

## Richard Mercier

March 31, 2023

Arthur Richard Mercier, Sr. “Richard”, aged 86, of Norwood, NJ passed away on Friday, March 31, 2023 from complications after cardiac arrest.

Richard was born on January 1, 1937 and grew up in Maywood and Ocean Grove, NJ. He studied biology at New York University before starting his 45 year career as a devoted and passionate educator. He taught at Dwight Englewood School in NJ, SUNY-Delhi, and Riverdale Country School in NY. He held two Master’s degrees in both biology and psychology.

Richard loved classical music, playing the piano, animals, gardening, cooking, reading, entertaining friends and family, and keeping a tidy home.

He is survived by his daughter, Janice Audrey Mercier; son Arthur Richard Mercier, Jr.; their mother, Janice Armstrong; his step-daughter, Jennifer O’Connell; daughter-in-law Alicia Mercier; granddaughter Gianna Mercier; second wife Linda Kurz; and partner of many years, Flora Greditor.

He is predeceased by his parents Melville and Dorothy Mercier; brother Melville Joseph, Jr. “Jerry”; and wife, Joyce Rifkin Mercier.

A graveside service will be held at Brookside Cemetery in Englewood, NJ on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 11:00 AM with a repast to follow in Norwood. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals at [aspca.org](http://aspca.org).

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

APR **10**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Brookside Cemetery  
425 Engle St  
Englewood, NJ 07631

# Tribute Wall

DS

“ I was a close friend of Richard and Linda from the mid to late 70's. We had dinners with lots of laughter. I "hung out" with the family like a welcomed relative. They (he) were so generous with themselves, their kids and their home. I belonged and that was a very important feeling for me to have at that point in my life. I was single and vulnerable.

I remember how his whole body would lift up and down when he laughed. I loved that so much. I valued his ideas. He loved women and I was one of the ones he loved. I loved him too. He was one of the valued friends I missed when a job forced me out of the area to the big city, Boston. He and Linda spent a weekend with me up there and we had a grand time. I remember we were on a boat and he was relaxed and happy with not one but two women one on one side and one on the other. That was bliss for him. I loved seeing him happy.

He "lived" life. He didn't watch it.

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**Diana Segara** - May 06, 2023 at 08:32 PM

JD

“ I so enjoyed working with Richard. He kept us laughing in the office. He was a wonderful host for department parties and offered helpful hiring advice. My condolences to his family.

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**Jeannie Drew** - April 11, 2023 at 09:55 AM

RC

“ I offer my sincere sympathies to family and friends of Richard. He was a brilliant scholar, scientist, colleague and friend. My professional world would not have been what it is today if not for Richard. He taught me so much - a dedicated educator and deeply insightful and thoughtful person with a great sense of humor. I enjoyed his companionship over the last few years and he will be greatly missed. May you fly high Richard.

Rachel Cox - April 09, 2023 at 09:50 PM

RI

Thank you so much Rachel.

Rick - April 10, 2023 at 06:58 PM

MA

“ Richard brought our mom so much joy over the last 20 years. We are so grateful to have had him in all of our lives. Marla and Jenna



marla - April 09, 2023 at 09:41 PM

AM

Flora, you are human garbage. You stole EVERYTHING from our family when our dad had very bad dementia. You talked him into signing a BS will that you fabricated, which we have in your handwriting. Now my disabled sister no longer get's Dad's help, but I also do not recieve a very large sum of money that was supposed to cushion me for early retirement due to me disabilities. There's a special place in hell for everyone, and your seat will be huge.

Arthur R Mercier - July 11, 2024 at 01:57 AM

RM

“ I offer my condolences to Richard's family. I am deeply saddened to learn of his passing. I met Richard in 1989 when I first came to Riverdale. He was particularly kind and helpful in introducing me to Riverdale's ways. On occasion, we used to meet for dinner with our wives when he lived in Demarest and I lived in Piermont. Later I worked with him on various administrative committees where the sharp intelligence he brought to his work as science department chair was much in evidence. Toward the end of his time at Riverdale, he returned to teaching ILS. I will always remember the lecture in which he introduced seniors to the essential concerns of the twentieth century, drawing upon his deep knowledge of psychology as a means of framing his topic. He was a brilliant educator with a real talent for making complex ideas clear, and he was a dear colleague and friend.

