



## Richard Arthur Kruse, Jr.

June 2, 1934 - June 8, 2024

Richard Arthur Kruse, Jr., 90, passed away peacefully of natural causes on Saturday, June 8, 2024, at Mission Hospital in Asheville, North Carolina. He was born on June 2, 1934 to Margarita and Richard Kruse in New York, New York. Richard is survived by his only child and son, Richard Arthur Kruse, III, Esq. (and his wife Nicole), of Atlanta, Georgia.

Throughout his life, Richard generously shared his love of learning, particularly his passion for history, as well as for travel, different cultures, art, music, food, wine, and literature. He was a distinguished university professor and well-regarded scholar, holding many leadership positions at Fairleigh Dickinson University and as President of the Society of Scholars and Educators.

With his humorous, warm, outgoing personality, Richard made lifelong friends among his students, fellow professors, administrators, and community members. He spent his extensive formal teaching career at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Hackensack, New Jersey, before retiring to Asheville, North Carolina, where he continued to be involved in academic research, writing and community activities. For many years he was known to host some of the best holiday parties around, where friends and family of all ages were welcomed with presents for children, good libations for adults, and fine food for everyone. In retirement, he took daily walks around his mountain home,

speaking with neighbors and carrying his walking stick and noisy bell in case anyone encountered an overly enthusiastic bear.

Services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, June 17, 2024, at the Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery, 962 Old US Hwy 70, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to your favorite charity.

# Cemetery Details

## Western Carolina State Veteran's Cemetery

Old US Hwy. 70  
Black Mountain, NC 28711

# Previous Events

## Service

JUN 17. 10:00 AM (ET)

Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery Chapel  
962 Old US Hwy 70  
Black Mountain, NC 28711

# Tribute Wall

AP

“ Great guy. Wonderful professor. Full of historical insight and wisdom for the present. He was always giving, always involved in the most direct, honest, and even, loving way. I had him in Edward Williams College over 50 years ago and his influence has remained with me ever since. Never forget him or his deep personal perceptions. Peace with the Lord, Mr. Kruse, peace with the Lord. 💔

Anthony Pistilli - September 20, 2024 at 10:09 AM

MB

“ Richard was my neighbor of many years. He was kind, funny and respectful. He had a special relationship with our Yorkie, Marley. I could let Marley off leash when he saw Richard and he would joyfully go greet him. Says so much about the man. Sympathies to Nicole and Rich. Micki Batte

Mary Kay Batte - June 14, 2024 at 08:45 PM

PG

*Pastor:David Gibson*  
*It was a honor to officiate and nice to meet his family of this good man who made a difference in all the lives he touched.*  
*A man of honor who served and a man of academic who taught everyone with warmth and love to his family, friends, students and everyone he came across.*

Pastor David Gibson - June 17, 2024 at 01:26 PM