



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

General Conference
World Headquarters

September 11, 2017

Office of the President

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Dear Gwen,

I was shocked to hear of Rick's recent passing. He lived a powerful life of faith, and it was a privilege to know you and Rick from my early days of ministry in NYC. I thank you both for your faithfulness to God's Word and for helping people look towards Christ's soon return and being ready through His grace.

Rick was solid in his biblical beliefs and understanding. We will miss him, yet his love for God remains active through the fond memories of many, many people. He will be greatly missed.

Our Heavenly Father grieves with you for the pain you are now experiencing. There is victory in death, for Rick's life is hidden with Christ in God until the great resurrection morning. He was a blessing to many.

On behalf of the world church that Rick loved, I send heart-felt condolences. God will sustain you during this time. I have prayed for you and for your family, that each of you will feel God's tremendous presence during this difficult and very challenging stretch.

Very soon "¹⁶...the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever." 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17 (NIV) How beautiful it will be when we meet our Savior face-to-face and rejoice with our loved ones from whom we have been separated!

We wish you God's greatest blessings and hope for the future as we look forward to Jesus' soon return and seeing Rick again.

With warm Christian regards and sympathy,

Ted N. C. Wilson
President

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