



## Richard Cibak

May 18, 1938 - July 10, 2013

Richard Jack Cibak was born May 18, 1938 in East Chicago, Indiana, to Mike and Martha Cibak who preceded him in death. He passed away on July 10, 2013 on Roswell, New Mexico.

Richard is survived by his wife, Rita and son, Richard C. Cibak and wife, Pam, of Roswell, two grandchildren, Eric S. Cibak and wife Sarah of Abilene, Texas, Katherine McClain and husband Clint, of Roswell and three great-grandchildren Iris, Aedan and Carter. He is also survived by a brother, Michael D. Cibak and wife, Janice of Washington, Indiana.

Richard had many accomplishments in life of which he was very proud. In high school in Bicknell, Indiana, he sang with the "Four Teens" winning many awards. He enlisted in the United States Air Force immediately after graduating from high school. He was stationed at Walker Air Force Base where he was a gunner on a B-36 aircraft with the 39th Bombardment Squadron, 6th Bombardment Wing (Heavy). After the B-36 was replaced by the B-52, he became an air traffic controller for the Air Force. After his service in the Air Force he went to work for the Federal Aviation Administration as an Air Traffic Controller. Richard had the privilege of working in the following cities: Indianapolis, Indiana (Air Traffic Controller), Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (Instructor at the FAA Academy), Missoula, Montana (Air Traffic Chief), Rapid City, South Dakota (Flight Service Chief), Kansas City, Missouri (Assistant

Chief), Chicago, Illinois (Operations Specialist Supervisor, Great Lakes Region), and Fort Worth, Texas (Air Space and Operations Chief for the Southwest Region). Richard received numerous awards while in service with the FAA, which included the FAA Distinguished Service and the Golden Eagle Award. Richard retired from the FAA in 1993.

In 1993, he started oil painting, which was his lifelong desire. He helped found the Gallery (Roswell Fine Arts League), located on 5th Street, Roswell, NM. He served on the Museum Board in Roswell for 4 years. There will be no services for Richard held locally. We will all remember the service he has given to our nation and Roswell and his dedication to the artists of New Mexico. The annual Roswell Fine Arts League art show to be held in August 2013 will be dedicated to his efforts and his love of art.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Richard Cibak*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to the Cibak family. I am very saddened by news of Richard's passing. He was a dear friend of nearly 20 years and he will surely be missed by all that knew and loved him. I will always cherish the memories of our friendship.*

**Mike Neely** - July 17, 2013 at 09:57 AM



“ *What an amazing man my grandpa was! He was outgoing, funny, energetic, smart, artistic, and truly an individual. From a very young age he taught me what it meant to be a Cibak. To be a Cibak you have to work hard, strive for great accomplishments, have a great sense of humor, and be able to respond quickly and strategically in famous Cibak debates. Though I am married now and have a different last name, I still proudly own the name Cibak that my grandfather so greatly honored. I am so thankful for every moment I had with him throughout my life (art lessons, our trip to Chicago, family holidays and celebrations...). I will forever be proud to claim you as my Grandpa!*

*Though you only got to meet my son once, I promise to share the same stories and words of wisdom with him that you shared with me throughout the years. I love you so much, Grandpa and will miss you always.*

**Katie Cibak McClain** - July 14, 2013 at 09:09 PM

SC

“ Richard was a cherished friend of my late husband, Paul Ashby, who passed away in December. Paul was a fellow painter and saw Richard frequently through The Gallery. He thought the world of Richard and respected him greatly as an artist and as a man. I had only just met Richard last summer, shortly after Paul and I were married, but I am glad he was a part of Paul's life. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy for your great loss.  
Sue Chianta-Ashby

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**Sue Chianta-Ashby** - July 13, 2013 at 09:50 PM

NP

“ I was really sorry to hear that Richard had passed way. He was a super nice guy who will be missed!  
Nancy Posz

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**Nancy Posz** - July 13, 2013 at 06:18 PM

CL

“ Rita and family,  
I was so saddened to learn that Richard had passed. He was a wonderful, intelligent, talented, and giving man! He will be missed by all!!! God give you comfort in this difficult time.  
God Bless,  
Christa Landreth



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**Christa Landreth** - July 12, 2013 at 07:28 PM

RC

“ *Father, I miss you so much already. I am so appreciative for what you taught and gave me. You always gave me an ear and provided me with thoughtful responses to my questions. I remember the flying we did in Rapid City and the coaching you provided during my football career. I will forever be thankful for your putting me through engineering school, your patience and the stability and security you provided to me as a child.*

*You were always honest and thoughtful of others. It is so hard to say goodbye. I will forever cherish your memories. You will be in my thoughts forever. I wish I had told you more frequently how much I love you.*

*Go Chicago Bears!*

*Until we meet again on the other side, your loving Son, Rich*

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**Rich Cibak** - July 11, 2013 at 06:34 PM

WA

*Richard: you will be missed. Never a harsh word...about anyone. Nothing but love and kindness ever came from you. I love you, and I will never forget how great you always were to me and my family.*  
Wade

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**Wade** - July 12, 2013 at 07:00 PM

BG

*Rita,  
I have known Richard for about 3 years through The Gallery, I feel I have known him for a lifetime. Every time I talked to Richard, we had a good laugh about something. The art community lost a good person and will be missed. Bobby Goode.....*

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**Bobby Goode** - July 12, 2013 at 08:05 PM

BP

*Rita,*

*I am pretty sure you probably don't remember me, but I was in the FAA with Richard, First I was the manager at Oklahoma City FSS and Richard was my regional contact, I would never had made it without his guidance and mentoring. Second, I was in the Regional Office when he was, he continued to mentor and pass on his advice, when I needed it. He was a wonderful man and a great friend that I will never forget. You have our deepest sympathy at this time of your loss, along with you family. GOD be with you and yours at this time.*

*Bill and Deanna Parker*

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**Bill and Deanna Parker** - July 12, 2013 at 08:35 PM

LC

*Rita and Family,*

*So sorry that Richard has left us. He was the perfect example of the power of positive thinking, especially in his long struggle with illness but also in his daily activities. We starting working together in 1982 in the Ft. Worth Regional Office and retired about the same time. As a branch manager he was always on top of everything that was going on and loved the challenge of seemly difficult assignments. One of his favorite sayings was "Hey we can set fire to watermelons"*

*We hope that in time you can dwell on the happy memories of a man who was full of energy, always had a smile, had many talents and has left this world a better place.*

*God Bless-Larry and Alice Craig*

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**Larry Craig** - July 17, 2013 at 05:25 AM



*So sorry to hear of the loss of your dad. I was thinking of my days in Roswell and Atkins Engineering tonight and ran across this.*

*Sometimes I wish I could take a trip and visit you all. Terry (Norum) Emerson.*

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**Terry Emerson** - July 21, 2013 at 11:22 PM

SS

*So sorry you have lost your friend and father...he must have been a very special guy. I barely knew him. He married my high school best friend, Rita Sue Atkins. I think of them both often. My best to you and your family.*

*Sue Anderson Scheiderer*

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**Sue Anderson Scheiderer** - January 30, 2014 at 02:32 PM

PA

*I am coming late to this page, but wish to tell his family that I worked with Richard on projects and for him as my branch manager. He was a truly fine man. His wonderful sense of humor was always present, but he was always an alert, sensitive, versatile, professional. I always looked forward to working with and for him. I truly miss him and will never forget him... Prentiss Andrews*

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**Prentiss Andrews** - May 08, 2015 at 11:23 AM