



Richard Andrew Jessee

October 18, 1949 - December 24, 2021

Richard Andrew “Andy” Jessee of Orlando, Florida was called home to his Savior on December 24, 2021. He was 72 years old. Though he had battled cancer for the last five years, he was taken rather unexpectedly by a catastrophic brain aneurysm.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dorse & Geraldine Jessee (Granny and Cricket), and an older sister; Nancy Joyce; and is survived by his wife of 49 years, Emily; his son; Chris and “most-favorite daughter-in-law,” Stephanie and his three grandchildren: Caleb, Alec and Ella (plus his grand-dog, Duncan) - all from Altamonte Springs, FL. Also surviving are his sisters Margaret Bailey (and her husband, Larry) in Mooresville, NC.; Emily Jennings, in Cleveland, Tennessee; and also Greta Sargent, in Pounding Mill, Virginia. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews, among whom is Chad Barr (who was like another son to him), his wife, Cindy and children, Andrew and Taylor.

Andy was born in Richlands, Virginia where he was his parents’ only son (among several daughters). He graduated from Richlands High School and was later drafted into the Army. He served as an Army medic and was stationed in Vietnam during the Vietnam War. After returning from the war, he made his way to Orlando, FL to get a job in the construction industry.

Once in Orlando, he met Emily and they married in 1972. Their only son, Chris, was born five years later.

Andy continued work in construction and regularly took side jobs to provide for his family. His drywall work can be found all over the Central Florida area, including the theme parks and many resorts.

In 2000, he started working for his home church - Metro Life Church - and assisted in overseeing the building process of the church building. He was then the Facilities Manager at Metro for the next 20 years. That church building was his "baby" and he cared for her with incredible precision. In addition to this, Andy had countless teens who worked for him at the church. Over the summers, he would run "boot camps" for these young people, where he invested in their lives, trained them in working hard (while having fun), and disciplined them in the ways of the Lord.

Andy was the definition of a servant. He consistently displayed the heart of Jesus in the way he cared for others. He was quick to help with any need, using his God-given talents to bless those who needed help. He was a friend to all, even those who might be difficult or different. This was how he displayed his love for his Savior - Andy loved people.

This love was incredibly evident toward his family. He and Emily shared a unique bond of love, care and respect for one another. He had a deep love for his son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren. He was never happier than when he was surrounded by his family or when he was supporting his grandkids at a game or a show. He was also incredibly excited when his son was installed as lead pastor of the church he loved so much.

His love even poured out to others as he was quick to open the doors of his home to house someone in need for the weekend or as long as needed.

Andy's life affected every person that knew him. As a friend said, "Because he was 'hands on', his fingerprints will be found for decades..." His absence has left a huge hole in his community, but we know that he is rejoicing in his Savior's presence - healed and whole.

A service will be held to honor Andy's life on Saturday, January 15, 2022, 1pm, at Metro Life Church

Casselberry, FL. Since Andy loved the FL Gators, please wear your Gator gear (or support your favorite team - as he never shied away from friendly rivalry.)

For those who would like to attend the service virtually, please follow this link at the designated service time: <https://boxcast.tv/view/richard-andrew-andy-jessee-memorial-service-odqtazfbcgtqspsi5zz1>

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Faithful 2022 fund, which will go toward the church and building to which he invested so many years of his life.

www.metrolife.org/faithful

The family of Andy Jessee invites you to leave a message of condolence on the Tribute Wall created in his loving memory.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 15. 1:00 PM (ET)

Metro Life Church
910 S Winter Park Dr
Casselberry, FL 32707
<https://www.metrolife.org>

Tribute Wall

HS

“ Rest Richard, until you hear at dawn,
the low, clear reveille of God. Thank you for
your service to this nation. U.S. Army, Vietnam.



