



## Fred J. Richard

January 5, 1948 - January 22, 2018

Springfield – Fred J. Richard, 70, beloved husband of forty-seven years of Patricia A. (Schmitt) Richard, passed away on Monday, January 22, 2018, in a local nursing home.

He was born in North Adams on January 5, 1948, a son of the late William and Doris (Felix) Richard.

He served our country in the US Army during the Vietnam War and received the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars and was the recipient of the Purple Heart. He retired after forty-three years of service from Sonoco Products Company of Holyoke. He will be remembered as a practical joker who enjoyed trips to the casino, NASCAR, bowling, fishing, and a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Western MA, Chapter One-Eleven.

In addition to his wife he is survived by his son, Fred J. Richard, Jr. and his daughter Holly Bajgier and her husband Tom, two grandchildren; Aaron and Zachary Bajgier, all of Chicopee. He also leaves five brothers; Francis, Jerry, Karl, Ronald, and Michael, three sisters; Mary Fontaine, Gloria Sturgeon, Doris McDonald, father in law Jacob Schmitt, and special in laws Karl and Cheri Schmitt.

He was predeceased by his siblings, Billy, Albert, Gordon, Peter, Craig, and Betty.

Friends and relatives are invited to gather on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at New England Funeral & Cremation Center, LLC, 25 Mill Street, Springfield, MA from 12pm – 1:15pm followed by committal services with military honors at the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.

Memorial contributions in Fred's name may be directed to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Western MA, Chapter One-Eleven, P.O. Box 2671, Springfield, MA 01101-2671. Please visit [www.nefcc.net](http://www.nefcc.net)