



## Mr. Richard Gordon Chandler

September 5, 1946 - June 15, 2023

Richard Gordon Chandler, Lieutenant Colonel, US Army (Retired), 76, of Lenox passed peacefully into the hands of our Lord on June 15, 2023 at Fairview Commons where he had resided for the past few months.

Richard was born September 5, 1946 in Agawam, Massachusetts to Gordon Harold and Ruth Bernice Brown Chandler. Richard's youth was spent playing baseball from Little League to Babe Ruth. In 1961, Richard became certified as an Eagle Scout by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Also, Richard received numerous awards for his faithful attendance and active involvement at his church, Agawam Congregational Church. He attended the local public schools of Agawam, graduating from Agawam High School in 1964. While in High School, Richard was inducted into The National Honor Society. Sports dominated his high school years and he lettered in three sports: Football, Basketball, and Baseball. Richard was well known for his football skills and his Roger LeClere lineman of the year award, his strong rebounding in basketball, and was described as a stalwart on the varsity baseball team.

In 1964, Richard entered Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. He received a football scholarship for his tenaciousness and skill on the field and played all four years while at Norwich. Richard was Commissioned on June 1st 1968 as an officer in the US Army Infantry. The following day, he graduated, from Norwich University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering.

Richard completed two deployments to Vietnam between 1969 and 1973. Richard excelled in the military being awarded many medals, badges, commendations, citations, and campaign ribbons. He was honorably discharged in 1974. After completing his active military service, he enlisted in the Massachusetts Army National Guard and served his country for another 23 years. Richard was employed by the Mass Highway Department – District One, Lenox as a civil engineer for his entire career.

Richard's life as a young adult to his last breath was all about family, country, and God and he never wavered in that. He was kind, generous, helpful, and always happy and pleasant to be with. Anyone meeting Richard was better for it.

Richard was a member and active volunteer of the Church on the Hill for many years and always volunteering at the summer craft fair alongside Shirley Benson at the crack of dawn to get crafters parked in position in Lilac Park. He played basketball in a Sunday evening men's get together for many years. He enjoyed watching the Boston Red Sox, the New England Patriots and Celtics. He enjoyed attending races at Lebanon Valley Speedway. For over 40 years, Richard worked out after work at various gyms but the longest time was at Berkshire Nautilus only taking time off for two weeks during tax season. He was an avid skier and Richard and Denise could be found on Berkshire County and Vermont slopes all winter long.

In July 1995 and at the age of 48, Richard married the love of his life, Denise Brazie, at St. Ann's Church in Lenox. They made their home on New Lenox Road in Lenox and they quickly filled their home with English Springer Spaniels.

Richard is survived by his wife, Denise of Lenox, his step-son Thomas J. O'Brien II of New Hampshire, his brother Gordon Chandler of Carrollton, Georgia, his sister-in-law Toni Chandler of Oak Island, North Carolina, and his niece Emma Chandler Enscoe and nephew Josh Chandler. Richard was predeceased by his parents Gordon and Ruth Chandler of Lenox and his brother, Robert Chandler of North Carolina.

The funeral for Mr. Richard Chandler will be held on Friday, June 23rd at 11:00 AM at the Church on the Hill in Lenox. Burial will follow in Mountain View Cemetery. There will be no formal calling hours; however, the family will greet people at the church at 10:30 AM before the service.

Donations in Richard's memory may be made to Hospice Care of the Berkshires in care of Roche Funeral Home, 120 Main Street, Lenox, Massachusetts 01240.

# Cemetery Details

## Mountain View Cemetery

Housatonic Street  
Lenox, MA 01240

# Previous Events

## Service

JUN 23. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

Church on the Hill  
Main Street  
Lenox, MA 01240

## Burial

JUN 23. 11:45 AM - 12:15 PM (ET)

Mountain View Cemetery  
Housatonic Street  
Lenox, MA 01240

# Tribute Wall

JK

“ *Denise: I just learned of Dick's passing. Although I hadn't seen Dick much over the years except for class reunions, I remember a great kid who was also a tremendous athlete. I first met Dick when we both played Little League Baseball in Agawam - he played for the Barker Cubs and I the Chriscola Bears - and we continued all the way into high school in both basketball and especially football but this time as teammates. Dick was a heck of an athlete, and he epitomized hustle. I wish I had half as much energy. Most of all I remember a kind and generous guy who never said a bad word about anybody. Denise - I really am sorry for your loss. John Klenakis*

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**John Klenakis** - July 03, 2023 at 06:55 PM

DC

*Thank you John... I remember you well from the class reunions. I didn't know how to contact his fellow classmates with the news of his passing. Richard had such wonderful memories of growing up in Agawam and playing sports. He always looked forward to his class reunions and seeing the "kids" he grew up with. Please feel free to pass on his obituary to other classmates. There is a "share" option under his photo. Once more, thank you for your kind words and reaching out to me. Best, Denise*

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**Denise B Chandler** - July 06, 2023 at 09:38 AM

JL

“ *Dick was one of the most dedicated engineers MassDot ever had and it was always a pleasure to work with him . I am so sorry for your loss Denise, he loved you so much and you loved him.*

*John Lander*

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**John Lander** - June 23, 2023 at 04:13 PM

DE

*Thank you John. He was so kind, caring, and devoted to me. I am so grateful for the many years we had together.*

Denise - June 26, 2023 at 11:44 PM

EB

“ *Dick had such a lovely smile and boisterous laugh, a jovial gent anytime I met him, may that warmth stay with you; and may he rest in peace. Love, Emily*

Emily Brennan - June 22, 2023 at 11:12 AM

DE

*Thank you Emily for your kind words... Richard was very special to me and I'm going to miss him terribly.*

Denise - June 26, 2023 at 11:47 PM

RJ

“ *Sending all our love and condolences. We will always remember Richard as a kind, generous, and loving person. May his memory be a blessing to you and ease your pain and sorrow in this difficult time*  
❤️ *love, Rachel and Jules*

Rachel and Jules - June 20, 2023 at 09:12 PM

DE

*Thank you Rachel and Jules. I have so many wonderful memories of my many years with Richard that bring me tremendous comfort.*

Denise - June 27, 2023 at 12:01 AM

NJ

“ *Nancy J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Richard Gordon Chandler.*

Nancy J. - June 19, 2023 at 07:10 PM