



Richard Alan Thompson

August 24, 1951 - July 13, 2024

Richard A Thompson, known as Rick Thompson and to some Rick T was born on August 24, 1951, to Wanda Cossey-Thompson and Len Thompson at Tehachapi, California. Rick grew up, and attended school in Bakersfield, CA. Rick moved to Visalia in 1985.

Rick is survived by his wife of 30 years Jerri Thompson, his sister Teri Thompson-Hall, 5 children, Brandi, Rick, Tim, Cindy, and Michael, and 4 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Rick and Jerri Lady-Thompson started dating in June of 1993 and were married on July 9, 1994. They shared the same interests such as the love for recovery and helping others, professional growth, personal growth, family, music, travel, and most importantly the love they had for each other. He called her Babydoll. He tried to explain who he was through music sharing the song 'Simple Man" and told her he loved her with the song "Blue Sky". He was a romantic loving man who will always be in Jerri's heart. They had a great life together traveling, making new friends, enjoying music, and family.

After a long battle with addiction, he entered treatment for the last time on November 16 1986. It was through recovery that he met Dave Lady and the rest of the Lady family and eventually moved into the Lady home. He became "The guy behind the couch He has been in long term recovery since that time

for a total of 37 years. Rick has been active in 12-step recovery through, service, sponsorship, and most notably his involvement with the NA Bluesfest for over 25 years. It was a great joy for him to see people learn and enjoy the blues and find recovery through the love of music.

Rick became an alcohol and drug counselor at Pine Recovery in 1987 and went on to work with youth at Turning Point. In 1999 Rick and Jerri started an outpatient treatment program, Recovery Resources, that continued until 2023 counseling adults and youth in Tulare County. Rick was known in the county as the leading adolescent counselor and was highly respected. It was a passion of his to attempt to right the wrongs of his past by helping others.

Rick passed away peacefully at home in Visalia, CA with his wife holding his hand, on July 13, 2024.

Memorial services will be held 11:00 AM Tuesday, July 30th, 2024 at Tulare Community Church, 1820 North Gem St., Tulare.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Memorial

JUL **30**. 11:00 AM (PT)

Tulare Community Church
1820 North Gem St.
Tulare, CA 93274

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Richard Alan Thompson*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - July 23, 2024 at 12:55 PM

VB

Jerri I am so sorry to hear about Rick..May God bless you and keep you all the days of your life. Victoria Baffo

Victoria Baffo - August 02, 2024 at 10:13 PM

RL

“ *Rosie Lopez lit a candle in memory of Richard Thompson*



Rosie Lopez - July 29, 2024 at 12:46 PM

TF

“ *The Reece Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Richard Alan Thompson.*



The Reece Family - July 26, 2024 at 12:19 PM

SC

“ *Mobile Webcast of the Celebration of Life service at Tulare Community Church Tuesday July 30, 2024 at 11am.*

<https://www.viewlogies.net/salser-and-dillard/nwl4DMVFo?pin=025503>

Salser and Dillard Funeral Chapel - July 23, 2024 at 01:01 PM

MM

“ *In memory of a great man and the lives he touched by helping so many! Rest in peace Rick!*



Michaele McKinney - July 23, 2024 at 12:28 PM

KO

“ *Kay Ogden planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Alan Thompson.*

Kay Ogden - July 21, 2024 at 12:24 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Alan Thompson.*



July 21, 2024 at 12:24 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Alan Thompson.*



July 21, 2024 at 09:49 AM



“ *Mindy Mauro purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Richard Alan Thompson.*



Mindy Mauro - July 21, 2024 at 09:30 AM