



# **Richard Rudolph "Dick" Martinez**

MAR 24, 1930 - MAY 2, 2014



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Steverson,  
Hamlin & Hilbish  
Funerals & Cremations

# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 6



## **Richard Rudolph "Dick" Martinez**

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**R**ichard Rudolph Martinez  
Beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother, Richard “Dick” Martinez entered into his eternal home on May 2, 2014. Richard, son of Joe and Pauline Martinez was born on March 24, 1930 and would proudly claim that he was born and raised in Pasadena, California—home of the Rose Bowl. After high school, Richard joined the U.S. Navy with his final assignment being a radar man on the carrier, U.S.S. Tarawa, where he was fortunate to make an around the world good will cruise. Following his naval service, he returned to California and went to work for Western Electric, a telecommunications job that began his communications career. Richard later worked in the Canal Zone installing telecommunications equipment for the U.S. Government before accepting a position with United Telephone Company in Ohio. Richard was a California boy who did not like the cold and snow in Ohio, so in 1975, he applied and was accepted for a job with United Telephone of Florida in Fort Myers. A medical reason caused Richard to retire in 1988, settling in Tavares. In 1986, Richard married Suzanne Taylor, who introduced him to the beauty of the Mississippi River and the excitement of river boating. They shared a love of the water and enjoyed many years of steamboating together on Americas’ rivers. Richard liked the horse races and attended many while still in California. He also was a golfer, car enthusiast, and enjoyed marching bands, dancing and jazz music. He shared his zest for life with those around him and will be remembered for his easy way and great smile. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Vivian Sleeva, his brother Ed Martinez, his son Michael Martinez and his grandson Harrison Grandinetti. In addition to his wife, Suzanne, Richard is survived by daughters Michelle (Nick) Earltinez of Cocoa Village, Florida; Shawna Detrick of Cape Coral, Florida and grandchildren Eddie Traylor, Garrett and Chloe Detrick; sister Marie Werner of Rancho Cucamonga, California; brothers Don (Helen) Martinez of Pasadena, Marty



## Obituary

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Martinez of San Clemente, California and numerous loving nieces and nephews. Visitation will be held on Thursday May 8 from 1:00 p.m. with a celebration of Richard's life at 2:00 p.m. at Steverson, Hamlin & Hilbish Funeral Home, 226 E. Burleigh Blvd. , Tavares, FL.

A graveside service and burial will be held on Saturday, May 10 at 11: a.m. at the Erie Cemetery, Erie, Illinois.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to the National Kidney Foundation <http://www.kidney.org/> , The Central Brevard Humane Society <http://crittersavers.com/> or the Howard Steamboat Museum <http://www.steamboatmuseum.org/> Arrangements are entrusted to Steverson, Hamlin & Hilbish Funerals and Cremations, Tavares, FL and Gibson-Bode Funeral Home, Erie, IL.

Condolences, memories and photos may be shared on the tribute wall.



## Events


**Richard Rudolph "Dick" Martinez**

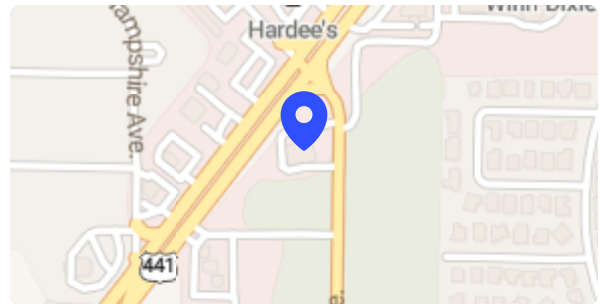
MAR 24, 1930 - MAY 2, 2014

### Gathering with Viewing

 **Thursday**, May 8, 2014


 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET


 **Steverson, Hamlin & Hilbish Chapel**  
226 E. Burleigh Boulevard, Tavares FL 32778

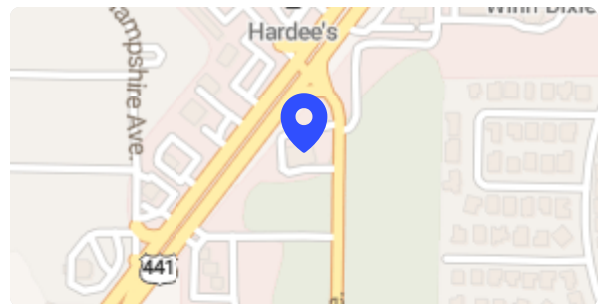


### Funeral Ceremony

 **Thursday**, May 8, 2014

 2:00 PM ET

 **Steverson, Hamlin & Hilbish Chapel**  
226 E. Burleigh Boulevard, Tavares FL 32778





## Tribute Wall

**Richard Rudolph "Dick" Martinez**

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GC

**Ginny Campbell** posted:

Suzanne, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. It's been a long time since I've seen you and Dick, but I do know the last time I did see you, you both beamed with happiness. You were a blessing to each other. You and the family are in my prayers. Ginny Campbell

May 8 at 12:39 PM

MB

**Martin James Martinz, Brother** posted:

As your father always did . Do not forget to honor your friends , your family and each other. always and forever . Do not forget to remember your friends , your family and each other, always and forever .But do not remember here ( hands on forehead ) always and forever remember here ( hand on heart) ..I will miss my beloved brother, always and forever!

May 8 at 1:35 AM

MB

**Martin Martinz, Brother** posted:

But remember always that he is not alone . For The Lord is always with him . Travel well my brother , travel well .

