



## Richard James DiNolfi Jr.

May 25, 1969 - May 17, 2013

Richard James "Ricky" DiNolfi Jr, 43, of Mint Hill, died unexpectedly Friday, May 17, 2013, from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident.

Ricky was born in Whittier, California, on May 25, 1969, the son of Richard DiNolfi Sr. and Patricia Saxon. As a little boy at the age of 9, he started his life's passion of competition and racing with a skateboard. From performing on Olympic sponsored teams to baseball, skiing, and speedboats, he enjoyed every moment of the thrills those moments in life offered. In fact, one of his most prized possessions was his speedboat made by Schiada, which manufacturers a very limited number of these high-performance craft every year. Following school, he attended L.A. Trade Tech and worked extensively in the fire suppression business installing sprinkler systems in commercial and residential applications. Some of his more notable installations included Hilton Hotels, The Staples Center, and even celebrity residences including that of Cher. As time went on, Ricky developed a degenerative condition that affected his ability to carry the materials and do the job of the profession he so loved. Most recently, Ricky was working as a cook for the "Forty Rod" restaurant in Mint Hill. He will be sadly missed by his family, his friends, and all who had the chance to meet him in life and share in the special life that was Ricky DiNolfi, Jr.

Ricky is survived by his mother, Patricia (companion Walter Stewart)

Cosgrove of Charlotte; his father, Richard (wife Kelly) DiNolfi Sr of Parker, Arizona; three sons: Jake and Christian James "C.J" DiNolfi of Huntington Beach, California, and Brennan Fino of Branson, Missouri; two sisters: Michelle (husband Nelson) Santiesteban of Charlotte and Gina (husband Joe) McMillan of Costa Mesa, California; two nephews: Anthony Santiesteban and Dylan McMillan; and a niece Bella McMillan. He is further survived by numerous other relatives, his work family at Forty Rod, and many other friends.

On Thursday, May 30, Mr. Michael Neddo will lead the services celebrating Ricky's life at 1 PM in the Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home Chapel, located at 4715 Margaret Wallace Road, Matthews, NC. Those wishing to call upon the family may do so at the funeral home one hour prior to the service. Following the service, all are welcome to join Ricky for one final ride to Sunset Memory Gardens where he will be laid to earthly rest.

# Cemetery Details

## Sunset Memory Gardens

8901 Lawyers Road  
Charlotte, NC 28227  
<http://www.cmseast.com/sunset-memory-gardens/>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 30.** 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home  
4715 Margaret Wallace Road  
Matthews, NC 28105  
(866) 682-4043  
[info@loweneddo.com](mailto:info@loweneddo.com)  
<https://www.loweneddofuneralhome.com>

## Service

**MAY 30.** 1:00 PM (ET)

Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home  
4715 Margaret Wallace Road  
Matthews, NC 28105  
(866) 682-4043  
[info@loweneddo.com](mailto:info@loweneddo.com)  
<https://www.loweneddofuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Richard James DiNolfi Jr.*

October 05, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *Richard James DiNolfi Jr.*

October 24, 2022 at 08:52 PM



“ *Happy Birthday Ricky!! I know you are not here to share it with us, but I know your Happy! Save me a spot next to you because I wanna go when it's time! I love you!!*



**Michelle** - May 25, 2015 at 06:25 PM



*Ricky  
I want you to know that I love you. I sat by your grave again and talked to you. You are so deeply missed....I love you little brother.*

**michelle** - May 28, 2016 at 01:43 PM



*Ricky, I love you very much. We are moving back to FL on July 31st 2018. I will come before we leave.*

**michelle** - July 09, 2018 at 05:30 AM



*Happy Birthday Ricky!!  
We had someone put the sunflowers in your vase.  
2019~You would have been 50 years old!*

