



Dr. Thomas Richard Howard Jr.

October 18, 1944 - January 7, 2026

Dr. Thomas Richard Howard, Jr., a resident of Pennsville, NJ, peacefully entered into eternal rest on January 7, 2026 at the age of 81.

Born in Oklahoma on October 18, 1944, he was the eldest child of the late Thomas and Elizabeth (nee Mead) Howard. After graduating from Claremore High School in 1962, he obtained his Bachelor's degree from the University of Tulsa. He went on to graduate from The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine in 1971. After an internship at Tripler Army Medical Center, he completed his residency at the San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium, focusing on Obstetrics and Gynecology. Having achieved the rank of Major in the United States Army, Thomas was most proud of his service delivering the babies of Vietnam War refugees.

Thomas worked in the medical department at Oklahoma State University until 1987 when he moved to Bridgeton, NJ and joined the Shiloh Medical Group. He later joined the staff at Cooper Primary Care in Pennsville where he worked for many years before opening his own practice in Quinton. His steadfast dedication to his profession allowed him to remain a pillar of the local medical community until his official retirement in July 2025.

Having a love for travel, Thomas took many cruises to places such as the Caribbean and Hawaii. But his favorite place on earth was Lake Tahoe, NV.

As an unofficial spokesman, he often praised its heavenly beauty and encouraged others to go experience it for themselves. Thomas also had a passion for fine art, motorcycles, and sports (especially rooting for the OU Sooners). Friends, family, patients, and colleagues will no doubt miss him most for his kindness and sense of humor.

He is survived by his longtime companion Diane Nelson; his children Thomas Howard III (Lauren), Holly Smith (Spencer), and Monica Oakes (Christopher); stepson Peter Chamberlain (Meghann); grandchildren Hannah Howard and Connor, Jack, and Caroline Smith; brothers David (Melanie) and John Howard; sister Elizabeth Blackard; and many nieces and nephews who lovingly called him Uncle Richie.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his beloved grandsons Hunter and Hugh Howard.

A service honoring Thomas will be held Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at Adams Funeral Home, 64 Broad Street, Woodstown, NJ 08098. Visitation will begin at 10 AM with the service following at 11 AM.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Thomas's memory to the Wounded Warrior Project.

P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8516

www.woundedwarriorproject.org

An additional funeral service and interment will take place in Claremore, OK in the near future.

www.adamsfuneralhome.org

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home
64 Broad St.
Woodstown, NJ 08098
adamsfuneralhome@comcast.net

Service

JAN 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home
64 Broad St.
Woodstown, NJ 08098
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Tribute Wall

RW

“ I knew Richard in high school when we rode the same schoolbus together. It was always great for us to talk about our future interests in medicine. Ultimately we reconnected in medical school. Condolences to family and friends.

Roger Dale Walker - February 11 at 04:06 PM

AM

“ ❤️ 🙏 ❤️



Alexandrya Muggleston - February 07 at 02:36 PM

AM

“ We loved him sincerely in a heartbeat
His saintly spirit of such light
And I must say this:
His demeanor was so gentle; what a beautiful
sight
His eyes full of kindness and wisdom
Flowing from the depth of his bosom
His cheeks red and jolly like old Saint Nick
And a smile that makes the heart of man feel at home so quick



Oh, what a blessing to be long missed
One who created true bliss;
Touching those near and far,
From our country to our kids
Restoring hope in humankind
Like a true loves kiss
Now let hope arise,
For he is not truly gone
He sits next to JESUS rejoicing;
Singing with the angels of Heaven
Cheering you and I on
May his spirit and his legacy live in and through us
That spirit of diligence and caring love,
Oh so joyous
The youthful heart that brings adventure and laughter evermore
One that shall soar and soar

Uncle Richie, we honor you
And we hold fast to the hope that one day because of our LORD
and Savior JESUS CHRIST,
We shall be reunited soon.