May 8 at 1:34 AM

MB

**Martin Martinz, Brother** posted:

Shawna and Michelle , May the good lord grant you both peace and tranquility as you send your father off on his final journey .

May 8 at 1:33 AM

ME

**Melissa Evans** lit a candle in honor of Richard .



May 6 at 1:45 PM



## Tribute Wall

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MA

**Mary** posted:

Offering my sincere condolences to the family and wishing you peace, strength and comfort from God to endure the sad days ahead. Acts 24:15

May 6 at 10:59 AM

JM

**Jim Martinez** posted:

Susanne, my heart goes out to you. It was great that I got to see Dick and you last year. I only wished we were closer in distance but I am praying for your comfort in this sad time. Love Jim Martinez

May 6 at 8:23 AM

ET

**Ed Traylor Iv** posted:

Suzanne, so sorry for your loss. He was a very kind man that will surely be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all the family. Ed Traylor

May 6 at 8:14 AM

SP

**Sue Pagano** posted:

Please accept my deepest sympathy. I only had the pleasure of meeting Richard one time but our introduction, made by his beautiful daughter Michelle, was accompanied by such love and reverence (as though she was revealing one of the greatest blessings of her life) made feel privileged just to be in their presence. The two of them with smiles and twinkles in their eyes could not hide their mutual devotion. As time went on, Richard's influence upon the woman Michelle is became so apparent to me--in her devotion to friends and family as well as her attendance to the needs of those who cannot help or speak for themselves. Because of Richard I, too, have received one of the greatest blessing of my life--Michelle's friendship. I am so grateful to this man who nurtured his lovely daughter and by so doing, leaves this world a better place than he found it. Sue Pagano

May 6 at 3:24 AM



## Tribute Wall

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JS

**Jean Sloboda** lit a candle in honor of Richard .

Suzanne, We were blessed to have known your wonderful husband, to see the love you shared and the happiness you brought to each other's lives. There are no words that can express our heartfelt sadness. Please know we are with you in prayer throughout the coming days. We will celebrate his life with all our fond memories forever. Jean & Bob Sloboda Englewood, FL



May 5 at 7:54 PM

JL

**Jennifer Lemmon** May 7 at 11:50 AM

Suzanne, I just heard about Richard, and I am so sorry. I truly enjoyed his company when we were on the river, even if it was on the boat docked in Chattanooga. I always enjoyed watching the two of you together. I hope that you will find peace and comfort in your memories of your love and of all the good times you shared with him. Take care. Jennifer Lemmon Gallatin, TN

LE

**Laura Earle** sent a Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers to the Martinez family.



May 5 at 6:49 AM

RD

**Russ Dunn** posted:

My deepest sympathy and prayers to Suzanne and the family. I first met Dick in Ohio where we worked for United of Ohio. We both moved to Florida in 1975. I remember Dick for always having a big smile...it was contagious. Russ Dunn

May 5 at 3:56 AM

JT

**Jeff And Terri Taylor** posted:

Richard was a true gentleman. He was one of the kindest, most gentle men that we have ever known. He was so appreciative of everything and always greeted us with that beautiful smile. We will miss him so much especially at our family events. I am so happy that he came into my sister's life and that they had wonderful years and travel together. We know where Richard is now and we know that we will all be together one day. We love you Richard. Jeff and Terri Taylor Ft. Myers, FL.

May 5 at 3:24 AM



## Tribute Wall

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BL

**Brian & Diana Lovett** lit a candle in honor of Richard .

Suzanne: You and your family will be in our prayers during this very difficult time. All I can suggest is that you focus on all the wonderful memories to help you over this tremendously sad time. Brian & Diana Lovett Moline IL

May 4 at 5:38 AM



SM

**Suzanne Taylor Martinez** lit a candle in honor of Richard .

Richard, "Hub" you were my husband and my best friend who, like a knight in shining armor on a white horse, rode into my life when I needed you most. My life began at 40 when you asked me to be your wife and I cherish the years we had together. . .there were just not enough of them. I miss you so very much and will think of you every second of every minute of every hour of every day for the rest of my life until the day we are together again. ILYSM, your loving wife, Suzanne "Hon."

May 4 at 2:30 AM



PD

**Phyllis Dale** May 5 at 10:56 AM

Suzanne, you and Richard are loved by so many. As long as I've known you, he has always been at your side. The care you gave him could never be measured. The love you have for him has always been evident. I will see you on Thursday as we celebrate his wonderful life. You are in my constant thoughts.

LM

**Larry Martinez** May 4 at 7:21 PM

Suzanne, I would love to be there in Florida for uncle's service. I'll be thinking of the both of you as I've been lately.

BL

**Bobby Lingerfelt** May 4 at 4:02 PM

Suzanne, so very sorry to read of Richard's passing. Dick was fine man and friend. He was a outstanding coworker at Sprint and was always willing to do what ever it took to get a job done. I will always value the working relationship we had. The trip he and I made to San Francisco will always be very special. My prayer's are for you and the family during this difficult time.

JJ

**Jazzou Jones** posted:

Suzanne - Richard's smile was as wide as the Mississippi River and it was always such a pleasure to see and be with you and him on the many wonderful trips you made on the Delta Queen. Sending you my deep sympathy at the passing of this gentle man. Love, Jazzou

May 3 at 4:30 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Richard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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