



Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard

November 27, 1952 - August 15, 2025

Richard "Rick" W. Howard, 72, a visionary developer, devoted family man, and lifelong son of Southern Iredell County, passed away peacefully on August 15, 2025, in Mooresville, North Carolina. Known for his deep love of his hometown and his gift for turning vision into reality, Rick devoted his life to building a stronger, more vibrant community for future generations.

Born in Mount Mourne in 1952, Rick was part of a rare and cherished legacy - three generations of his family, including his mother, himself, and his son Brad, all attended the historic Mount Mourne School. This connection reflected not only the family's deep roots in the community, but also their enduring commitment to education and local tradition.

Community Builder & Developer

Rick played a pivotal role in Mooresville's transformation from a traditional mill town into the vibrant, diverse community it is today. He was an entrepreneur who loved creating and building businesses, including American Display, Carolina Component Concepts, The Langtree Group, and numerous other service, entertainment, and hospitality businesses. These ventures supported the region's growth and positioned Mooresville as a place where business, culture, and community could thrive together.

As Principal of Langtree, Rick brought to life landmark projects that blended

respect for the region's history with forward-looking development. His most notable, Langtree at the Lake, a mixed-use development at Interstate 77 and Lake Norman, became a model for smart, community-minded planning. Designed over two decades, the community combines residential, commercial, and recreational spaces in a way that preserves local heritage while laying a foundation for future generations to enjoy.

Beyond Langtree at the Lake, Rick envisioned and developed The Langtree Plantation Event Venue, a cherished gathering place for celebrations and milestones. Most recently, his efforts turned toward repurposing the historic Mount Mourne School, which is being transformed into Trinity Christian Academy, reflecting his commitment to education and honoring local history.

Civic Service & Leadership

Rick's dedication went far beyond business. He gave countless hours to public service, serving in leadership and advisory roles across nonprofit and civic organizations.

Chairman of the Lake Norman Marine Commission, guiding initiatives for lake safety, environmental stewardship, and responsible recreation.

Board Member of the Mount Mourne Fire Department, advocating for improved fire and emergency services to protect his community.

Board Member of Hope of Mooresville, providing temporary, supportive housing for Mooresville's homeless women and children.

Devoted member of Fairview United Methodist Church, where he supported ministries, outreach, and the spiritual life of the congregation.

Through these and many other organizations, Rick continuously invested his time, energy, and resources into strengthening the very community in which he was born.

A Lasting Legacy

From witnessing Lake Norman's waters first rise to watching Interstate 77

reshape the region, Rick experienced the transformation of his hometown firsthand. His life's work balanced honoring history with forging opportunity, ensuring Southern Iredell County would flourish for generations to come.

Rick was preceded in death by his parents, Evelyn and Paul Howard. He is survived by his beloved wife, Pam Howard, with whom he shared a lifetime of love, laughter, and partnership; his son, Brad Howard; Brad's wife, Nikki; and their children, Asher, Beckett, and Lachlyn. He will be deeply missed by extended family, friends, and colleagues who will remember his generosity, integrity, and steadfast love for Lake Norman.

Rick was the kind of man who could see both what a place was and what it could be. He had a gift for bringing people together - whether it was over a shared vision for the community, a Sunday at church, or a family gathering. He loved big ideas but cherished the small moments, conversations with friends, and the satisfaction of seeing others succeed.

Rick's legacy lives on in every family who finds a home in the communities he helped create, every business that thrives in the commercial spaces he developed, and every visitor who experiences the natural beauty and modern conveniences of the Lake Norman region that he helped shape. His life's work stands as a permanent testament to the positive impact one person can have on their community when guided by vision, integrity, and a deep love for the place they call home.

"You cannot drive through Mount Mourne, Langtree, or Southern Iredell County without experiencing his impact to the community where he was born."

Services in Remembrance

Visitation will be held on Saturday, August 23, from 6-8 p.m. at Cavin-Cook

Funeral Home, 494 E Plaza Dr, Mooresville, NC 28115. Funeral services will follow on Sunday, August 24, from 3-4 p.m. at Fairview United Methodist Church, 1426 Mecklenburg Hwy, Mooresville, NC 28115.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Fairview United Methodist Church (www.fairviewumc.org/give), Mitchell Mack Hospice House (apps.hoic.org/donate-now), or Hope of Mooresville (www.hopeofmooresville.org/donate/), continuing Rick's lifelong commitment to investing in the future of his community.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home and Crematory, Mooresville, is serving the Howard family.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.

