



Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano

September 9, 1958 - November 27, 2025

Richard "Rick" Angel Stelitano, 67, passed away in Lakeland on November 27, 2025. Rick was born on September 9, 1958, in Los Angeles, California, and was preceded in death by his parents. Rick moved to Florida in 1984, where he built a full and meaningful life surrounded by family, friends, and the community he cherished.

In 1997, Rick opened The Nursery Landscape & Garden Center. He owned and operated the business with pride and dedication until its recent closing, serving customers with the same warmth and hard work that defined every part of his life.

Rick had many passions—riding his Harley, spending time out on the water, fishing, and cheering on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. But nothing brought him more joy than time spent with his family. His granddaughter, Abigail, held a special place in his heart and was truly the apple of his eye.

Rick is survived by his loving wife, Susan; his daughters, Michele and Angela; and four grandchildren. He will be remembered for his big heart, steady presence, and the deep love he had for those closest to him.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, from 10:00–11:00 a.m., with a funeral service to follow at 11:00 a.m., at Gentry-Morrison Funeral Home, Southside Chapel, located at 1727 Bartow Road, Lakeland. Interment will take place at Oak Hill Burial Park.

Rick will be forever loved and deeply missed.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Burial Park

4620 US Highway 98 S
Lakeland, FL 33812

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Gentry-Morrison Southside Chapel
1727 Bartow Road
Lakeland, FL 33801
(863) 688-7679
t.hall@gentry-morrison.com
<http://www.gentry-morrison.com>

Funeral Service

DEC 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - Southside Chapel
1727 Bartow Road
Lakeland, FL 33801
(863) 688-7679
t.hall@gentry-morrison.com
<https://www.gentry-morrison.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano*



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - December 02, 2025 at 04:20 PM

SE

“ *Rick was my longest known friends. I've known him my whole life. We lived next-door to each other, we ran around in diapers together(literally) We got into more than our share of trouble! He was my pesky brother from another mother! Heck, most of the time he didn't even knock to come in the house, he lived there too. One of my most precious memories of him was coming to see me four yrs. ago, I haven't seen him in almost 50 yrs. I love Rick, I am painfully going to miss him. Rest in peace, my Brother.*



Sharon Ebersold - December 02, 2025 at 06:32 PM

SE

“ Rick was my longest known friends. I've known him my whole life. We lived next-door to each other, we ran around in diapers together(literally) We got into more than our share of trouble! He was my pesky brother from another mother! Heck, most of the time he didn't even knock to come in the house, he lived there too. One of my most precious memories of him was coming to see me four yrs. ago, I haven't seen him in almost 50 yrs. I love Rick, I am painfully going to miss him. Rest in peace, my Brother.

Sharon Ebersold - December 02, 2025 at 06:29 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.



December 02, 2025 at 05:57 PM

FP

“ From Sherry & Donald Parrish planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.

From Sherry & Donald Parrish - December 02, 2025 at 05:57 PM

MC

“ Mike and Jenny Clark purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.



Mike and Jenny Clark - December 02, 2025 at 03:30 PM

MC

“ Mike and Jenny Clark planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.

Mike and Jenny Clark - December 02, 2025 at 03:30 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.



December 02, 2025 at 11:11 AM

YF

“ Your 5AM Burn Gym Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.

Your 5AM Burn Gym Family - December 02, 2025 at 11:11 AM

SE

“ Sheri & Brian Ebersold purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.



Sheri & Brian Ebersold - December 02, 2025 at 03:59 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.*



December 02, 2025 at 12:52 AM



“ *Josh, Roxie, Cali & Ramsey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.*

Josh, Roxie, Cali & Ramsey - December 02, 2025 at 12:52 AM



“ *Randy and Stepen Loose purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.*



Randy and Stepen Loose - December 02, 2025 at 12:25 AM



“ *Randy and Stepen Loose planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.*

Randy and Stepen Loose - December 02, 2025 at 12:25 AM

TG

“ *The Gentrys purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.*



The Gentrys - December 01, 2025 at 07:14 PM



“ *Rays of Light Spray was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.*



December 01, 2025 at 06:31 PM

SB

“ *Shel, Boogie, and Bryan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.*

Shel, Boogie, and Bryan - December 01, 2025 at 06:31 PM

JM

“ *Jack M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.*

Jack M. - November 29, 2025 at 12:11 PM

RM

“ Robyn M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" A. Stelitano.

Robyn M. - November 29, 2025 at 12:02 PM