

Richard Ward Griffis, 76, of Aiken, S.C., died Saturday at Trinity Hospital in Augusta, Ga.

A son of Richard Griffis and Helen Fleming Griffis, he was born in Delphos. His parents preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy E. (Weber) Griffis of Aiken; three daughters, Margaret Griffis of Asheville, N.C., Catherine (Drew) Bergwall of Suwannee, Ga., and Mary Hall (George) of Palm Harbor, Fla.; a brother, J. Craig Griffis of Toledo; two sisters, Helen Diane Youngpeter of Fort Wayne and Terri Elaine Massa of Columbus; and six grandchildren, Alec Hall, Ian Hall, Nathan Hall, Riley Hall, Charlie Bergwall and Bitsy Bergwall.

He was also predeceased by a brother, David Griffis; and a sister, Frances Lynn Davis.

After serving in the US Army, Mr. Griffis graduated from Ohio State University in 1963 and then began a career in the automotive industry as a production control specialist. He was a member of the American Inventory Industrial Society. Retiring from the John Crane Group in 2000, he moved to Aiken with his wife, Nancy.

Richard was an avid golfer and played "all the big courses." Once retired, he began working as a caddy at The Augusta National Golf Club, the Sage Valley Golf Club and the Woodside Plantation Reserve Club. He was a former communicant of St. John The Baptist Church, Delphos, and currently was a communicant of St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, Aiken.

A Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m. Friday at St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, Aiken. Due to "Aiken's Makin," friends are encouraged to park in the George Funeral Home parking lot and walk to the church. Interment will be private.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Thursday at George Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 211 Park Ave. SW, Aiken.

Memorial donations may be directed to the M D Anderson Thoracic Research.

Expressions of sympathy may be left at georgefuneralhomes.com