



Richard Noel Romain

June 26, 2023

Richard Noel Romain of Gretna, Louisiana passed away Monday, June 26, 2023 at age 69. He was born April 18, 1954 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Richard graduated from Archbishop Shaw High School in Marrero, LA in 1972. He was a heavily recruited athlete, but ultimately accepted a football scholarship to LSU, where Richard obtained a BA degree in Business Administration, while performing at a high level as a wide receiver for his beloved Fighting Tigers. Promise of a pro career vanished with a career ending knee injury in 1974.

Richard's fearlessness and love for new adventures played out when he was cast in the lead role in *Cane River*, a 1982 American romantic drama film that was rediscovered and re-released in 2013 and beyond. Although he was not a professional actor, Richard was a natural; his screen presence captivating.

At the age of 34, Richard was in love and married his lovely and only wife of 33 years, Theresa Elise Broussard of New Iberia, LA (div. 2022). They made their first family home in Kenner, LA, where they began raising their two boys Gian and Brandon. Later, they packed up and moved the family across Lake Pontchartrain to Mandeville, LA where they resided for many years until the boys reached adulthood. Many relatives and friends cherish the memories of visiting Richard and Theresa's family home and the tropical jungle landscape he crafted in the backyard.

Richard's 40-year career as a Lead Funeral Director at D. W. Rhodes Funeral Home in New Orleans garnered high praise, recognition and adoration in the GNO community and the region. Richard was beloved. His passion for helping people and orchestrating successful burials brought comfort to families during the toughest of times. Everybody sought out Rhodes' tall, good-looking funeral director!

Anybody who knows Richard knows he loved to put his hands in dirt and took great pride in his beautiful zen garden. He yearned to be outside, to feel the sun on his face either fishing or swimming or barbecuing. Richard was a sportsman's sportsman, who tried just about anything, and usually mastered it quickly. His latest quest – golf! Family was everything to Richard; he cherished his sons, his siblings, his lovely girl CoCo, and friendships that he collected like art. Richard also had mad love for LSU and a deep connection to his band of Tiger brothers.

Family and friends will remember Richard for his big, kind heart, his playful spirit and his leading-man charm that lit up a room. His two sons took great pride and enjoyed supporting their father during LSU alumni events and games, as those are some of their fondest memories with him. Richard Romain was a steady, solid man and was and will always be loved by so many.

Richard is survived by his two sons, Gian J. and Brandon M. Romain; his wonderful former wife Theresa E. Broussard; his siblings Leslie R. Chauvin (Ralph), his twin Julie A. Romain, Inez R. (Roy) Glapion, Paul G. (Amyre) Romain; sister-in-law Gale B. Russell, brothers-in-law Raymond Broussard and William "Bill" (Kathy) Russell, Sr.; nieces Allyson Chauvin, Ingrid P. Alonge, Lauren and Alexandria Patin; nephews Raoul 'Dutch' Chauvin, Dillon and Dalton Glapion, Ramon Russell, Deacon Wynard Boutte, Chris and Erick

Broussard; dear and loving companion Corine Porche; and countless friends and colleagues.

He was one of seven children from the union of the late Edwin P. Romain, Sr. and Myra M. Romain. He was preceded in death by both his mother and father; brother, Dr. Edwin P. Romain, Jr. (Dr. Wilfred Delphin); sister Simone R. Newman; mother-in-law Lillie T. Broussard and father-in-law Joseph P. Broussard; and nephew William "Lil Bill" Russell, Jr.

Special thank you to his LSU family, the 4 R's, his Rhodes family and staff and the City of Gretna.

