



Col. (Ret.) Richard Marshall Bronson

AUG 16, 1933 - JUN 10, 2024



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Col. (Ret.) Richard Marshall Bronson, of Montgomery, formerly of Alexander City, died on Monday, June 10, 2024 at the age of 90 surrounded by his loving family. He was born on August 16, 1933 in Gaines, Michigan to William Augustus Bronson and Helen Gillespie Bronson. He married his high school sweetheart, Mary Ann Ivicic, on August 8, 1953. Graduated from Central Michigan College in 1956 with a bachelor's degree in math & physics and a US Army commission as a 2nd Lt in the Artillery.

His Army career spanned 28 years - tours included serving in Vietnam from 1966-1967, Ft Sill, OK; Ft Leavenworth, KS; Ft Bliss, TX; Germany; Korea; Alexandria, VA; and Maxwell Air Force Base, AL. He retired in 1984 as a Colonel and headed to beautiful Lake Martin. Because of his life-long love for the outdoors, nature, and the environment, his focus after retirement became all about service and volunteerism. He was active in numerous civic and volunteer organizations which ultimately led him to the founding of Lake Watch of Lake Martin in 1989. Because of his perseverance, Lake Martin was officially designated as the first and only Treasured Lake in Alabama in December of 2011. He considered this his crowning achievement knowing that Lake Martin will always be enjoyed by his children, grandchildren, and generations beyond.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann Bronson; children, Richard (Margie) Bronson of Champaign, IL, Susan Hudson of Montgomery, Jane (Ron) Richard of Jacksons Gap, Michael (Dawn) Bronson of Finksburg, MD, Thomas Bronson of Alexander City, Patricia Storie of Coppell, TX, and Mary Anne (Greg) Scanlan of Powder Springs, GA; sister, Karen Dyer of Fowlersville, MI; son-in-law, Steve Fisher of Huntsville; grandchildren, Emmanuel Bronson, Angela Bronson, Kelly Hellums, Adam Hudson, Jacob Hudson, Kimberly Fraher, Eric Richard, Andrea Ordonez, Sarah Fisher, Mark Fisher, Rachel Fisher, Beth Christianson, David Bronson, Jennifer Bowling, Brian



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Bronson, Kenneth Bronson, Molly Bronson, Matthew Storie, Daniel Storie, William Storie, and Luke Scanlan; great-grandchildren, Aurelia Bronson, Abby Hellums, Andrew Hellums, Brody Hudson, Riley Hudson, Lincoln Hudson, Luca Hudson, Avery Christianson, Kinsley Bronson, Miles Bowling, Megan Bowling, Knox Bronson, Landry Bronson, and Alice Bronson.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Linda Fisher; grandchildren, Tommy Bronson and Steve Bronson; brothers, Bill Bronson, Jim Bronson, and Brian Bronson.

The family will hold a private service.

The family requests no flowers. Donations may be made in his memory to Lake Watch of Lake Martin P.O. Box 425 Dadeville, AL 36853 or www.lakewatchoflakemartin.wildapricot.org or to the Alabama State Parks Foundation at www.asparksfoundation.org.

Radney Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Richard Marshall Bronson.



Tribute Wall

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LL

Lance R. Lefleur posted:

Dick Bronson was a wonderful man. His accolades are many and well deserved. He and Mary Ann touched the lives of many people. For example, their many years of work with Laurie Barrett's elementary school children, instilling in them a sense of adventure and appreciation of the environment, will be remembered by the children for a lifetime. I knew Dick to be a wise, vibrant, kind, and joyful friend. He was the voice of reason when others were polarized. He was solid. He will be missed. Lance LeFleur

June 19 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

With deepest sympathy. I always enjoyed chatting with Richard and his wife Mary Ann. Very sweet couple. RIP...he will be missed.

June 17 at 7:00 PM

CV

Cynthia Valencic posted:

I first met Dick and Mary Anne more than 20 years ago at the Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation office in Tallahassee, Florida. They had come to the office seeking help to protect Lake Martin. At first blush, Dick did not look like an enviro warrior to . I couldn't have been more wrong! Dick impressed me with his dedication and untiring support to protect Lake Martin. Wishing peace and comfort to Mary Anne and family.

June 15 at 7:00 PM

SW

Sherry Wood posted:

Dick Bronson embodied the best a person could be. His mark on my life can't be overstated. With love and respect, I wish you peace and rest. Along with the many friends and family that he loved so much, I grieve his loss. Well done beloved friend.

June 15 at 7:00 PM

CL

Cindy Lowry posted:

Dick was a well deserved River Hero! He worked tirelessly for Lake Martin and its tributaries and was a long-time supporter of our work at the Alabama Rivers Alliance. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and loved ones as you grieve and celebrate his amazing life.