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**Ron Murison** - April 09, 2023 at 06:17 PM

RI

*Thank you so much Ron. Teaching was the very fabric of his life.*

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**Rick** - April 10, 2023 at 06:46 PM

RD

“ My heart goes out to Richard's family. Please accept my condolences.

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**Robin Dana** - April 09, 2023 at 11:09 AM

RI

*Thank you Robin, I think of you and AI frequently.*

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**Rick** - April 10, 2023 at 06:56 PM

GR

“ Strength and love to Richard's family for your heavy hearts. What a guy, to me ( and so many of us ) he was a confidant, counselor, comedian and curmudgeon. I met Richard when I interviewed at RCS in 1983 and was surprised when he referred to many of my professors from SUNY Delhi by first name and so began more than two decades of spirited conversation and debate. His wisdom was always a source of inspiration and comfort. "Oh captan, my captain..."

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**Glenn K Rubic** - April 08, 2023 at 10:02 AM

RI

*Thank you so much for this memory of my Dad!*

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**Rick** - April 10, 2023 at 06:49 PM

CA

“ Please accept my condolences. I am very sad to learn of his passing. He was one of the first people to reach out to me when I first came to Riverdale. And for the following years, until he retired, when we came across each other on campus, we regularly stopped for a conversation. He was friendly, caring and gave people his full attention. May he rest in peace.

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**Clarisse Alves** - April 07, 2023 at 04:02 PM

RI

*Thank you so much Clarisse.*

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**Rick** - April 10, 2023 at 06:48 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Mercier.*



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April 07, 2023 at 03:19 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Linda Kurz** - April 06, 2023 at 05:17 PM



*A Cape Cod dunes day ...a memory to share with family*

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**Linda Kurz** - April 06, 2023 at 05:23 PM



*For the family: please know that I am with you... sharing in your sadness.*

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**Linda Kurz** - April 06, 2023 at 05:24 PM



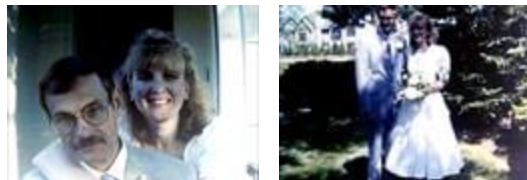
*Thank you Linda! You know very well that you are family!!*

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**Rick** - April 07, 2023 at 11:01 PM

RI

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Rick - April 05, 2023 at 04:53 PM

JP

“ What I remember most about Richard was his genuine laugh. We were colleagues at Riverdale Country School and Richard would call me at home when he became technically challenged although I was never a member of the Tech Department. But I didn't mind. May his soul Rest in Eternal Peace. My deepest condolences to his family.

Jackie Perreira - April 05, 2023 at 03:17 PM

RI

Thank you Jackie. My dad remained a pen and paper man despite the technology that sometimes stumped him. Teaching was his life passion. He truly cared about his students, and many of them would reach out to him over the years.

Rick - April 05, 2023 at 07:36 PM

RI

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Rick - April 05, 2023 at 02:49 PM

RI

“ 16 files added to the tribute wall



Rick - April 05, 2023 at 02:44 PM

RI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rick - April 05, 2023 at 02:41 PM

AL

“ So sorry to hear this sad news. Richard was not only a dear colleague but also one of my son's favorite teachers. RIP and condolences to his family.

Adele Lester - April 05, 2023 at 10:42 AM

RI

Thank you Adele

Rick - April 10, 2023 at 06:51 PM

LV

“ As a former colleague of Richard's at Riverdale Country School who joined the faculty as a bright-eyed bushy tailed twenty-something year old teacher, I've now been at RCS 23 years and as I reflect on the time we spent on campus together, I can share how much I always appreciated Richard's guidance and wisdom...and laugh. May he rest in peace and I will certainly keep you all in my prayers.

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**Lisa M. Verrastro** - April 05, 2023 at 09:38 AM

RI

*Thank you Lisa.*

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**Rick** - April 10, 2023 at 06:54 PM

JM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Janice A. Mercier** - April 04, 2023 at 12:31 PM