Relatives and friends of the family, pastors, officers and members as well as priest and parishioners of all Greater New Orleans Churches, Death Care Leaders of Louisiana, Alumni of LSU, and Archbishop Shaw High School are invited to attend a Visitation from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Rhodes Chapel, 3933 Washington Ave., New Orleans, LA on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 followed by a Celebration of Life at 5:00 pm. Please join us by livestream at 4:50 pm by visiting www.facebook.com/D.W.RhodesFuneralHome/live. On Thursday, July 6, 2023, a Funeral Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 924 Monroe St., Gretna, LA (corner of Franklin and Burmaster St.) at 12:00 NOON. Visitation at 10:00 am to 11:45 am. Interment: St. Mary's Cemetery, Algiers, LA; Arrangements entrusted to Rhodes Funeral Home, 1020 Virgil St., Gretna, LA; please visit www.rhodesfuneral.com to sign the guestbook, share memories, and condolences to the family.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary's Cemetery

500 DeArmas Street
New Orleans , LA 70114

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 5. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Rhodes Funeral Home - Washington Avenue
3933 Washington Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70125
(504) 822-7162
<https://www.rhodesfuneral.com>

Funeral Service

JUL 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Rhodes Funeral Home - Washington Avenue
3933 Washington Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70125
(504) 822-7162
<https://www.rhodesfuneral.com>

Visitation

JUL 6. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Anthony Catholic Church
924 Monroe St.
Gretna, LA 70053

Funeral Mass

JUL 6. 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Anthony Catholic Church
924 Monroe St.
Gretna, LA 70053

Tribute Wall

MG

“ I first learned of Richard’s untimely passing at our Knights of Columbus Archbishop Blenk Council 1905 July monthly meeting. I have fond memories of Richard at both St. Anthony and Shaw High School.

*Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord
and let perpetual light shine upon him.*

*May he rest in peace,
Amen*

*May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen*

*"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live,
even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will
never die." John 11:25,26*

*How very softly you tiptoed into our world,
Almost silently, only a moment you stayed.
But what an imprint your footsteps have left upon our hearts.*

Kim and Mike Giglio, Gretna La.



Mike Giglio - July 22, 2023 at 06:45 AM

JR

“ To a great friend over years he was always there as a friend when I needed him rest in peace take your rest I will miss you

Julia Robinson - July 12, 2023 at 01:55 PM

JR

“ From the bereavement committee at Blessed Sacraments St Joan of Arc Catholic Church you have our deepest sympathy

Julia Robinson - July 12, 2023 at 01:53 PM

DO

“ A very kind gentlemen, my sympathy to the family. May he rest in peace.

D. J. Oatis and Family

Debra J. Oatis - July 09, 2023 at 01:52 PM

NS

“ In Memory of my dear colleague and fellow Mortician, Richard was a fine person as he followed in the footsteps of his dear father, Edwin Romain, Rest in Peace knowing that you gave your best to this world. May God comfort your soul and your spirit. Norman R. Smith

Norman R. Smith - July 07, 2023 at 12:51 PM

PB

“ Precoa and BlueNebula purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Richard Noel Romain.



Precoa and BlueNebula - July 05, 2023 at 12:39 PM

PB

“ *Precoa and BlueNebula planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Noel Romain.*

Precoa and BlueNebula - July 05, 2023 at 12:39 PM

JB

“ *I met Richard, many years ago, spent four years with him at Archbishop SHAW, and graduated with Richard in 1972. There is no other way that I can say what a wonderful person he was. We are all heartbroken by his passing, and he will be greatly missed by his brothers Class of 1972. RIP my brother, job well done my Brother, Jackie*

Jackie Berthelot - July 04, 2023 at 05:34 PM

VF

“ *We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of Richard. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*



Victor March Sr and the March Family - July 04, 2023 at 04:41 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Noel Romain.*



July 04, 2023 at 08:55 AM

IA

“ We will join him later on at the place where he is gone, where it's always sunny days and never gloom. He'll be strolling down a lane, singing such a sweet refrain, that the Angels all around will hum the tune.

ILUNGA ADELL - July 04, 2023 at 02:16 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Noel Romain.



July 03, 2023 at 03:03 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Noel Romain.



July 03, 2023 at 01:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Richard Noel Romain.

