



## Richard William Lopes

May 19, 1942 - November 8, 2011

Richard William Lopes was born in Hilmar, California to John and Virginia Lopes on May, 19, 1942. He lived there until he enlisted in the US Navy. He married his high school sweetheart, Carolyn Forgnone, and they lived in Long Beach while he served. They had two daughters, Leann and Laurie, and they set up their home in Turlock for the next forty years. Richard lost his beloved Carolyn to illness and married Linda Murphy in 2008 where he gained two more children, Lori and Michael.

Richard was a true faith-based family man that touched many hearts in many benevolent actions. He was an active member of Sacred Heart Church and the Knights of Columbus. Richard established his two businesses, Turlock Cabinet Shop and Spaceballs during his very rich lifetime. He loved working with wood and was a true artisan in creating his cabinetry. He has literally made cabinets for homes, offices, and churches all over Turlock, the bay area and even South Africa.

He lived his life believing that love, faith, honesty and integrity were the most precious gifts one could share. Richard is survived by his wife, Linda Murphy-Lopes, daughters Leann Allen (Kevin), Laurie Oates, Lori Murphy-Sanchez (Juan), Michael Murphy (Rocio). His brothers in birth and marriage are: John Lopes (Deanna), James Lopes (Linda), Tony Lopes (Jeannie), Allen Lopes (Lana), Paul Forgnone (Beanie), Danny Forgnone (Penny), Tom Forgnone, Gil Esquer (Rosa), Dan Raya (Maria Elena), and Phil Delgadillo. Sisters through marriage are: Shirley Siler (Ron) and Diane Jimenez (Clemente). In addition,

he has eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and numerous nephews and nieces.

Special thanks to Dr. Nirbhai Hundal, Dr. Gauravjit Singh, Dr. Natalia Colocci and Dr. David Jablons for their tireless efforts and their phenomenal collaborative approach to his medical needs.

The family would like to establish a scholarship to honor Richard's deep appreciation for education. Donations may be made at BBVA Compass Bank to the Turlock Education Foundation c/o Richard Lopes account.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

NOV 12. 8:30 AM (PT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
1200 Lyons Ave.  
Turlock, CA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Richard William Lopes*

January 28, 2023 at 09:01 AM



“ *I miss my dad working side by side with him at the cabinet shop and Spaceballs the company my dad and I built together I will share some cute things my dad would do. On April fools day one year my dad changed all the labels on the canned goods in the kitchen cupboard when my mom would open a can of corn it would be beets or peas or soup my mom says Richard come and look at this these labels are wrong mom has several opened cans on the counter Dad looks and smiled at my mom then mom says Richard you did this dad says April Fools After our family would go fishing in the ocean my dad and I would go to the car wash and wash the boat I am in the boat cleaning the cabin and all of a sudden the boat started moving I looked out the cabin door and my dad is driving down the road I started crying dad had said it is against the law to ride in the boat while it's on the road I was scared my dad must think he left me at the car wash when we got home I was still crying I climbed out of the boat and dad says I knew you were there the whole time*

**laurie lopes ( Richard Lopes daughter)** - April 15, 2018 at 03:46 PM



*Hello Laurie, I'm Javier, from Costa Rica, I still have beautiful memories, about you and your family, I'm very sorry about Richard's passing. I hope you are doing well.*