Alexzandrya Mugleston - February 07 at 02:34 PM

JB

“ *Wishing to express my deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Dr. Howard. I will never forget the kindness and compassion that Dr. Howard showed to me and my family. He truly cared about his patients and took the time to know and understand not only their physical infirmities but also their emotional concerns as well. He was more than just a doctor. He was a trusted friend and advocate that could be counted upon in times of need. Dr. Howard went above and beyond to care for the needs of others. He will be deeply mourned and missed. Thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.*

Jon Bowen - January 13 at 09:13 AM



Miss him

Elias Rodriguez - January 13 at 06:45 PM

BF

“ *Billy Blackard and family purchased the Divine Light for the family of Dr. Thomas Richard Howard Jr..*



Billy Blackard and family - January 12 at 10:42 AM

EB

“ *My brother Richard, I miss you so much, our morning phone calls will always be treasured.*

To Diane, my heart breaks for you. Your travel times were something he always looked forward to, in just his last month of life he traveled to Hawaii, Lake Tahoe and spent NYE in Atlantic City with you. I want to thank your daughter for taking such good care of him and your loving family for welcoming him to all holiday dinners and events. I love you Diane and so does Richard's Oklahoma/Georgia family.

To Rick and Holly, know your father always loved you.

*Heaven received a special angel.
Love you brother.*



Elizabeth Blackard - January 12 at 09:12 AM

JH

*My big brother Richie,
I miss him so much, he was kind to everyone and did not have a mean bone in his body. His demeanor has passed down to me I feel like. Sometimes you might say people take advantage of someone who's nice and I'm guilty of that and so was Richie. I assume it came from our Mother.*

I know Richie had his quirks, one of the funniest things when he kept on saying to our father, are you having your nuts, cheese dip. He said it repeatedly then our father had heard enough then he yelled back to him. Are you having your cheese nuts dip, this was during a Texas Oklahoma football game back in the 70s.

I remember many times, and the old house I will look out the window and get so excited when Richie was to arrive at the house, and I would run outside to greet him so much excitement.

I could go on and on about so many great memories. And I will have them in heart always.

So thankful that Diane watched over him and took him to so many places that brought him so much joy.

Even now I say to myself, I'm gonna call Richie. And sad that he's not with us., I'm sure he is resting and at peace with mother and father in heaven 🙏

John Howard - January 12 at 08:46 PM

CD

“ *I was very sorry to hear of Dr. Howard's passing. We were neighbors at the Quinton office for eight years, and I had the privilege of speaking with him often over that time. He was a truly good doctor who genuinely cared about the people he served and the community around him. I will always be grateful for the kindness, professionalism, and quiet wisdom he shared. He will be deeply missed, and my thoughts are with his family and loved ones during this time.*

Christopher Deaney - January 11 at 11:44 AM



“ *What a wonderful man. He wasn't just a doctor, but a kind and loving soul who touched so many lives. We will truly miss seeing him. Our deepest condolences to Diane, his family, and friends. Rest in heaven, Dr. Howard. Love Bob, Sharlene and family xoxoxo*

Sharlene Chiacchio-Caldwell - January 10 at 06:47 PM



“ *Dr HOWARD WAS SUCH A PLEASANT MAN AND A CARING DR. My condolences to his family.*

Carole Parsons - January 10 at 02:55 PM



“ *Condolences to the family and friends. Dr Howard was a very nice man and a great doctor. He will be missed. 🙏*

Denise Pankok - January 10 at 02:13 PM



“ *You were a great friend for many years, Richard.*

Bonnie Rhea - January 10 at 12:22 PM



“ *Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Thomas Richard Howard Jr..*



 January 10 at 10:40 AM

NH

“ Nephie Howard planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Thomas Richard Howard Jr..

Nephie Howard - January 10 at 10:40 AM

JM

“ Dr. Howard was so kind and had the best sense of humor. My condolences to the family and Diane, I'm really sorry for your loss.



Jessica Mathis - January 10 at 10:11 AM