



## Harold R. "Dick" Hicks

November 28, 1937 - July 12, 2023

Harold "Dick" Hicks,

85, of Indianapolis, passed away July 12, 2023. He was born November 28, 1937 in Louisville, KY, to the late Harold Cabbage and Ruth (Tilford) Hicks. Dick was a graduate of Eastern High School, Louisville; and received his bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of Kentucky. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army and married Norma Louise Epperson. Dick was co-owner of Hicks & Nogan Engineering Firm for many years.

Dick was a longtime member of the United States Table Tennis Association, served as a board member on the Hall of Fame and Ethics Committee for the U.S. Table Tennis Association. He was also a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers; and a former member of Lyndon Baptist Church, Louisville. Dick enjoyed playing table tennis and forensic engineering work in his spare time, but most importantly he cherished time with his wife, son, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be Tuesday, July 18, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel, with funeral services there Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Dick is survived by his wife, Norma Hicks; son, Rick (Kathy) Hicks; grandchildren, Ryan (Melinda) Hicks, Sean Hicks and Alyse (Jeremiah) Wilck; and great-grandchildren, Isaiah, Judah, Micah, Freya and Connor.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the U.S. Table Tennis Hall of Fame, 7055 SW Leslie St., Portland, OR 97223.

# Cemetery Details

## Washington Park East

10612 E. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46229

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JUL 18.** 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel  
9606 E. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46229  
(317) 897-9606  
<https://shirleybrothers.com/>

## Funeral Service

**JUL 19.** 10:00 AM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel  
9606 E. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46229  
(317) 897-9606  
<https://shirleybrothers.com/>

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ *Richard Hicks was a role model for so many. You will be forever missed Richard. I am so thankful for the advice you gave me over the years. You are a true champion.* ”

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**Jon Bradley** - July 21, 2023 at 03:37 PM

SO

“ Dick showed the table tennis community how to be a world champion on and off the court.

*With the game on the line you knew he was never going to give up or give in. If you wanted a point, You were going to have to earn it. His defense was impenetrable and his surprise attacks kept you on your toes. No lead was safe and every opponent was treated with respect and honor. His 31 state championship run will never be equaled or challenged. Those attributes made Dick a world champion on the table.*

*Off the table, he led by example with his dedication to service. Showing everyone in Indy as the chairman of the Hoosier State Games for 18 years in addition to running over 100 sanctioned events. There was a reason he won the Victor Barna award for support to the sport.*

*His service continued at the highest level as USATT National Tournament Director, Midwest Regional Tournament Director and Chair of the Ethics & Disciplinary Committee. You knew if your case was before him, you count count on a just award being delivered. Common sense and fairness were in abundance.*

*His service continued on the Hall of Fame Committee as a member to honor and recognize those that made a difference in the sport just like he did. As a Mark Mathew's lifetime achievement winner, Dick set an example that we can all strive to follow. Cooperative, Consistent, and Caring balanced out his competitive nature. I will miss our next HOF zoom meeting, but will not forget his words of wisdom he shared each time we spoke.*

*Our Thoughts and Prayers are with Norma, Ricky and Kathy plus his grandchildren and great grand children.*

*Sean O'Neill  
US Table Tennis Hall of Fame, President*



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Sean O'Neill - July 19, 2023 at 05:51 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Shirley Brothers Mortuaries & Crematory** - July 18, 2023 at 03:32 PM

DH

“ Diana and Ed Hogshead purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Harold R. "Dick" Hicks.



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**Diana and Ed Hogshead** - July 18, 2023 at 01:15 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Harold R. "Dick" Hicks.



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July 18, 2023 at 11:43 AM

MS

“ I had the pleasure of working with Dick at Robson Forensic for many years. He was great to work for/with and I really admired his work ethic. I had no idea in the beginning he was such an accomplished TT player; he was very low-key about it. He was gracious enough to "go easy" on my novice player husband during a recreational game once.

