



## Ricky Orville Phillips

January 22, 1956 - August 29, 2025

Ricky Orville Phillips, 71, finished his work in this life on Thursday, Aug. 28, 2025, when he died at his home in the Empire community of Walker County.

Phillips was preceded in death by his parents, Jim O. “Sharky” and Ruby Phillips, as well as brother, Herbert Harding and brother in law, Rick Watson.

Phillips is survived by his wife of more than 50 years, Debra Best Phillips; his sons, James (Andrea) Phillips and Haven (Alesha) Phillips; his daughter, Samantha (Courtney Simmons) Phillips; his grandchildren, Stone Phillips, Breeze (Rob) Gutierrez, Daisy Phillips, Joy Phillips, Zuzu Phillips, Anthony Phillips, Aiden Phillips, Jordan Phillips and Kingston Simmons; his brothers, Lynn Harding and Glenn Harding; his sisters, Nell Howard, Pat Greathouse and Jilda Watson; best friend Rodney “Hot Rod” (Erica) Williams, and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Phillips worked for more than 30 years as a shop foreman at CAPSCO Industries before starting his own plumbing business, R&H Plumbing. He was also retired from the Walker County Board of Education after a 25-year stint as janitor at Sumiton Elementary-Middle School. Phillips worked hard every day to make the world a better place for his family, friends and community.

A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at New Horizon Funeral

Home in Dora at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025. The family will receive visitors starting at 5 p.m.

Honorary pallbearers are Stone Phillips, Jordan Phillips, Anthony Phillips, Rob Gutierrez, Brian Harris, Kerry Hopkins and John Shanks.

New Horizon Memorial Funeral Home 205-648-2323

# Cemetery Details

## New Horizon Memorial Gardens

5203 Hollis Goodwin Rd.  
Dora, AL 35062  
(205) 648-8749  
<http://www.newhorizonmemorial.com>

# Previous Events

## Family to Receive Guests

SEP 2. 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

New Horizon Memorial Funeral Home  
5203 Hollis Goodwin Road  
Dora, AL 35062  
(205) 648-2323

## Funeral Service

SEP 2. 6:30 PM (CT)

New Horizon Memorial Funeral Home  
5203 Hollis Goodwin Road  
Dora, AL 35062  
(205) 648-2323

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



---

**New Horizon Memorial Funeral Home** - September 02, 2025 at 03:54 PM

MM

“ My prayers are with Ricky's family. I've known Ricky since the first grade in Sumiton Elementary School. Ricky and Jilda hold a special place in my heart and my family. He will never be forgotten. May God wrap His loving arms around the Phillips family.

---

**Marie Mitchell Moore** - September 02, 2025 at 03:21 PM