



Richard Rivera

March 19, 1946 - December 19, 2025

Richard Earl Rivera, 79, of Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood; retired interior designer, much-loved doorman, and proud Vietnam War Veteran; passed away gently, surrounded by the love of family, December 19, 2025.

Born in Chicago, Richard graduated from Lane Technical High School and entered the U.S. Navy from 1965-69 in the legal office of the U.S.S. Forrestal aircraft carrier. In 1967 Richard was injured in an onboard disaster explosion, requiring reconstructive dentistry. Richard loved his time in the Navy and traveling the world. He would have happily served longer on the ship, instead of the mainland desk job to which he was later assigned. Upon returning to Chicago, he attended classes at Wright Junior College and then worked as interior designer for over 20 years with his cousin Bob Kuttler. The duo ran a workshop at Clark and Lunt in Chicago's Rogers Park neighborhood, producing custom-made and designed drapery, upholstery, cornices, and balances. After his 2012 "retirement" Richard enjoyed a second career as a well-liked doorman at 720 W. Gordon until his second retirement in January, 2025.

In 1991, Richard first met the man he would marry. The relationship became romantic the following year and Sam moved into Richard's condo in Lakeview. The couple traveled all over the United States and visited Spain in 2024; hosted frequent Halloween, NYE, and other holiday parties; and were regulars

at Jacqueline's, a much-loved neighborhood tavern at Broadway and Roscoe.

Richard enjoyed listening to American oldies and was an avid reader of fiction, mainly horror like Anne Rice and the Preston & Child series. He watched British crime and murder mysteries on PBS and collected Lalique crystal and Egyptian art.

Richard is survived by Sam Patrick Moore, his devoted and beloved spouse of ten years (together for 33).

He was the beloved eldest brother of Billie (Larry) Appleby of San Tan Valley, Arizona; Maryanne (James, Sr.) Stowell of Lake in the Hills, IL; Celestino "Sal" (Susan) Rivera, Jr. of Addison IL, and Ramona Rivera of Des Moines, IA.

Loving uncle and great-uncle of many. Dear cousin of Denise and Robert Kuttler and others. Preceded in death by parents Celestino Mendez Rivera, Sr. and Elsie Delores Rivera (nee Gwinnup) and by Louie and Odin the dachshunds.

Richard expressly stated that there was to be no funeral or memorial event. The family has selected a private cremation, and cremated remains will be dispersed on Lake Michigan under favorable weather.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER), a cause close to Richard's heart as he and Sam attended AVER banquets for at least a decade: <https://www.averchicago.org/>.

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-318-1305 or www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com.

Tribute Wall

DK

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Denise Kuttler - January 11 at 02:40 PM

DK

Rick, you will be deeply missed. Thanks for the memories. Your cousin Denise

Denise Kuttler - January 11 at 02:43 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Team Inclusive Funeral Care - December 21, 2025 at 12:44 PM