



## Richard Phillip Ecton

March 21, 1939 - March 21, 2018

Richard (Dick) Phillip Ecton, of Summerville, husband of Constance H. Ecton, passed away peacefully Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at Roper Hospital on his 79th birthday.

Family and friends are invited to attend his visitation Tuesday, March 27, 2018 from 6 to 8 o'clock at James A. Dyal Funeral Home. A funeral Mass will be held Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 9 o'clock at St. John The Beloved Catholic Church, 28 Sumter Avenue, Summerville, SC. Burial will be at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: The National Cancer Institute/Gift Fund, Attn: Director, Building 31, Room 11 A-16, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892 or The Maryland Music Educators Association, 791 Aquahart Rd., Suite 117, Glen Burnie, MD 21061-3949.

Richard was born in Hagerstown, MD, on March 21, 1939, son of the late Charles (Buddy) William Ecton, Jr. and Hazel Elizabeth Ecton. Dick received his Bachelor's Degree in Percussion from The Juilliard School of Music in New York City, NY and received his Master's in Performing Arts Degree from Catholic University in Washington, DC. He taught percussion privately, and at Montgomery College. He enlisted in The United States Army and soon became a member of The United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own". He

retired after 32 years of service as Sargent Major Percussion Section Leader. He enjoyed listening to jazz music, loved to paint, and create stained glass/art works.

Survivors including his loving and devoted wife of 54 years Constance are: one daughter: Mary (Liz) Ortuzar (Jose) of Rockville, MD; one grandson: Joseph Andrew Ortuzar of Washington, DC; one granddaughter: Elizabeth Claire Ortuzar (Jude Obermuller) of New York City, NY. He is predeceased by one son: Charles Gregory Ecton.

A memorial message may be written to the family by visiting our website at [www.jamesadyal.com](http://www.jamesadyal.com).

ARRANGEMENTS BY JAMES A. DYAL FUNERAL HOME, 303 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUMMERVILLE, SC 29483 (843)873-4040.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 27. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

James A. Dyal Funeral Home  
303 S. Main Street  
Summerville, SC 29483  
(843) 873-4040  
<https://www.jamesadyal.com>

## Service

MAR 28. 9:00 AM (ET)

St. John the Beloved Catholic Church  
28 Sumter Avenue  
Summerville, SC 29483

# Tribute Wall



“ *James A Dyal Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard Phillip Ecton*



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**James A Dyal Funeral Home** - March 27, 2018 at 07:07 AM

Jl

*Hugs dick. Will never forget. Joe*

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**joseph inmann** - March 29, 2018 at 02:27 AM



“ *Richard Phillip Ecton*

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September 29, 2022 at 10:11 AM

GW

“ Did you know you were my musical hero? I was a nervous and insecure first-year student at Juilliard and you were a highly regarded senior who I looked up to and wanted to emulate. I remember vividly a Wednesday 1:00 Concert at Juilliard when you, Burt Alcantara and Bobby Thomas were featured playing Saul’s Timpiana. WOW, what an impression that made on me. There were other times that year when your playing inspired me. Little did I know that some five years later I’d be playing in the United States Army Band “Pershing’s Own” percussion section with you. And that began a six-year musical partnership playing concerts, parades, funerals and various ceremonies together. There were countless and never-ending times when I marveled at your musicianship, musical style and command of the instrument. Your playing was always superb, like our performances of Carmina Burana, Music From Prague 1968, the Hindemith Symphony for Band, and his Symphonic Metamorphosis that we played with the Catholic University Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. WOW—my memory of your playing during those concerts still sends chills up my spine. And then there was a Watergate concert when I had to play a tricky lick on xylophone and somehow I got it. You gave me a foot shuffle and man did that make my day! My musical hero giving me a foot shuffle; another WOW moment for me. So Dick—thanks for being my musical hero and for setting a standard that so many others and I have attempted to reach. Whatever I’ve achieved in my musical life, I owe much of it to you. Thanks my friend.  
Rest in Peace,  
gar

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Garwood Whaley - March 26, 2018 at 11:40 AM

LR

“ Sending so much love to Connie, Liz, Joe, Claire and Andrew. Many, many years have passed, but we will never forget the bond between our families, and the joy that brought. And as Lizzie said, Dick, please kiss Gregg for me too.

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**Laura Robinson** - March 26, 2018 at 10:27 AM

WP

“ Dick & I were members of The US Army Band during the mid-1960s. Many fun times were shared then with Connie & Dick. We have remained dear friends ever since. Dick will be sorely missed, especially at our Vince's Kids reunions. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Connie, Liz, Greg in heaven now with his dad & the entire family. As Greg used to call me back in the day, I remain Just Old Bill & Kazuko

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**William & Kazuko Platt** - March 25, 2018 at 05:12 PM

LO

“ I love you, Daddy. I am the luckiest girl in the world having you as my father. I will miss you every single day. Kiss Gregg for me. ❤️



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**liz ortuzar** - March 25, 2018 at 05:08 PM

NC

“ Our lives are richer for having known Dick and Connie, daughter Liz, Clare, and Jude. Whether at St. John the Beloved or at water aerobics, Dick and Connie were so open to new friendships and so easy to get along with. We loved hearing stories of their lives before Summerville and laughing together in our Y water classes with Jan. I remember their eternal smiles and gentle natures. We shall really miss Dick and support Connie in her new normal without Dick. May God give you strength as you pass Dick from your earthly hands into God's eternal embrace. There is a new musical angel playing in God's band of angels.

Nancy Canavera - March 24, 2018 at 02:47 PM

HB

“ I served with Dick in TUSAB and I roomed with him on one trip. he was as much a gentleman as he was a musician, which is saying a lot about the man. You will be together again one day. When I hear the thunder from now on, I know that he is probably playing the tympani and will remind me of him.

Hartman Beynon - March 24, 2018 at 11:37 AM

JP

“ Connie and Liz, I am so sorry to hear of Dick's passing. I so enjoyed having you two in my water aerobics class at the Y. Please know you are in my prayers. He will forever be missed.



jan parsons - March 24, 2018 at 10:48 AM