



Richard P. "Dick" Bertram

December 2, 2025

Richard P. "Dick" Bertram, age 85, of Lake Ridge, VA, passed away peacefully at his home on December 2, 2025.

Dick was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA, and graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering from University of Pittsburgh and a master's degree in engineering science from George Washington University. He enjoyed an extensive career as an electrical engineer specializing in Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC), spending most of it supporting the U.S. Navy on complex and cutting-edge projects before retiring from The Odyssey Group.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter "Bert" and Anna Bertram; his father- and mother-in-law, Cyril "Dagen" and Frances "Mum" Smith; his brother, Walter "Wally" Bertram; and his brothers-in-law, William "Bill" Smith and Lee Edwards. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Margaret "Peggy" Bertram; his daughters, Lisa Howser (George Morrow), and Jennifer Sakole (David); and his four grandchildren, Ashley Hume (Will), Matthew Morrow (Jessica), Luke Sakole, and Nick Sakole. He is also survived by his sisters-in-law Janice Bertram, Nancy Edwards, and Vicki Callahan (James "Cal"), as well as many wonderful nieces and nephews.

Dick was often considered a Renaissance man who enjoyed playing the piano, guitar, French horn, and ukulele; painting, drawing, and sculpting;

writing poetry; watching and playing golf; and learning about computers and computer programming. He and Peggy enjoyed cooking together, trips to the Outer Banks, sailing and boating adventures, and traveling to interesting destinations across the country. Family will remember Dick for his kind, gentle nature and his uncanny ability to deliver a wickedly funny 'zinger' when sharing stories around the table after a good meal.

A private burial will be conducted, and Celebration of Life will be planned for Spring 2026.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites those who wish to honor Dick's memory to make a donation to the Woodbridge Senior High School Band Boosters, in celebration of his lifelong love of music, his years as a student musician and drum major, and his joy in supporting the Mighty Viking Marching Band.

Donations can be made either online at <https://wshs-band-boosters.square.site/> or by sending a check to:

WSHS Band Boosters
3001 Old Bridge Road
c/o Emily Matalavage
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Tribute Wall

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“ Dear Dave and Jen,

On behalf of the entire SAIC family, please accept our deepest condolences on the passing of your beloved father-in-law, Richard P. "Dick" Bertram. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this incredibly difficult time.

Dick's legacy of love for music and dedication to the community is truly inspiring. We hope that the heartfelt memories you shared with him bring you some comfort in the days ahead.

- Asabi Knorr



Asabi Knorr - December 05, 2025 at 11:57 AM