



JAMES RICHARD "RICKY" EZEKIEL

May 19, 2025

James Richard "Ricky" Ezekiel, beloved husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, uncle, and friend, unexpectedly passed away in his home, on May 19, 2025, at the age of 56.

To know Ricky was to love him. Ricky was a tender hearted soul. Thoughtful and kind. A man of great character. He gave the absolute best hugs. Hugs that left you feeling loved. Ricky always made sure you knew he loved you and he always made you feel special and important. He was a hard worker providing for his family that he loved so much. No matter what crazy household projects his wife would come up with, he was always eager, willing, and proud of what they could build together. He was a devoted father and supporter to his girls and always excited to talk about their achievements with others. Ricky was an avid Alabama Crimson Tide football fan....ROLL TIDE!! He enjoyed the great outdoors, short hiking trips with his family, and spending time in Gatlinburg, TN.

He was born and raised in Hueytown, Alabama and graduated from Hueytown High School, Class of 1987. He obtained his Journeyman Electrician license through the I.B.E.W Local 136 Apprenticeship Training Program. Afterwards, he obtained his Master Electrician license. Throughout his career, he worked

as a maintenance electrician and lead man at several companies including: Electrical Service Company, ROHN Industries, J.A. Electric, Craig's Electrical Service, Buffalo Rock, U.S. Steel, and for the past ten years at U.S. Pipe Mini Mill. Ricky has made many lifelong friendships throughout his career and will be greatly missed by all of his past and present coworkers.

Ricky is survived by his wife of 33 years, Christie Ezekiel; daughters, Jess (April) Ezekiel and Katelynn Ezekiel; grandchildren Noah, Donegan, and Madelyn; mother, Gwen Kiker Avery; father, James David (Suzanne) Ezekiel; brother, David (Angela) Ezekiel; sister, Karen (Mark) Avery; nephews, Brad (Ashleigh) Avery and Wil Ezekiel; nieces, Holly Avery, Anna Ezekiel, Lauren Ezekiel, and Audrey Ezekiel; great niece, Ellie Avery; mother-in-law, Lynn Myers; aunt, Connie (Bill) Morrow, and numerous other family members and friends. He was predeceased by his brother-in-law, Chad Myers; and father-in-laws, William Robert "Bobby" Myers, and Lonnie Creel.

There will be a private celebration of life between his family members at a later date.

Tribute Wall

SS

“Cindy, David and I always looked excitedly forward to the annual Christmas Eve family party and Ricky's grandparents home in Hueytown. While family reunions, getting together for birthdays, July 4th celebrations and Labor Day events slowly fell by the wayside over the years (unfortunately), we always knew Christmas Eve would be a "for sure." Most years we only saw a small portion of the extended family but while we looked forward to seeing everyone, we knew seeing Ricky would be very special. Ricky was a chip off God's block in that he had the DNA that God placed in each of us to make us who he wants/wanted us to be in this temporary life. Ricky had the character, love, caring for others and compassion that made God proud. Ricky was Cindy's favorite on my side of the family in the cousin category as he always treated her like a queen, which she always said she never deserved. While Ricky now resides in Heaven, it doesn't mean he won't be missed or continue to be loved by all of us. The greatest feeling in the world is knowing the next time we see him, it will be FOREVER. Ricky-Never forgotten, always loved.

Steve Sawyer

Steve Sawyer - June 03, 2025 at 04:40 PM

GA

Thank you Steve for these beautiful words. I know Ricky was a Christian and expressed his faith to me many times. I will always remember the hours we spent talking and will forever hear his voice say "hey Mom, how you doing" He was sweet and loving to me. A blessing in my life.

Gwen Kiker Avery - June 04, 2025 at 12:38 PM

JE

“ Words cannot express the hole that is now in my heart. We (Suzanne) and I did not get to see Ricky nearly enough and see that great smile of his. Our blessings and love goes out to Christie, Jess and Kate, his brother David and sister Karen. Our love, Dad and Suzanne.

James David Ezekiel - May 30, 2025 at 08:48 PM

BK

“ You will be missed my friend. Ill see you up there one day.



Brad Knowles - May 30, 2025 at 07:31 PM

GA

Thank you Brad. Im Gwen, his Mom. You can't know the feeling in my heart seeing this picture. Ricky almost always called me on his lunch break at work. Seems like he was forever working. He always spoke well of the people he worked with in all his past or present jobs. Theres my son, on the job. Thank you again for sharing this.

Gwen Kiker Avery - June 04, 2025 at 12:45 PM

GA

Thank you Brad. I love this pic. Ricky thought alot of the guys at his jobs past and present.

Gwen Kiker Avery - June 05, 2025 at 12:24 AM

LK

“ Christie, I am not sure we have ever met, but I am devastated by the news of Ricky passing. He was one of my best friends as a child. We played together many days in their backyard as it backed up to my backyard, they had the best yard it was shady in the hot summers, his grandmother gave me my first haircut in her shop in their basement, I busted my head that required 3 stitches, in their backyard when I fell and hit a brick. Ricky was my first crush. Ricky and David were as much a part of my child hood as anyone could be. I will always remember to pray for you anytime I think of Ricky. I remember running into him somewhere, years ago, he was still just as nice and as pleasant as he ever was. I am truly sad for his passing and your loss.

Lisa Hickey King - May 30, 2025 at 12:40 AM

SM

“ It was fun hanging out with Ricky in high school. We had fun playing football beside Peoples Church in Hueytown; especially when it rained. He was an original member of the peanut gallery in the HHS band. He was a good guy and will be missed.

scott myrick - May 29, 2025 at 11:15 PM

NO

“ Losing my Pawpaw Ricky has been incredibly hard on me and all of our family. Just a few weeks ago, he was helping me fix my car and replace the spark plugs. He always said “Ain’t nothin’ as hard as it seems, buddy. You just gotta try!”

Love you pawpaw. You earned every bit of your rest.

Noah - May 29, 2025 at 10:38 PM