**Michelle Santiesteban** - May 25, 2019 at 12:57 PM

DH

“Ricky I am extremely sad to here that you pasted. I am sorry sincerely. I remember your graduation your first day on the job the time you pulled a main down and drain a million gallons of water into a parking garage. The time you slid your bike across the hi way in Parker. When gave you my truck and took your motorcycle away from you. I'm sad my friend I'll always love you and remember you. God's with you now so shine like a star. Dan Hawkes

---

**Dan Hawkes** - July 29, 2014 at 08:55 PM

MS

*Dan, thank you so much for looking after him. You are loved.  
Michelle~Ricks Sister*

---

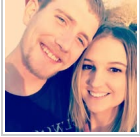
**michelle santiesteban** - January 28, 2018 at 02:43 PM

CB

“As I was going through a box of old pictures I came across an old pic of you and I at 4th grade camp. When I looked you up to see what you were up to, I was devastated to learn of your passing. You were always the leader of the class, the one everyone always wanted to be around. We called you the "Fireman". You were one of those people that stood out in a crowd, and it was evident from a young age. I will always remember the good times of our youth hanging out in Big Bear. Rest in peace brother.

---

**Chuck Breshears** - November 26, 2013 at 10:57 AM



“ rick... i will never forget you man.... you always told me i was the first person you really befriended when you moved to mint hill. Hell , Rookies was still open then and i always enjoyed our conversations and it was awesome to find out we lived in the same neighborhood (applecreek farmwood) Eventually coming to work with you and the crew at 40 rod.... i cant tell you how many people hurt for you and your family when the news spread... you were a true genuine soul... great to know you... love ya bro...

---

**Shannon King** - November 11, 2013 at 12:39 AM



“ I miss you uncle rick :\  
”

---

**Anthony Santiesteban** - October 17, 2013 at 12:34 PM

VB

“ Rick, oh Rick. How I miss you. I know I have read you these poems that i wrote for you, to you, but this is your wall therefore I will post them here as well, in honor of you and the love we had! No amount of time can erase our memories and no amount of time can pass that will take me farther away from you. I feel you constantly, and I know your still here with us, enjoying our moments of peace and comforting us in our moments of sadness. I have had many signs from you, and I know the things you would be saying to me if you could. I cant hear them, but I can feel your words. I love you with all of my heart and you will forever be the man that set the bar!!! Nobody has ever loved me like you do, and nobody has ever had my love the way you do!! I love you MR. DiNolfi!

*You came into my life unexpectedly ; and sadly you left the same way*

*I'm left with unanswered questions; that will never go away*

*But I am also left with a love; that i never knew existed*

*if we had never crossed paths; i would have missed out on this*

*We built a friendship on a strong foundation ; thru many long talks and intense conversations*

*We experienced intimacy in a whole new way; we allowed each other to be known more everyday*

*We knew each others regrets; we knew each others pain*

*I never judged you; and you did the same*

*You embraced my life and my kids with such ease ; you knew the best and the worst of me*

*I soon fell in love with my best friend; i loved you more then you could comprehend*

*You didn't feel deserving of the love i shared with you; but i know deep down you knew my love was true*

*I am forever grateful for the time we shared; i always felt your love, i always knew you cared*

*You proved it everyday with the things you'd say or do*

*Words cannot express the way i felt just by looking at you*

*We had a connection that i just can't explain ; and i look forward to the day we meet again*

*Rick, you will forever be in my heart; even tho your gone; we are not apart*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Its a daily struggle of ups and downs  
I am feeling so low to the ground  
I thought i knew what hitting rock bottom meant before  
But its all so clear now, like never before  
Ive been thru a lot in my life so far  
But nothing compares to this pain in my heart  
I struggle daily to embrace this pain  
And to truly feel it, feels like i am going insane  
I know i have to endure this in order to heal  
But these intense emotions are so hard to feel  
I feel it deep inside every second of everyday  
I just wish God would take some pain away  
You are home now, and your living free  
Free from this heartache left behind for me, your friends and family  
You are at peace from this world in which we live in  
You lived a good life, the life you were given  
You left behind one hell of a legacy  
Nobody was like you, and nobody will ever be  
You were one of a kind, you were an amazing man  
One day we will all understand Gods plan  
We all have a purpose for our time here on earth  
I will honor your life by finding my worth  
I will live my life the way you would want me too  
And just as we promised, the middle is where i will meet you*