Harry Simpson - May 12, 2022 at 05:42 PM

BP

“ A few weeks ago I attended a Sunday morning service for the first time in months due to the pandemic and family health issues. I was feeling alone and kind of conspicuous, but there was one person who went out of his way to make me feel welcome, and that was Andy. He waved at me and I just looked down assuming he was waving at someone else. A bit later when I happened to glance over in that direction he caught my eye and with a big ole grin he pointed at me and waved again. I don't know if he knew how much I needed that wave, I mean it was just a wave, but he made sure I knew it was for me. I didn't feel so alone after that. I didn't realize it would be the last time I would see him on this earth, but it's just how I want to remember him. A precious man with a big ole grin and a heartfelt welcome for everyone who stepped inside that church.

Bobbi Pirozzoli - January 15, 2022 at 01:54 PM

EJ

Andy's wife, Emily Ann and son, Chris had a Celebration of Life service at their church. I have never been to anything like it. Example: he had not been able to eat sweets for several years. He wanted tables set up with his favorite snacks, Reece cups, oatmeal cream pie's, etc. The service was dear friends speaking, his son and a special nephew. There was a Military burial which was very emotional! Such a blessing to know that he loved the Lord and knew where he was going! I'll miss him until I see him again walking the streets of gold !

Emily Jessee Jennings - February 06, 2022 at 03:37 PM

TM

“ He was my brother-in-law and also the uncle to my 2 other boys, as well..Chad's brothers..

When they were all little..Andy always took time to help me with them and he was the father they never had..

Justin and Brandon thought the world of him and even tho they might not have seen him in a few years..he always held a special place in their hearts and in mine. He was there for us many a time when we needed him. He was a great brother-in-law, uncle and friend to us and he will be missed..But Heaven rejoiced when he appeared at those pearly gates and my mom, his mother-in-law, was right there trying to get the first hug!!

Til we see you again...

Tammi, Justin, Brandon

Tammi Martin - January 07, 2022 at 08:00 PM

KV

“ My earliest memory of Andy was, shall I say, of a dog. The best I can guess, this was in the early 90s and my wife Sharon and daughter Stephanie were very new to Metro Life Church. We were meeting at the Seventh Day Adventist building at the time. You are no doubt wondering about a dog in church, so, I best tell the story. Sunday morning and my family and I are sitting in the balcony since that seemed the safest place for the three of us, as we were there to evaluate Metro. We were sitting there waiting for the service to start and all of a sudden, we started hearing a low barking coming from somewhere up in our zone of safety, the mostly empty balcony. The barking continued and was getting closer to us. We looked at each other wondering if this was a usual occurrence, and, we, no doubt, were getting ready to evacuate the building as soon as possible. Then, the barking ceased, and a very hearty laughing began, and up from under the pews, within a few feet of us, popped up Andy’s head. He had come up the stairs and crawled around 20 feet under the pews, just to greet a new family. That was, and continued to be, his life! Andy’s heart to make us, and everyone, feel welcome and secure, and this began a three-decade long friendship. His heart to serve was uncompromised, the love he had for his church steadfast, and his welcoming style his brand. Andy Jessee gave from his heart. I miss you, my friend.
Ken Van Velzen

Ken Van Velzen - January 04, 2022 at 10:42 AM



“ TonyanEdgar Wicks lit a candle in memory of Richard Andrew Jessee



TonyanEdgar Wicks - January 04, 2022 at 09:19 AM

KV

“ *Ken Van Velzen lit a candle in memory of
Richard Andrew Jessee*



Ken Van Velzen - January 01, 2022 at 01:01 PM

LD

“ *Sending love and prayers to the family. Love you Aunt Emily.
Love, Lisa and family*

lisa debord - December 31, 2021 at 10:42 PM

KS

“ *Prayers of comfort and love
Margaret, Phyllis, Nina and Kathy*



Kathy Sneed - December 31, 2021 at 10:10 AM

KH

“ *Karen Joyce Hale lit a candle in memory of
Richard Andrew Jessee*



Karen Joyce Hale - December 30, 2021 at 07:09 PM

BI

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Bill - December 30, 2021 at 06:32 PM