



# Richard Charles Shepard

FEB 2, 1934 - JAN 15, 2026



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# Richard Charles Shepard

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**R**ichard “Dick” Charles Shepard, 91, of St. Louis, Missouri, passed peacefully on January 15, 2026, surrounded by his wife and children.

Richard was born on February 2, 1934, in St Louis, Missouri, to Joseph Matthew Shepard and Evelyn Anna Hill. He lived his entire life in the St Louis area, a city he loved and to which he contributed so much. He earned an engineering degree at Washington University and an MBA at St Louis University. While at Washington University, Richard was an ROTC cadet, serving post-graduation as a Lieutenant in the US Army in San Antonio.

Richard met the love of his life, Judith Ann Diesem, working together at Union Electric (now Ameren). They raised four lively children – Scott, Brad, Stephanie, and Matt. As a family, they embarked on countless adventurous holidays, creating a lifetime of memories. They had a house filled with laughter, tears, games, movie nights, extended family, friends, and dogs (so many dogs). While the phrase “Wait until your father gets home” was a familiar refrain in the Shepard house, the truth is Richard and Judi were always a team. Richard adored Judi and told her so every day.

Richard spent most of his career in commercial real estate, receiving the Daniel F. Sheehan Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award from the St. Louis Association of Realtors in recognition of his commitment. He worked for 21 years at Linclay Corporation, the last eight as President and CEO. He went on to establish his own commercial real estate consulting firm and was instrumental in helping University of Missouri – St. Louis bring the national headquarters of Express Scripts to their campus, earning him the Creative Deal of the Year Award (2005) from the St. Louis Association Realtors. A sought-after expert in land dispute matters, he continued to work for clients well into his late 80s. He simply loved what he did.

Alongside his work, Richard contributed significantly to local organizations and programs. He served on the boards of the St Louis Art Museum, Boy Scouts of America (St Louis Area Council), the St. Louis Archdiocesan Finance Council, the Archdiocesan Trust Fund, Cardinal Ritter College



## Obituary

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Prep High School, the Urban Land Institute, and SLU's Urban Planning and Real Estate Development programs. He received the Boy Scout's Silver Beaver award for his contribution to area youth and the Building Community Award from the March of Dimes. He and Judi were long-time parishioners at Annunziata Catholic Church.

Richard led a full life devoted to family, faith, and community. A quiet man by nature, in his later years he was never happier than sitting in a large armchair amidst the swirling chaos of his children, grandchildren and, more recently, great granddaughter. When asked how he managed to stay married for 66 years, he would simply answer, "love".

Richard is survived by his wife, Judi, and four children: Richard Scott Shepard (Karuna) of Asheville, NC; Bradley Stephen Shepard (Caroline) of St. Louis, MO; Stephanie Ann Shepard Cobb (Shane) of London, UK; and Matthew John Shepard of St. Louis, MO; his seven grandchildren: Nathan O'Neill Shepard-Casey, Bradley Ian Shepard (Polina), Hanleigh Ann Shepard (Ian), Isabelle O'Connor Shepard, Zoë Ann Cobb, Liesel Shepard Cobb and Atticus Shepard Cobb; his great granddaughter, Vivian Lucy Shepard; and many loving nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother and sister-in-law (Jack and Anita).

As charitable in death as he was in life, Richard donated his body to St Louis University Medical School.

A funeral mass will be celebrated at 11:00 AM on Saturday, January 31, at the Church of the Annunziata, 9305 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63124, followed by a reception in Annunziata Church Hall.


If you cannot join the service in person, please join at <https://www.Annunziata.org>, click onto "Website" and then onto "Televised Mass".

In lieu of flowers, in memory of Richard, please donate to the Muny through <https://www.muny.org/support/donate/>. Please include in the notes section that the donation is in memory of Richard Shepard.


Services by Hughes Funeral Alternatives in St. Louis, Missouri. Friends and family can sign an online guestbook at <https://www.HughesFA.com>




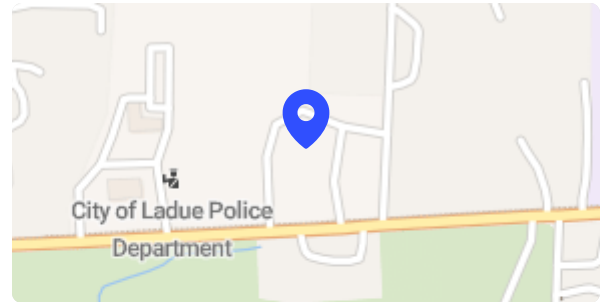
### Memorial Mass

 **Saturday**, January 31, 2026

 11:00 AM CT

 **Church of the Annunziata**  
9305 Clayton Road, St. Louis MO 63124

 A reception will follow the mass in Annunziata Hall





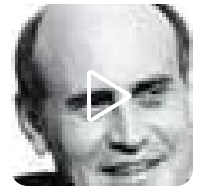
# Tribute Wall

**Richard Charles Shepard**

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**Hughes Funeral Alternatives Llc** shared a **Video**.