\*\*\*\*\*

*they continue to say time heals all pain  
But i for one, know that's not true  
It's not about the amount of time that goes by  
it ultimately depends on what you do  
You have to be still, and really feel it  
You have to embrace the hurt and pain  
You have to remember, crying won't kill you*

*It's when you ignore it, you go insane  
pretending it didn't happen, or drinking it away  
Will only build up those emotions,  
And eventually they will explode another day  
To grieve a loss of someone you love, is one of the hardest things to  
do  
But to really feel and embrace the pain, is the best of you  
I know in time, i will be okay  
Because i am trying my damnest to do this the right way  
\*\*\*\*\**

*Everyday that passes it gets a little easier to breathe  
i know your up in heaven, watching over me  
I call out your name, and i beg for you to come home  
But i know thats impossible, and i feel so alone  
I know you hear my cries, and i know you see my pain  
But i also know we will meet again  
I feel your presen*

---

**veronica boden** - June 30, 2013 at 08:51 AM

KH

“*Rick....., Wish you were around so I could kick  
your butt in ping pong!! Miss your face little  
buddy!!! Miss you teasing me about "susie"  
and the nickel slot machine....Miss you're  
wandering in and asking what's for  
dinner.....and launching the cell phone.....!  
When I needed you..., you never failed!! You had the ability to make  
me laugh....even when smoke was coming out my ears~  
Will miss you my friend!!! But will think of you and  
smile.....Always!!!!*



---

**Kelly Holcomb** - June 09, 2013 at 09:35 PM

EM

“ Rick, rick, rick. Where do I start? The memories I have with you are endless. You had this amazing way of making me laugh, no matter my mood. You were so unique. You were such a big part of my life and my heart is very heavy with this situation. But I trust that you're still with me. I trust you will forever watch over me. You always protected me. We had a lot of good between us rick. And boy did we love each other. I'll always love you. Watch over your family and work your magic to put a smile on their faces in this difficult time. I cherish every minute of the years we spent together. Every smile, every laughter, every tear. I'll never forget a second of it. And when I'm sad, I just look up. And I talk to you. RIP my dear.

---

**elizabeth moore** - June 03, 2013 at 11:10 AM

RN

“ Altho I only knew you for a short 6 months I came to love you and Veronica as my kids...you were always so kind and respectful and I loved that quality about you. You touched so many lives in such a positive way...you were always full of laughter that it is hard to believe you are gone...You are missed and loved...may GOD shed his perpetual light upon you

*Rita Novak*

---

**Rita Novak** - June 01, 2013 at 08:53 PM

AR

“ I love u very much and we have had some crazy talks and there r parts that will live in my heart forever!



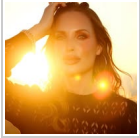
---

**Amy Romain** - May 31, 2013 at 07:50 PM

LF

“ So sorry for your loss. May God shed His light on all who have been touched by this tragedy.

Linda Firth - May 30, 2013 at 11:52 AM



“ Rick, I will always remember your smile and laugh. I see it everyday on our son's face. Thank you for the greatest gift in my life... Brennen. Rest in peace my friend! ~ Kim

Kim Fino - May 30, 2013 at 10:14 AM

DG

“ Rick always had a big smile and hug for his friends. That will be sorely missed. God bless all his family and friends.



Diann & Mike Gamache - May 30, 2013 at 09:06 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Richard James DiNolfi Jr..