June 13 at 7:00 PM



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MR

Maria Reutebuch posted:

I met Dick and Mary Ann for the first time when I tagged along with Eric and a group of international students and visitors that Dick and Mary Ann invited to their home. From then on, a beautiful friendship developed through the years. I can't help but think that God brought Dick and Mary Ann together for a specific mission on this earth. They are a perfect fit for the mission that they have embraced and have lived their life together fulfilling that mission. They "walked the talk" through their hard work, sacrifices, tenacity, resilience, generosity and faith. Their vision and their commitment for Lake Martin has left us and future generations this beautiful part of heaven on earth. Dick LIVED life and, as he did, he touched many lives. He is one that I wished would have lived forever. And he does ... in the hearts of those who have known and loved him. Eric and I are very blessed and privileged to count ourselves among them. DICK, WE THANK GOD FOR YOUR GIFT OF LIFE. YOURS IS A GIFT FOR ETERNITY! See you later, our friend, mentor, brother. We love you forever!

June 13 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. As these trees grow and thrive, may they serve as a lasting tribute.

June 13 at 7:00 PM

BD

Bill Deutsch posted:

I first met Dick on Lake Martin in 1993, to conduct one of the first water testing workshops of Alabama Water Watch. He was already the President of Lake Watch of Lake Martin, and he led the group to become a premiere AWW water monitoring group. He and Mary Ann also opened their home (and water slide!) to dozens of international students and visitors from many countries who came to Auburn University to learn about water and citizen science. Dick joined me in the Philippines to help train local communities in water testing and environmental protection. We had many joint projects and wonderful conversations over our 30 year friendship. What a treasure of a man who pushed and prevailed for his beloved lake to become a treasure.

June 12 at 7:00 PM



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SC

Sherra Shockley Claunch lit a candle in honor of Col. (Ret.) Richard.

During the years this great man worked so very hard for Lake Martin, I lived on Lake Martin. I was so grateful for all he did for others and me. What a blessing it was knowing someone was trying so hard to keep Lake Martin the great waterfront it was!! I loved my twenty three years on Lake Martin. Many thanks to Col. Bronson!!



June 12 at 7:00 PM

RB

Ricky Brand posted:

Dick Bronson and I spent many a day together. He was an inspiration and a friend. He was a great mentor to me and will be remembered always. He and Mary Ann are truly special people!

June 12 at 7:00 PM

AB

Ann G Bradford posted:

I first meet this wonderful man and his wife when I owned Bay Pine Marina. They became great friends that will always own a special place in my heart. Prayers for the family. What a wonderful man to have known as well as his wonderful work of sharing his love for Lake Martin. Love you Mary Ann and family.

June 12 at 7:00 PM

AB

Ann G Bradford lit a candle in honor of Col. (Ret.) Richard.



June 12 at 7:00 PM

ER

Eric Reutebuch posted:

Dick and Mary Ann have been our dear friends for many years. They are the reason Maria and I moved to Lake Martin. Dick's life of service and fighting for what is right and just garnered respect from friends and foes. He was the greatest mentor in my life. Though they were not what he strived for, any environmental award I could think of, Dick was a slam dunk candidate. His service and accomplishments for the preservation of Lake Martin and beyond are too numerous to recount here. We all benefit from his many efforts, THANK YOU Dick. I love you and I miss you, my friend. Enjoy your heavenly hikes!

June 12 at 7:00 PM



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DF

David And Diana French posted:

In 1995 my husband called Dick to learn more about Lake Martin and the water wars before we ever left Missouri to move to the lake. Dick was one of the most knowledgeable, friendly, and dedicated men we have ever known. He and his wife Maryann shared their hospitality and friendship with hundreds of people. Dick was a mentor and an inspiration for all who came in contact with him. Our love and sympathy go to his family as we have all lost a wonderful man.

June 12 at 7:00 PM

LB

Laurie Barrett posted:

I am so blessed to have crossed paths with Col. Bronson!!! Forever grateful!!!!!!

June 11 at 7:00 PM

LB

Laurie Barrett posted:

Mr. Bronson left many lasting memories with myself & my students when he selflessly volunteered for my Radney gifted classes for about 10 years. He instilled a long lasting love of the outdoors in their hearts & taught them how to care for & protect it. Those times were the absolute highlight of my teaching career & I am forever grateful for each and every moment. May God continue to be with each and every family member & give you peace. Laurie Barrett

June 11 at 7:00 PM

DW

David Willis posted:

Prayers for the family. Dick certainly set a high bar for living life to the fullest and being a role model for many.

June 11 at 7:00 PM

GH

Gerald Hallmark posted:

Dick was a good man and I always enjoyed working with him. He loved his community and it was a witness to his faith in doing good.

June 11 at 7:00 PM



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Jimmy Sanford posted:

The Col. Will be missed, My Thoughts and Prayers go out to his family.RIP Sir.

June 11 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Col. (Ret.) Richard by
contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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