Cemetery Details

Fair View United Methodist Church

1430 Mecklenburg Hwy
P.O. Box 27
Mount Mourne, NC 28123

Previous Events

Receiving Friends

AUG **23**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home
494 E. Plaza Drive
 Mooresville, NC 28115

Funeral Service

AUG **24**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Fair View United Methodist Church
1430 Mecklenburg Hwy
P.O. Box 27
Mount Mourne, NC 28123

Tribute Wall

LC

“ I used to care for Rick's Mother at a local Assisted Living Center. He was the doting Son and was always so nice to the Nursing staff . Condolences to his family and close friends. He was a true gentleman.



Lisa E. Carver - August 25, 2025 at 10:01 PM

DE

“ So shocked to see this, as a young 20 something Rick hired me at America Display and gave me many opportunities. I was astonished at his success as a young man himself In his 30's. He had a golden touch in business. What a loss to so many. Gods blessings to his family and community. Big loss of human achievement.

David Wayne Evans - August 25, 2025 at 07:42 PM

BB

“ Oh man.. this is rough. Rick and Pam were why we moved to NC many years ago.
They were so hospitable and welcoming!
Rick was a great mentor and friend and I really miss him. He helped me to have a long career and to enjoy life. So many great times hanging out....

Bill

bill bogage - August 25, 2025 at 02:44 PM

GF

“ Grant Shoe and Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



Grant Shoe and Family - August 23, 2025 at 12:26 PM

GF

“ Grant Shoe and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.

Grant Shoe and Family - August 23, 2025 at 12:26 PM

GM

“ Grey and Jennifer Mills purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



Grey and Jennifer Mills - August 23, 2025 at 10:00 AM

TK

“ The Klinks purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



The Klinks - August 22, 2025 at 07:54 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



August 22, 2025 at 03:36 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.

August 22, 2025 at 03:36 PM



“ *Iredell EDC Board of Directors & Staff* purchased the *Large Basket Garden* for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



Iredell EDC Board of Directors & Staff - August 22, 2025 at 01:31 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes* was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



August 22, 2025 at 06:48 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.

August 22, 2025 at 06:48 AM



“ Vitale family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



Vitale family - August 21, 2025 at 01:40 PM



“ Vitale family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.

Vitale family - August 21, 2025 at 01:40 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



August 21, 2025 at 12:56 PM

SM

“ Sid and Deb Morris purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



Sid and Deb Morris - August 21, 2025 at 11:50 AM

CC

“ Condolences, The Lake Norman Company purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



Condolences, The Lake Norman Company - August 21, 2025 at 10:14 AM

CC

“ Condolences, The Lake Norman Company planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.

Condolences, The Lake Norman Company - August 21, 2025 at 10:14 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.

August 21, 2025 at 08:22 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



August 21, 2025 at 08:22 AM



“ The Ferrovecchio Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.

The Ferrovecchio Family - August 20, 2025 at 10:16 AM



“ The Ferrovecchio Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



The Ferrovecchio Family - August 20, 2025 at 10:16 AM



“ Pamela, So sorry for your loss. Many prayers sent to you and your family.

Eric Moore

Eric Moore - August 19, 2025 at 03:16 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



August 19, 2025 at 11:30 AM



“ Fine man. Praying for family and freinds.

Tom Nixon - August 19, 2025 at 05:13 AM



“ Jayson and liz waller planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.

Jayson and liz waller - August 18, 2025 at 10:30 PM



“ Jayson and liz waller purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.