January 28 at 1:08 PM



**Maureen** posted:

Such a nice man to know and work with, both in St Louis and through ULI. My sincere sympathy to his family and many friends.

February 3 at 10:15 AM



**Peter Green** posted:

I first met Dick Shepard when I was doing a regional land survey for Linclay Corporation, searching for potential industrial development sites as an employee of Peckham Guyton architects. Union Electric at that time had an area development department with the dual role of attracting new customers and, fortunately for our region, attracting businesses to locate in the St. Louis area. Dick and his staff there made a presentation to me on area maps and photos, pointing out vacant sites, choice industrial development locations, and a few missed opportunities. He was very open and friendly to me, as a very young, inexperienced, and low-ranking professional, and he became a mentor to me in my career in development planning and architecture. Dale Perkinson, founder of Linclay, was fascinated when I presented the results of my study, and soon he and Dick were communicating directly about potential sites in what turned into a lifelong relationship. When I started my own business years later he was again welcoming and helpful, leading to continued business for the firm's where I was employed. I will always remember him fondly, as friendly, inclusive, and helpful. I for one will miss him greatly and offer my sincere condolences to his family. Peter H. Green, AIA, AICP, St. Louis

February 3 at 9:26 AM



**John Ryan** posted:

Judi, On my behalf please accept condolences for Richard from the Ryan Family, including me John Ryan, Anne and Neil Ryan -deceased. It has been a long time since we worked with you on selling Fordyce. We also worked with Richard on some of his projects. I also know Mom and Dad saw you often at Annunziata. MAY THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED REST IN PEACE John Ryan 314-941-057244 Williamsburg Rd 63141

February 2 at 1:02 PM



## Tribute Wall

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SP

**Sherri Pedroli** posted:

Rich was absolutely the best! Such a kind and caring person who became like a dad to me and my brothers after losing our dad when we were all so young and he helped my mom out tremendously! Holidays were always amazing at the Shepard house with the best food ever and so many laughs. Lake vacations, pool parties, weddings, snow skiing, graduations...the list goes on and on with endless memories! Thanks for a lifetime of memories Richard you will be deeply missed ❤️

January 30 at 9:28 AM

J

**Jean Burns** posted:

Rich will be deeply missed. He was generous with a kind soul. He made everyone feel welcomed. Holidays were always special at the Shepards home because that is where memories were made. He showed us what it looks like to care for a family and to give without looking for something in return. So many of our life experiences were made because of him. We are so grateful to have had Rich in our lives and will continue to keep his stories alive. Mickey and Jean.

January 29 at 4:30 PM

BU

**Betty Van Uum** posted:

Dick was a true gentleman, beloved, respected and appreciated by us. We worked with Dick when he served as a consultant to UMSL on several economic development projects. He was especially important in attracting the Express Scripts National Headquarters to the UMSL campus. It was Dick's expertise that brought our dream to fruition. It was a very complex undertaking that resulted in the only Fortune 10 company to be located on a college campus. The result of the partnerships developed between UMSL and Express Scripts led to Express Scripts funding a University building, Express Scripts Hall, on the campus, hiring over 1000 of our graduates, providing internships for many more. The fact that the then CEO of Express Scripts, George Paz, was also an UMSL graduate, provided students a concrete example of their future possibilities. UMSL also created a specially designed MBA program for Express Scripts employees with classes conducted in their buildings. Express Scripts Headquarters location provided significant benefits to the St. Louis community. It spurred the development of St. Louis County's business park, NorthPark. The Missouri Department of Transportation said that the renovation of I-70, which established the Express Scripts site, resulted in the creation of over 6500 new jobs in St. Louis between UMSL and the Boeing campus. On a personal note, Dick was a man of total integrity. And we who worked with him valued his always professional decorum. He treated all with dignity, respect and patience. It was our honor to know him. Blanche Touhill Chancellor Emeritus University of Missouri-St. Louis Betty Van Uum UMSL Public Affairs and Economic Development Prima Wagan UMSL Public Affairs and Economic Development John McCarthy Sverdrup

January 28 at 9:56 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Betty Van Uum** posted:

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January 28 at 9:55 PM



**Matthew Shepard** lit a candle in honor of Richard.



January 25 at 10:25 AM



**Matthew Shepard** lit a candle in honor of Richard.

Going to Disney World with him and Universal Studios on vacation and riding the rides and seeing all the shows



January 24 at 8:52 PM



## Media

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Hughes Funeral Alternatives Llc shared a **Video**.

January 28 at 1:08 PM





# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Richard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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