July 03, 2023 at 01:32 PM

GC

“ Gloria Coleman-Brown lit a candle in memory of Richard Romain



Gloria A Coleman-Brown - July 02, 2023 at 08:19 PM

TD

“ I met Richard in 1995 while working at Rhodes and even after my departure we built a close relationship. He was a stellar funeral director. He personally cared for family members who lived in the GNO area or if I had a need in the city he helped me everytime. You will be missed my brother. Rest well. God bless your famiy

Trent Davis - July 02, 2023 at 05:40 PM

KH

“ Condolences to the family. RIP Richard



Kim Higginbotham - July 02, 2023 at 03:46 PM

AW

“ *The Wills Family would like to offer its heartfelt condolences to the entire Romain family, Richard’s friends, and his Rhodes colleagues. Over the years, as funeral services were needed to lay our loved ones to rest, we knew we could count on Richard to provide caring professionalism and genuine kindness, making a very tough time just a little less challenging. Richard will be missed by our entire family. We will keep him and everyone who loved him in our prayers.*

Ann Wills - July 02, 2023 at 12:59 PM

DT

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Doug Boutte' a LSU teammate - July 02, 2023 at 08:57 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Noel Romain.*



July 01, 2023 at 01:48 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Richard Noel Romain.*

July 01, 2023 at 01:48 PM

CB

“ *Richard was such a kind and gentle soul. He had a loving and giving heart. You will be missed. Gone too soon. God rest your soul*
❤️❤️❤️🙏

Charlene Bernal - June 30, 2023 at 10:42 PM

SS

“ *Shaleta Sudds-Robertson lit a candle in memory of Richard Romain*



Shaleta Sudds-Robertson - June 30, 2023 at 10:36 AM

MB

“ *I knew the whole family we were neighbors. He was such a lovely person just like his family. I consider us as family also I was shocked to hear the news of his passing.*

MYRON BERRY - June 29, 2023 at 11:31 PM

MB

“ *MYRON BERRY lit a candle in memory of Richard Romain*



MYRON BERRY - June 29, 2023 at 11:29 PM

BC

“ I was an incoming Freshman at LSU the same time as Richard in 1972. He was on the Football Team I was on the track team. He was the Coolest 😎, the Nicest, the Most Humble of Us , RIH 🌹😊
❤️

Barney Cobb - June 29, 2023 at 09:53 PM

GO

“ Gregory Olivier



Gregory Olivier - June 29, 2023 at 04:03 PM

FA

“ The Ancar family wishes to send there condolences to the Romain family Richard and his family (father n mother) where very good friends he will be miss dearly my God grant him Eternal rest.

Fabian Ancar - June 29, 2023 at 01:21 PM

KJ

“ Richard was an excellent Funeral Director, he cared for the family of the deceased. Eternal rest granted unto the soul of Richard and may the perpetual light shine upon him. May the angels welcome him into the Holy City of Jerusalem. Rest in peace my brother



Kevin Joseph - June 29, 2023 at 11:29 AM

AB

I was sadden upon hearing of our beloved Funeral Director, Richard Romain's transition. He was truly a friend to the Bernard family and he was the man that took care of us when a relative transitioned. His graciousness and kindness will be missed greatly. Take your rest King, God has a crown waiting just for you!

Adrian Bernard - June 30, 2023 at 12:40 AM

DL

“ To The Family of Richard Romain: Richard was an excellent Funeral Director. He often displayed the attributes of caring and professionalism when planning our loved ones demised for many years. May God give each of you “Perfect Peace” (Isaiah 26:3). Dionne Martin-Lewis, Sabrina Martin- Watley & Clifford P. Martin, Jr.

Dionne Lewis - June 28, 2023 at 10:01 PM

CP

*“ Richard was such a kind and sweet person Charles and I really enjoyed his company
But most important he made my sister Corine a very happy person the love they had for each other was very special, you saw it in the way they looked at each other. He will be missed by our family
Condolences to his family you all will be in our prayers.*

charles and Anita Porche - June 28, 2023 at 08:16 PM

MM

*“ MATTIE MCGHEE lit a candle in memory of
Richard Romain*



MATTIE MASSEY MCGHEE - June 28, 2023 at 06:52 PM