May 30, 2013 at 01:30 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Richard James DiNolfi Jr..*



---

May 29, 2013 at 04:30 PM



“ *Donna and Marshal Cox purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Richard James DiNolfi Jr..*



---

**Donna and Marshal Cox** - May 28, 2013 at 06:49 PM



“ *Katie lit a candle in memory of Richard James DiNolfi Jr.*

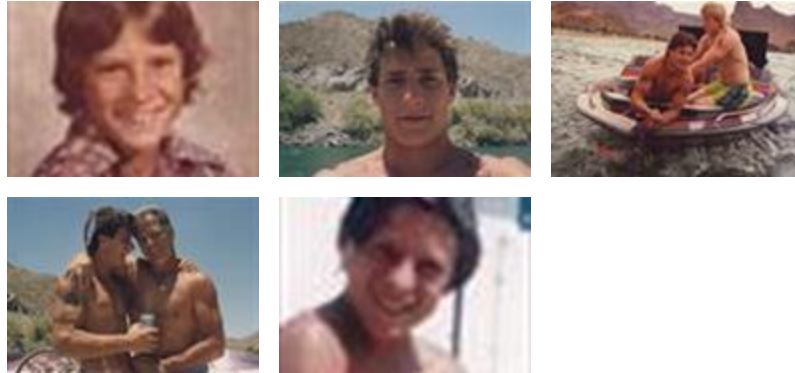


---

**Katie** - May 28, 2013 at 07:46 AM

Gina  
DiNolfi  
McMillen

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



Gina DiNolfi McMillen - May 28, 2013 at 03:45 AM

MI

“ Mindi lit a candle in memory of Richard  
James DiNolfi Jr.



Mindi - May 27, 2013 at 09:14 PM

KA

“ Karen lit a candle in memory of Richard  
James DiNolfi Jr.



Karen - May 27, 2013 at 03:48 PM

FS

“ *Frances Spittler lit a candle in memory of Richard James DiNolfi Jr.*



Frances Spittler - May 27, 2013 at 01:52 PM

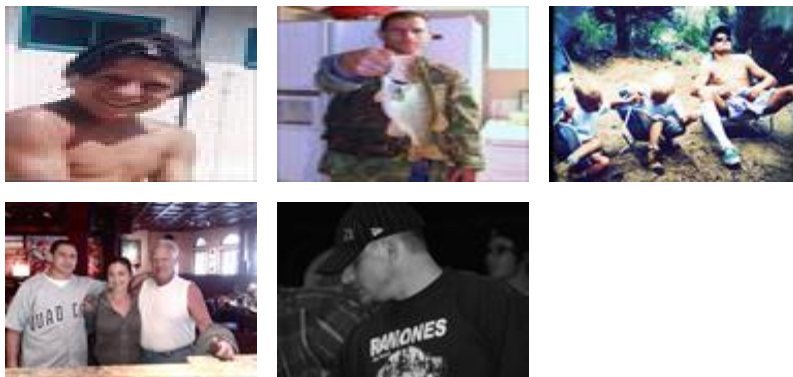
KC

“ *Rick, I have know you for years, but we never hung out or became close friends, just knew you from forty rod and saw you there often. I enjoyed talking to you about motorcycles, and you telling me again and again how superior your was to my harley. You always seemed to be smiling, and were friendly to everyone. I wish I had the time to get to know you better and become good friends. You left an indelible mark on this world, in this town, and with your friends and family. You have left with the Love and Admiration of many, and you are, and will be missed.*

kevin collins - May 26, 2013 at 05:28 PM

GM

“ *14 files added to the album Ricky*



Gina McMillen - May 26, 2013 at 05:20 PM

LL

“ Lynn Lasell lit a candle in memory of Richard James DiNolfi Jr.



---

Lynn Lasell - May 26, 2013 at 03:07 PM

AW

“ Alice Wells lit a candle in memory of Richard James DiNolfi Jr.



---

Alice Wells - May 26, 2013 at 02:27 PM

MI

“ Michelle sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard James DiNolfi Jr.



