



## John (Richard) Richerson Graves Jr.

February 5, 1934 - June 11, 2022

Obituary for John Richerson (Richard) Graves Jr.

On Saturday, June 11th, 2022, John R. Graves, loving father, grandfather and great grandfather passed away at age 88.

John (Richard) was born February 5th, 1934 in Laurel, Mississippi to John R. (Dick) and Etna Graves. On July 24th, 1953 he married his high school sweetheart Jacqueline Mapp (the love of his life) at Highland Baptist Church in Laurel. Together they raised two children.

John (Richard) graduated from Laurel High School and Mississippi State University at Starkville, MS. He worked in retail clothing prior to joining the National Guard where he obtained his pilot license and flew in the Air National Guard. He owned and operated Magnolia Aviation at Laurel Airport prior to joining United Airlines as a pilot based in Denver, Colorado. While flying for United he flew DC8, 720, 727, DC6 and DC7 aircraft. He medically retired from United and moved to Memphis, TN as a flight instructor with Fed Ex.

John was warm, friendly, kind and caring to all who came in contact with him. He always had time for the young and old and made a difference in many lives. He was especially loved by his family.

John was preceded in death by his wife, his parents, and his daughter-in-law, Joanna Graves.

He is survived by his children, Tanya (Jeff) Stottlemyre and Aaron Graves; his grandchildren, Samantha Stottlemyre, Ty Stottlemyre and Korrigan Graves; and his great grandson, Jake Stottlemyre. Also, by his sister, Marguerite G. Blankenship, and nieces and nephews.

Friends and relatives are invited to a graveside service on Thursday June 23rd, 2022 at 11:00am at the Union Line Cemetery in Soso, MS.

Arrangements are being made by Memory Chapel Funeral Home in Laurel, MS.

To sign the online guest book, please visit [www.memorychapellaurel.com](http://www.memorychapellaurel.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Union Line Cemetery

Corner of Jefcoat Road and Union Line Road  
Soso, MS 39480

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 23. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home  
3100 Audubon Drive  
P. O. Box 674  
Laurel, MS 39440  
(601) 428-5235  
memorychapel@comcast.net  
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

## Graveside Service

JUN 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

Union Line Cemetery  
Corner of Jefcoat Road and Union Line Road  
Soso, MS 39480

# Tribute Wall

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“ I remember meeting “Uncle Richard” at the Inflight Graduation for Southwest Airlines, where he pinned the wings on his niece (and my dear friend) Terri Reed. I remember thinking how spunky and full of life he was! I have come to love this family so much! My heart is aching for you all, but praise be to God that Uncle Richard is now at his heavenly home. I pray that will bring you peace and comfort during this time. Our prayers are with you.

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**Cheryl Hamill** - June 18, 2022 at 01:44 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John (Richard) Richerson Graves Jr..



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June 18, 2022 at 01:37 PM