



Gerald L. Ritchie

June 26, 1947 - January 17, 2010

Gerald L. Ritchie, age 62, of Highland, IL., died Sunday, January 17, 2010, at his home, Highland, Illinois.

He was born June 26, 1947, in Granite City, IL., the son of Lawrence and Zorka (nee Besta) Ritchie.

On May 1, 1982, he married Rhonda K. Ritchie (nee Hard Woodruff) , who survives.

He was also a member of V.F.W. Post 5694 of Highland; former member Illinois Bankers Association; Community Bankers Association.

Gerald was born in Granite City, Illinois and graduated from Granite City High School in 1965. He served in the US Army with duty in Vietnam. He served as a Armor Platoon Leader, 1st Lieutenant with the 3rd Squadron, Fifth Cavalry, 9th Infantry Division.

Following his military service he began his career in banking. He owned Ritchie and Associates, he quickly became known for his sharp business tactics and was considered a banking expert among his colleagues. Over the years he served as CEO for many banks in Illinois as well as offered other financial advisory services.

Survivors include Wife-Rhonda K. Ritchie (nee Hard Woodruff) of Highland, Ill., Son-Mark S. (Lisa) Woodruff of Breese, Ill., Daughter-Ailie R. (Tony) Ritchie of Highland, Ill., Son-Chance D. Ritchie of Highland, Ill., Son-Levi W. (Jen) Ritchie of Moline, Ill., Daughter-Rebecca B. (Chris) Merrill of Souldard, Mo., Brother-Steve (Lynn) Ritchie of Highland, Ill., Brother-Donald Ritchie of Centralia, Ill., Grandchildren-Michael Woodruff, Skye Woodruff, James Woodruff, Grayell Slusher, Graydon Slusher, Adrienne McNeish, Quentin Woodruff, Walter Woodruff, Skyler Schreurs and Kyden Schreurs

He was preceded in death by his parents-Lawrence E. and Zorka A. Ritchie (nee Besta), died 10/02/2007 and son-Michael D. Woodruff died 4/7/1999