*Wishing you strength and love during this difficult time.*

*Malia & Patrick Handlon*

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**Malia Storrer-Handlon** - July 17, 2023 at 07:02 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Table Tennis



Sean O'Neill - July 17, 2023 at 12:32 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Harold R. "Dick" Hicks.



July 17, 2023 at 10:12 AM



“ Gordon A. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Harold R. "Dick" Hicks.



Gordon A. - July 17, 2023 at 09:41 AM



“ Tony and I have lived next to Dick and Norma for 24 years. So many times we shared a story and a laugh from across the fence. We are going to miss seeing Dick working in his yard. He is resting in the arms of God now. With our deepest sympathy,  
Kim and Tony Dean



Kimberly Dean - July 16, 2023 at 09:09 PM



“ From Doris Lasley and Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Harold R. "Dick" Hicks.



From Doris Lasley and Family - July 16, 2023 at 03:23 PM

“ June 7, 2003

*Dick and I met in the St. Charles Hotel. This was a classy well-established old-time hotel in what was then torn-up Indianapolis. Nice inside, a war zone outside.*

*Dick had been designing roadways for many years, knew what was going to happen at every stage of his work, and was looking for something interesting, different and challenging to do.*

*Our work must have sounded interesting and challenging to Dick, and he accepted my offer and decided to join us.*

*That was October 1, 1993. At that time we were still Smith & Robson. The Robson side of the company had a manned office in Lancaster. State College, Pittsburgh and Albany practices had one person, each operating from his home. We also had a mail type office in Cleveland. That was it. Our company, then.*

*Our office in Indianapolis was remote from any of our areas. It was an experiment in starting a remote office.*

*Dick was the first, other than Lancaster, to go in to a real office.*

*Dick started with Indiana. In 1994 we expanded to Kentucky, eastern Illinois and the Cincinnati area.*

*Later we asked Dick to look after starting a practice in Michigan.*

*Other offices were spawned from Indianapolis. The Michigan office became a practice. Duane Meeker left and started St. Louis. Cincinnati became part of the Ohio practice.*

*Today, the Indianapolis practice consists of Indiana, Kentucky and eastern Illinois, and we have several full time and a nice complement of part time people. Dick, Malea, Lowell Pruett, Jay Nogan and Reg Smith in Kentucky.*

*Dick and I are both Civil Engineers, and have interests in common. We have gone to annual conferences together for many years. We have become personal friends, as well as my family and Dick's family.*

*I have learned about Dick's prowess in table tennis and learned a few tricks myself.*

*All and all, it has been both a personal and professional pleasure to know and work with Dick these past 10 years.*

*My only failure has been that I haven't been able to get Dick to take up bicycling. Now, he may be worried that I am going to push this one step further today and give him and Norma bicycles. I couldn't bring bicycles into Hershey Park.*

*But, I also couldn't bring a laptop computer into the Park.*

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*I wrote this for a Robson Forensic company event in 2003. It still seems appropriate today. As far as I know, Dick got good use out of the laptop.*

*Lance Robson*

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**Lance Robson** - July 16, 2023 at 01:44 PM

JN

*He did get good use out of the laptop. I know after its screen died, it became his backup "drive" for years.*

*Jay Nogan*

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**Jay Nogan** - July 16, 2023 at 03:21 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Harold R. "Dick" Hicks.



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July 15, 2023 at 08:45 PM

KH

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



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**Kathy Hicks** - July 14, 2023 at 10:27 PM

SP

“ *Dick and I were first cousins and my family spent some summer vacations with him and his parents in Lyndon. He was a lot of fun and a good person. Sue Tilford Prothero*

Sue Tilford Prothero - July 14, 2023 at 08:14 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Harold R. "Dick" Hicks.*



July 14, 2023 at 06:01 PM

CL

“ *I have many wonderful memories of Dick. We had so many trips and visits with he and Norma. He was a good man. We will miss him.*

Cathy Lukat - July 14, 2023 at 05:55 PM



“ *18 files added to the album Table Tennis*



Sean O'Neill - July 14, 2023 at 02:24 PM