---

Michelle - May 26, 2013 at 02:09 PM

MI

“ To my dearest brother Ricky,



*Alright, I wrote a lovely thingy ma jig and you erased it! I know your still with us so you just calm down(your laughing) and listen for a minute. You life here was very short, much shorter that I can imagine. There is a saying and I will quote it from you....God wanted you more. I understand that but ....well, It will happen in time. You know all the questions I have for God, so if you just send ONE of them down....if at all possible. You believed in Jesus and that tells me you will be loved forever!*

*I have to tell one funny story to try and make you, me and everyone smile, if only for a short moment. No, It wasn't the many bike rides we took from Fullerton to Riverside and back along the Santa Ana river trail...although you wanted to compete in bike racing after that! I think what stands out in my mind is the dinner table situation. I know you know how much that made us laugh. No matter who served us dinner, we would begin to CRACK UP! We don't know why, but we just did! Then we would be sent to our rooms...where we would laugh some more, not even knowing why. That lasted through until today!...we did learn how to calm down, but once in a while...one of us would leave the table for a minute or two. I don't know if this makes all the others smile, but it sure made US laugh! Ricky, I will miss you, but I will be back to tell you more so we can laugh again.*

*Love you!!!!  
Michelle*

---

**Michelle** - May 26, 2013 at 12:29 PM

KA

*love you.....((hugs))*

---

**Karen** - May 27, 2013 at 03:47 PM

MI

*I love you too!*

---

**Michelle** - May 31, 2013 at 12:30 PM

HO

“ *Hobo lit a candle in memory of Richard James DiNolfi Jr.*



---

**Hobo** - May 26, 2013 at 12:21 PM

MI

“ To my dearest brother Ricky,

*I don't know what to say as your life was much too short for me to even begin to comprehend. I suppose God wanted you and that's ok....In time. You will always be in my heart, but still, a little piece missing. You believed in Jesus, and that tells me you will be loved. You know a lot of the questions I have for him, so when you get the answers, throw them down to me. Ok, how about just one? I have to say hi for Tony and Nelson too...they miss you.*

*I have to tell one thing that we went through that made us laugh. The rides to Riverside from Fullerton on a weekly basis have lots of funny times, but not nearly as much as sitting down at the table at dinner time. You nor I knew what was so funny, but we would just CRACK UP! ...then off to our rooms would be next..then more laughing once we got there. That lasted up through ...TODAY!*

*Well, that's all I can write right now, but I will definitely be back with more.*

*Love you Ricky very much!  
Michelle.*

---

**Michelle** - May 26, 2013 at 11:42 AM

SD

“ Shirley Davis lit a candle in memory of  
Richard James DiNolfi Jr.



---

**Shirley Davis** - May 26, 2013 at 11:29 AM

VE

“ Rick, where to begin. You came into my life when God knew i needed you most. You were my best friend. You were my Angel in disguise, and now you are my kids and my Angel in a whole new way! You made my life have so much more meaning, you tauggt me many things and showed me what true love is. You enhanced mine and my children's life eveyday. I have so many amazing memories from our time together that i will forever cherish. You showed me what I deserved. You showed me a new way and you proved to be the man you allowed me to trust. I am forever grateful to you and I will forever honor you by being the best person I can be. You believed in me when I didn't believe in myself. And I believed in you when you doubted yourself. I love you with all of my heart and I will always. To Ricks family and friends: we were all so very lucky to have had him in our lives! I love you all and I am praying for everyones healing in this. I never met most of his family, but Rick spoke of you very often and I felt I knew you thru him.

---

**veronica** - May 26, 2013 at 11:26 AM

BC

“ Dearest Pat and family, My deepest sympathy goes out to all of you for your loss. I know that death is never easy to accept, and when it is so unexpected it adds to the grief. The Bible says "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." I pray that God will bless you and give you the strength to get through this very difficult time.

*With heartfelt sympathy,  
Ted and Belinda Cederholm*

---

**Belinda Cederholm** - May 23, 2013 at 10:01 AM