



## Richard Edmund Wallace

February 9, 1941 - January 6, 2019

Richard Edmund Wallace passed away Sunday, January 6, 2019 at the age of 77. He was born in Schenectady, New York to the late Edmund Worthington Wallace and Irene Cloutier Wallace.

Dick, as he was known by friends and family, graduated from Michigan State University in 1963 with a Bachelor degree in Math, and in 1964 he graduated from Case Western Reserve with an Associate degree in Library Science. Dick served his country in the United States Army from 1966 until 1968 as an information specialist. While in the Army he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal. After being honorably discharged from the Army in 1968, Dick put his degree in Library Science to good use and for many years worked as a Research Librarian for companies such as Deere & Company, Archer Daniels Midland, and A.E. Staley/Tate and Lyle. After the birth of his children he returned to school, graduating with a M.B.A. from Illinois State University in 1976. Outside of his career, Dick found joy in reading, gardening, and most of all soccer. He spent nearly 40 years as a soccer referee at all levels of the sport. He volunteered as a youth soccer and baseball coach. At Holy Family Church he taught PSR students for 15 years. He held numerous memberships at organizations, including: Special Libraries Association, American Libraries Association, Illinois High School Association, and Decatur Soccer Officials. He will be truly missed by all his friends and family.

The funeral mass celebrating Dick's life is Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 11 AM in the Sanctuary of St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church, 3 Village Road, in Newnan with Father Henry Atem officiating. Burial will immediately follow the mass at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, 656 Roscoe Road, in Newnan. The family will receive friends on Thursday from 10:30 AM until service time at the church.

Along with his parents, Dick is preceded in death by his daughter, Aileen Marie Wallace. He is survived by his wife, Mary "Lynne" Schafer Wallace; children, Richard Wallace and his wife Stephanie, Brian Wallace and his wife Gina; granddaughter, Bailey Marie Wallace; grandson, Kent Harrington; sister, Gail Wade and her husband Robert and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that memorial contributions be made in Dick's name to Coweta County Library System for books, 85 Literary Lane, Newnan, GA 30265. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com).

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Lawn Memorial Park

656 Roscoe Road  
Newnan, GA 30263

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 10. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church  
3 Village Road  
Newnan, GA 30265

## Service

JAN 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church  
3 Village Road  
Newnan, GA 30265

# Tribute Wall

GS

“ Gary Sawyer: Dick and I spent 15 years officiating soccer together. He was a wonderful official and always made the game fun. I enjoyed our many road trips together. He was always ready to share his knowledge about both soccer and life.

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**Gary Sawyer** - January 15, 2019 at 09:48 AM

BR

“ It seems like I could write a book about the things you passed along to me, but here is a short list of the most important things that I will try to pass along to Bailey. From the time I was very young, you always tried to teach us the importance of a strong work ethic. We watched you go to work, coach our teams, make sure the yard was cleared of those pesky weeds.

*The second lesson you taught me in life: Information is the key to life. You demonstrated throughout your life and in your profession how valuable having the right information can be in any aspect of life. You taught us the value of researching problem, whether it be from a book, the library, or just weeding things down to the basic facts. You demonstrated, once the facts were in place, you could deduce the right decision.*

*The third lesson you taught me in life: respect and sportsmanship. You taught us through soccer and you demonstrated this on the field and off the field. When you coached us, you never disrespected the opponents, you never expressed your frustration verbally to your players, instead you always used those moments as teaching us the the practicality of patience and better methods. Off the field when I had problems or issues, you always used this methodology.*

*I will miss you!*

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**Brian** - January 14, 2019 at 03:13 PM

ML

“ I officiated with Dick for my 24 years and remember last year in early spring when we sat together at the USSF re-certification class. As always, he shared his experiences on the "pitch" and I was always wanting to gain knowledge from him as he was always willing to share and knew the rules so well. I just enjoyed our interchanges over the years and officiating with him as I always knew he had the answers and presented them in such a professional manner and was an incredible representative of the game. He was a man of great integrity. I am so sorry for your loss but what we all have gained from Dick being in our lives is immeasurable. Class Act!  
Mark Leighton

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**Mark Leighton** - January 14, 2019 at 10:13 AM

AR

“ Dick was a tireless friend of Decatur soccer and a first class person. Dick and Mary were a couple with high morale character and integrity. Rest in peace, my friend.

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**Alan Rider** - January 13, 2019 at 02:25 AM

JD

“ So sorry to hear of Dick's passing. Truly a great man and a good neighbor. Thinking of you Lynne and family at this time. Julee Mitchell Dunker

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**Julee Dunker** - January 11, 2019 at 07:18 AM

JJ

“ Lynne and boys ..I'm sorry for your loss. Dick was a kind good man.  
Fondly Jill Johnson

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**Jill johnson** - January 10, 2019 at 08:42 PM

GS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with your family during this difficult time. There is so much good to say about Dick concerning his personality, outlook on life, willingness to share and help but I will offer a few brief soccer related comments as I have refereed with him for 37 or 38 years.

*Dick had a passion and gift for refereeing soccer. He was always positive, willing to work any number of games of any age group, at all times and in all kinds of weather. It didn't matter if it was a single JV game, a weekend tournament, a college game or YMCA games. He was known far and wide for his mentioning, helping, training and support of young youth referees. If you needed someone to fill in Dick would be there. He had a gentle but firm and commanding nature on the soccer field or "pitch" as it is referred to. I will always remember Dick at the Illinois High School boys' state final tournament trying to stay warm in some terribly cold weather. Yet he never complained, he just did the exemplary job that we were always used to seeing him do. Friends and family, including his extended soccer family, have suffered a great loss but he has left us with wonderful lasting memories.*

*He is a dear friend who will be deeply missed by so very many people.*

*Gary Stephens*

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**Gary Stephens** - January 10, 2019 at 12:07 AM

DS

“ Mary Lynne my heart goes out to you and your family. I was blessed to see you and Dick at the Schafer family reunion in 2015. Prayers and hugs for you cousin. ❤️

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**Diane M. Schafer** - January 09, 2019 at 09:22 AM

RO

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with your family. I will always remember Mr. Wallace running on the street!! I am so sorry that you didn't have much time together in your new home. Cherish your memories!!*

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**Rebecca Moessner Ortiz** - January 08, 2019 at 02:15 PM

DR

“ *Always a smile and a kind giving heart, so sorry Dick didn't get spend more time in their new home together, I can't express how sorry I am. Lynn I hope in due time all of your sadness now will turn into all your good memories you had together. RIP Dick  
Your friends on Ridgedale will miss you  
With sincere sympathy  
David & Donna Reinhardt*



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**Donna Reinhardt** - January 08, 2019 at 01:02 AM