**Javier Leitón** - February 26, 2025 at 07:26 PM

L(

“ My dad Richard is in my everyday I am who I am I learned from my parents the right and wrongs and I tell you my dad kept me on my toes while we worked together at the cabinet shop and mine and his adventure with SPACEBALLS, what a good team (work we had). It is the middle of summer and very very hot outside so I wore a pair of shorts and a half tanktop to work that day while we were working in the office at the cabinet shop dad says Laurie don't come to work with your navel hanging out I thought about it for a second and said oh dad you mean my belly-button yes he says. then again I wore the same outfit to work one day and my dad looks at me and says Laurie I need you to go install cabinets with me today, I said ok. A big melamine (hard plastic) the Ryder van is full of these melamine cabinets and we go to the job site and my dad tells me to get the flat cart and start loading up the cabinets and bring them in so we can install them, I had to go up and down the ramp of the Ryder van pushing the cart bent over I kind of laughed and thought that is why my dad said I had to go install with him it was to teach me a lesson why I shouldn't go to work with my navel hanging out this job had all men at it and my navel was hanging out dad told me not to come to work that way and I thought he was being overly protective but no he was being honest. Linda gave me my dad's favorite fishing shirt and I went fishing wearing my dad's fishing shirt I felt my dad giving me a hug and knew dad is always with me. I am glad my sister Leann signed his guest book but how can she say she learned wisdom from him or my mom? look up the word wisdom and you will see that isn't anything like my dad and mom's wisdom, Leann has her own kind mean, lying stealing cheating isn't the wisdom I learned from my mom or dad. I did learn all the right way of life from my parents. I can also read and write backwards I learned this talent from my dad being in the navy. The reflection in the water. I am trying so hard to hang in here but it is lonely without my daddy. God bless us everyone.

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Laurie Oates (daughter) - November 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ As I'm getting closer to the first year mark of my fathers passing, not a day goes by that I don't think about him, feel him in my Heart and acutely here pop at times. My father truly taught me in life how to the best I could be with ant situation and to do to best I could do. And even though my father is gone I still learn from his wisdom everyday. I love you papa and miss you every day. Kiss mom for me and tell her thank you . Grandkids are the best, I finally got it! My parents where truly saints, my saints! Love and miss you every day.  
Leann

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**Leann allen** - September 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LO

“ my dad indeed touched so many peoples life. i thank you his friends and family that have been supportive to his loved ones. my dad is with my mom now and they will shine upon you with your thoughts. gods children share and my dad shared with so many others by being the man he is and who he was. my dad is a wiseman he will be always within us that love him. thank you written by his daughter laurie oates donations can be sent to me at 1041 alpha rd. turlock ca. 95380 please make checks out to Salvation Army, Turlock branch you will be contacted by me Laurie I would like to send you a bracelet (mesothelioma awareness) i would like to have a walkathon with those in it to wear the awareness bracelet.. thanks for being apart of my dads life. love all laurie oates

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**Laurie Oates** - November 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ Linda and family,  
Please know that Mike and I are so sad to hear of Richards passing.  
He was such a good man and I can't tell you how much I enjoyed  
working with him through the years. He was so talented. May you all  
find contort in the memories he left behind.  
Fondly,  
Mike and Betty Ireland

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**Mike and Betty Ireland** - November 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ My Amazing babysitters Leann and Laurie, I am so sorry for the  
losss of your dad, i love you too so very much and have never  
forgotten about our special days,i loved him and carloyn so much  
and those crazy dogs, memories never forgotten and o what a  
handxome man he was, xoxox i am happy to know that my dad  
herman has a friend to visit!

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**katrina** - November 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Your physical being is just a stepping stone to something greater.  
You have established greatness on earth, in heaven you will be the  
greatest ever. We all hope to also establish that greatness beside  
you in heaven. We will see you soon!

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**Jose Gil** - November 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ I am so greatful for getting the chance to be a part of your family for  
the last 30+ years. Your kidness and your love for your family and  
community are like no other. Blessings to Leann & Laurie and all the  
kids and grandkids and Lord bring them healing and peace to Linda  
and this family amen.

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**Tami Muniz** - November 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HW

“ I have known Richard almost all my life. He was such a really nice man. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family. I know how hard this is. God has another soldier with him in heaven. God bless you all.

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**Howard and Terry (Tko) Wilson** - November 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ WE Have known Richard a good 45 yr. Couldn't have had a better friend. He did most all our Cabinets they were always A1.. He will be greatly missed.. We will pray for the whole family.

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**AL & CAROL LITFIN** - November 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM