Sossoman
Funeral Home & Crematory Center
5th Generation Family Owned & Operated Since 1949.



David Rader

June 4, 1941 - March 11, 2025

David Rader, 83, of Morganton, NC passed away, Tuesday, March 11, 2025. Born on June 4, 1941, he was the son of the late David and Ethel Rader.

David graduated from Morganton High School in 1959 and from Wake Forest College in 1963. In 1964 he married his high school sweetheart, Elizabeth Erwin Hutchins, and forever referred to her as Sweet Betsy. He had a long career in the furniture industry and retired from Henredon Furniture in the early 2000s. Mr. Rader was a member of Catawba Valley Masonic Lodge #217 and the Burke County Shrine Club.

David served on the board of directors of the American Childrens Home, the History Museum of Burke County, and the Burke Arts Council. He also served on the City of Morganton Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments and on the Morganton City Council Advisory Committee on Fair Housing.

He sang in the choir of First Presbyterian Church for many years and served as a deacon and an elder. He enjoyed playing golf and had a hole-in-one twice. In 1978, he ran the Charlotte Marathon. In 1987, David carried the Olympic Torch through Morganton.

A loving husband, father, and grandfather, David is survived by his wife of 60 years, Elizabeth Betsy Hutchins Rader; children, Todd Rader and Lorie Rader Rehberger (Paul); and grandson, Joseph Rehberger (Mary Zwolinski).

The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m., Friday, March 21, 2025 at Sossoman Funeral Home. The funeral will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 22, 2025 at First Presbyterian Church Morganton

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 22, 2025 at First Presbyterian Church Morganton with the Rev. Dr. John Hagmann and Rev. Rick Leissner officiating. Burial will follow at Forest Hill Cemetery with Masonic Rites provided by Catawba Valley Masonic Lodge #217.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church, 100 Silver Creek Road, Morganton, NC, 28655, Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church, 2698 NC 181, Morganton, NC 28655, or to Amorem Hospice, 902 Kirkwood Street, NW, Lenoir, NC 28645.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Visitation

March 21, 2025
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center

Service

March 22, 2025
2 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Committal

March 22, 2025

Forest Hill Cemetery

Tribute Wall

–Audrey Stallings



Our thoughts and prayers are with the Rader family. I grew up beside Dave in our early years and have known him as a good family friend all my life. I’m sorry to just now be getting this news. We had many great rounds of golf together and I’m sure he is now shooting par on Gods course in heaven. My heart is broken and I always remember you, my friend. RIP brother

–Ron Crouch



Todd and Lorie, I'm so sorry for your loss. I will always remember your dad from the stories from my mom as they grew up together, for his laugh and great smile. I think of him as a big kid and smile when I remember him showing me his model trains. He will be missed. Peace to you both. Clarke

–Clarke Staton

ALWAYS THINKING OF U DAV LOVE ALWAYS BIG JOE AND FAMILY

–JOE VANCE

Todd and Lorie, I am so sad to hear about your dad. I always appreciated his humor and playfulness. He was a larger-than-life character in my mind when I was growing up based on the stories I heard about the outrageous adventures he and my mom had together. I hope you will find comfort in your memories. Wish I could be with you. Sending you hugs!

—Deirdre Staton

David was a good friend for many years. He will surely be missed by many. RIP my friend, until we meet again.

—Sidney Simmons

So upset at this loss for so many….he was a great man and such a wonderful friend. I shall miss him even though I rarely got to see him P ace and God’s blessings to all who loved David Patty Wacaster

—Patty Wacaster

Todd and Lorie, I am so sad to hear about your dad and wish I could join you to remember and honor him. He had such a warm, fun spirit, and I can still remember the laughs of both of your parents! Your dad was always a larger-than-life character in my mind because of the many stories I heard growing up about his and my mom's outrageous adventures. I hope you will find comfort in your memories of him. Hugs to you both!

—Deirdre Staton

What a wonderful man David was. So sorry to hear of his passing. His family will surely miss him as well as his many friends in Morganton. Prayers for Betsy and your family.

—Pat Stubbs Walker



Todd I'm sorry for your loss, A note for Dave he was like a grandfather to Sammi. Dave you may be gone but Sammi and I will never forget you. You were the sweetest man I've ever met. You're with the dear lord now, no more pain and

worry. Sammi knows you'll be looking down on her singing in the chorus at freedom. Much love my friend.

Dave was one of my sales reps when I first started at Henredon. He was so funny and helpful, and we were both born on June 4th. I'm sorry to hear of his passing, and am sending care and prayers to Betsy and the rest of his family.

—Debbie Toscano

My sincere sympathy to all of Dave's family and friends. My time knowing and working with him at Henredon was a true pleasure. Always enjoyed his company. Rest in peace my friend.

—Gary Brock



Such a sweet man. He loved his family, especially "sweet Betsy" with all of his heart! Such a character! Oh, the stories he would tell. He will be missed!!

—Kelli McCall



I am sad to learn of Dave's passing but I know that he is in the presence of God.

—Yvonne Thurmond





I always always enjoyed talking to you. You were so kind. Thank you for your gifts!!!

–John Gantt

David became a great friend when we joined the Church. He welcomed us with open arms and we knew from that gesture that we had made the right decision. He was truly an man of honor and grace. Rest in peace my friend.

–Ken Clough



–Anonymous



Lorie and Todd- your dad carried “God’s Light” with him wherever he went. Your dad adored both of you and he always shared how much he loved you whenever I saw him. I will forever remember all the great memories of growing up down the street from the Rader Family (my second home). Your dad made everyone feel loved and special. Your dad loved God and lived out his faith each and every day. Know you are so close to my heart and in my prayers. Much love.

–Ellen Settlemyer

–Bruce Carpenter

Todd, I’m sorry I will be able to come to the visitation at the funeral. I’ve been

sick for about a month. Your dad was a great fellow thought a lot of our prayers and thoughts are with you during these times. He had a great life though and enjoyed every minute of it

—Brice Mcglamery



So sorry to hear he was a great guy!

—Sydney C