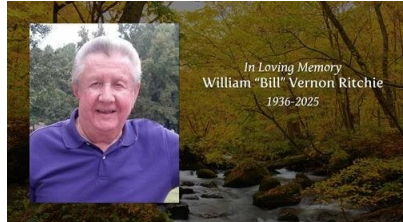
AUG 28. 12:30 PM (ET)

Neel Road Baptist Church
135 Neel Rd.
Salisbury, NC 28147

Tribute Wall



“ *Summersett Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William "Bill" Vernon Ritchie*



Summersett Funeral Home and Cremation Center - August 27, 2025 at 09:00 AM

BE

“ *I was so saddened to learn about Mr. Ritchie... that's what I called him, as he was my boss for several years and he was such a gentleman...he always deserved to be respected and called Mr..... I had sooo many friends within the DOC....I will never forget any of them....Rest Mr. Bill and say hello to my sweetie in heaven....love Brenda*

Brenda (Laws) Elliott - August 30, 2025 at 02:38 PM

JS

“ *Judy Sloop planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Vernon Ritchie.*

Judy Sloop - August 27, 2025 at 10:07 AM

JS

“ Judy Sloop purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of William "Bill" Vernon Ritchie.



Judy Sloop - August 27, 2025 at 10:07 AM

NG

“ Bill Ritchie was my boss at NC Dept of Corrections in several locations for 30 years. As his office moved, my office also moved. I was the first field nurse ever hired by DOC and Mr. Ritchie supervised me until his retirement. He remained my friend into my retirement. He was a true Southern gentleman, even in the workplace and a fantastic leader. His skilled management of people made everyone want to work with him. I join you in mourning the loss and celebrate his homegoing. I know Jesus is welcoming him home with open arms. My condolences. Nancy Galyan. RN Retired.

Nancy Galyan - August 27, 2025 at 12:05 AM

AB

I have only heard of Mr. Richie.. During my first time working for DOC , I asked his wife's first name as I had worked with someone whose name was Shirley Richie - not the same person, but in those days you never knew. It is clear he was a man who was thought of greatly. God Bless.

Art Beeler - September 02, 2025 at 03:17 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William "Bill" Vernon Ritchie.

August 26, 2025 at 02:31 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Vernon Ritchie.*



August 26, 2025 at 02:31 PM



“ *John and Terri Nance purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William "Bill" Vernon Ritchie.*



John and Terri Nance - August 26, 2025 at 01:04 PM



“ *I met Bill years ago thru his son Mike. We both were musicians so we played a few songs together. One of the finest people I ever met. Nothing but respect. I will miss you freind. God's speed*

Coy Beck Jr - August 25, 2025 at 08:27 PM