

## Gerald Brooks Riker, Sr.

April 20, 2022

Gerald Brooks Riker Sr, 92 of North Kingstown RI died peacefully April 20, 2022, at home with his loving and devoted wife Joanne by his side.

Born April 6, 1930, in Tarrytown NY to the late Joseph Wilbur and Edith Tanner Riker.

He was raised and adored by Katherine McKeown Riker, who devoted her life to caring for the Riker family.

Jerry grew up on the East Side of Providence with his late brothers, Joseph W Riker Jr and Geoffrey Riker.

He was a founder of JW Riker Real Estate, a family-owned business, where he was head of the residential division. It was there he met his beloved wife Joanne, of 48 years. Together they grew their business into the largest independently owned real estate agency in RI.

Jerry attended Brown University studying music when he was drafted into the US army. In Korea, he worked as a chaplain's assistant. His positive attitude and faith provided comfort and support to fellow soldiers during that difficult time.

He was a music lover. From his early childhood where he sang in the church choir, to collecting a massive assortment of music CDs, he could always be found in his music room sorting and listening to all genres of music. His favorite country and western singer was Merle Haggard with Johnny Cash a close second. He loved classical music and the Boston Pops, and he listened to anything from rock and roll to Beyonce.

He spent his life enjoying time with the love of his life and his “bride” Joanne. They traveled to many exotic places, they loved good food, wine and especially ice cream. Together they hosted many wonderful parties, and he was always an amazing and welcoming host. And the life of the party. When they were not hosting, they enjoyed old movies together and catching up with daily news. Jerry was a people person and he was always interested in how you were, and what you were doing. He always thought of others first.

Sports were a big part of his daily enjoyment, and he followed the Brown University sports teams as well as the Boston Bruins, Red Sox and the Patriots.

He will be remembered as a kind considerate man to all people. Jerry had a wonderful sense of humor. He will mostly be remembered for his devotion to his wife, their love for each other was without end. They enjoyed every moment together and talked about being together in the “great beyond”. He will be missed by a combined group of children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He leaves, Gerald B Riker Jr (Lynn), Lane Ceylon (Sinan), Christopher Riker (Ping), as well as Rick Arnold (Heidi), Tracey Mutimer (Doug), Alyson Arnold, and the late Linda Arnold and 12 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

His funeral and memorial will be held Friday April 29th at 11:15 a.m. at the RI Veterans Cemetery, 301 South County Trail Exeter RI, with a memorial luncheon at Richards Pub directly following.

# Cemetery Details

## Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery

301 South County Trail  
Exeter, RI 02822

# Previous Events

## Committal Service

APR 29. 11:15 AM (ET)

Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery  
301 South County Trail  
Exeter, RI 02822

# Tribute Wall

KS

“ Hello dear friend  
Dad & I will visit you as soon as you are up to it  
So sorry we missed Gerry's service yesterday  
Only heard about his passing yesterday afternoon  
In our thoughts & prayers  
Love Walter & daughter Kathy

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**Kathy santilli** - April 30, 2022 at 08:16 AM

AM

“ Gerry was a beautiful person. I first met him in the early 1990s, when I dabbled in real estate sales. He was ultra smart, and so very kind. He will be missed.

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**Alexandra Mannock** - April 29, 2022 at 12:49 PM

TF

“ My father - Harry Bogosian - never forgot the time he spent with Jerry, and was very proud of all the knowledge Jerry shared with him about real estate, all the way back when Jerry first launched "Riker Real Estate"; it was a treasured friendship the memories of which my father spoke of right up to his own passing in 2016. Jerry was/is a true visionary. Our condolences and sympathies to the Riker family. Godspeed.

-- The Bogosian Family

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**The Bogosian Family** - April 29, 2022 at 11:43 AM

FM

“ Fred M. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Gerald Brooks Riker, Sr..



Fred M. - April 28, 2022 at 04:18 PM

RS

“ Jerry, Lynn and the entire Riker family. Our condolences. Ray & Sharron

Ray Sheridan - April 28, 2022 at 11:06 AM

JT

“ What a wonderful man may he rest in peace. I enjoyed many meetings with Jerry exercising with him at the dunes club and at his home. Joanne I know he will be sadly missed by you but he will forever be in your heart. You are a true love couple

Jane trainor - April 28, 2022 at 08:54 AM

ST

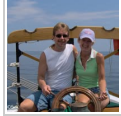
“ Wonderful man, we started out as business associates but soon became friends. Rest In Peace my friend!

Susan Turbridy - April 28, 2022 at 08:02 AM

GR

“ He was my Dad.

Gerald Riker - April 27, 2022 at 03:59 PM



*Best Uncle Ever!*

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**Stu Rideout** - April 29, 2022 at 09:08 AM



*To the Joanne and the Riker family.*

*My deepest sympathy*

*The best days of my real estate career were with the fabulous firm of J W Riker.*

*The content and compassion for AI who had the pleasure and honor to work with Jerry I'm sure where grateful for the wonderful company that Herey and Joanne created. A great and knowledgeable man.*

*Rest In Peace dear gentleman. You will always be remembered.*

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**Marie McEleney** - November 01, 2022 at 12:12 AM