



Richard Demarest

May 2, 1950 - January 28, 2022

Columbia, South Carolina

Richard Demarest, 71, died Friday, January 28 2022. Born on May 2, 1950, he was the youngest child of six of Emily and Irving Demarest. He was raised in Metuchen, NJ surrounded by his extended family. After high school, Richard graduated from Gettysburg College, and received his Master's degree from the University of South Carolina.

He retired from DHEC after 22 years. He then went on to work with Mrs. Dolores Scott, head of Hold Out the Lifeline, until his passing. Richard was active in the arts, acting at Workshop Theatre, and singing with the Palmetto Mastersingers, and Arpad Darazs Singers. He also sang with a number of church choirs including Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, First Presbyterian Church, and Eastminster Presbyterian Church.

Surviving are his partner of many years, Gene Mitchell; sister, Helen McTammany of Northumberland, PA; brothers, David Demarest of Melbourne, FL and James Demarest of Metuchen, NJ; and many cousins, nieces, and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Elizabeth Howard, and brother Matthias Irving Demarest.

A gathering to celebrate the life of Richard will be held from 3:00 until 5:00 p.m. Sunday, February 6, 2022, at Dunbar Funeral Home, Devine Street Chapel. Masks will be required. Memories may be shared at www.dunbarfunerals.com.