Jayson and liz waller - August 18, 2025 at 10:30 PM

BT

“ *Bill And Sara Talley lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard*



Bill and Sara Talley - August 18, 2025 at 04:09 PM



“ *I loved Rick's vision when I first met him at a Langtree at the Lake meeting. Condolences and all my best to Brad, Nikki and the grandchildren.*

Bill Balatow - August 18, 2025 at 10:11 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.*



August 18, 2025 at 08:13 AM

CK

“ *Rick will surely be missed by all who knew and loved him. Our sincere condolences to all the family.*

Cotton Ketchie - August 18, 2025 at 05:41 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.*



August 17, 2025 at 10:15 PM



“ *Rick was one of a kind. He loved his community and he kept his community and it's people in the forefront of his vision of it's future. Quality of life, family oriented, his vision included economic prosperity, quality educational opportunities, recreational choices. Rick was a great friend. I'll miss him. I share the deep sense of loss Pam and Brad and family feel at this moment and wish you God's comfort and blessings.*

Bill Thunberg - August 17, 2025 at 10:05 PM



“ *Cindy Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard*



Cindy Jacobs - August 17, 2025 at 07:11 PM



“ *Debbie Harwell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.*

Debbie Harwell - August 17, 2025 at 06:58 PM

DH

“ *Debbie Harwell purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.*



Debbie Harwell - August 17, 2025 at 06:58 PM

JC

“ *Brad, so sorry for your loss! Rick was a man of honor. I appreciate all the times meeting Rick in the office and also at the Thursday lunch meetings when I was in the area. God bless you and your family. Rick always has a positive energy and thoughts as we spend many hours together working on developments. Rick, rest in peace my friend.*
Jack

Jack C Climer - August 17, 2025 at 05:36 PM

SB

“ *Stephen & Daniela Brown purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Richard "Rick" Wayne Howard.*



Stephen & Daniela Brown - August 17, 2025 at 05:02 PM

KR

“ *I am so sorry for your family's loss, your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.*

Kenny Rimmer - August 17, 2025 at 03:25 PM

SK

“ Rick was my husband, John's best friend. So many happy memories of dinners, Panther's games, charity events, the Thursday lunches with friends at Jeffery's. Rick was always upbeat, making friends immediately, and telling great stories. He knew everyone and was always willing to assist others in making business and personal connections. And there was always the next big project he was working on....he made you believe the future for Mooresville was unlimited. His love for his community and family is shared by his wife, Pam, and son, Brad, who, no doubt, will continue his legacy. Rest in peace, Rick and may God grant comfort to all who morn your passing.

susan kasberger - August 17, 2025 at 11:43 AM

JM

Pam so sorry to hear of Ricks passing. Remember with love your days at Elmwood UMC and Houston and Irene. You and Brad are in my prayers and on my Mind. Judy Thompson McCall

Judy Thompson McCall - August 17, 2025 at 01:53 PM

JB

Nana, Jackson and I are so deeply sorry to hear about the passing of Rick. He was more than just a friend to our family. His kindness, laughter, and presence will always be remembered and cherished. Our hearts and prayers are with Pam and Brad.... May God give them peace and comfort through the days to come.

Julee Barr - August 17, 2025 at 04:27 PM

PW

Pam and Brad, I am so sorry to hear this. I keep remembering growing up in Mt Mourne and Rick at school. He was the one guy that everyone knew. He was such a fixture in the community. He is going to be greatly missed by many. My heart is broken from losing a life long friend. My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this very sad time.

Pam Strickland Williams

Pam Strickland Williams - August 18, 2025 at 08:56 AM

ED

Pam, Brad and Family

I am so sorry to learn of Rick's passing. He was a great supporter of Intercraft Industries in Statesville. Rick was one of our very longtime suppliers from American Display. As a former purchasing manager at Intercraft I worked with Rick on many occasions.

May our Lord comfort you in your loss.

Eric T. Dailey

Eric Dailey - August 18, 2025 at 09:16 PM

LC

So sorry to hear about Ricks passing. He was one of a kind and will be missed. Sincere condolences from the Core Family

Larry D Core - August 21, 2025 at 11:49 AM

JV

Sorry to hear of Rick's passing. Thoughts and prayers for the Howard family. 🙏.

julie Vega - August 24, 2025 at 08:20 AM

DM

There's not enough adjectives to describe Rick, simply put, he was a good man. Prayers for the Howard family.

Doug Monroe - August 27, 2025 at 09:45 AM