



**Richard "Dick" Merrick**, age 56, of Groveport, died Saturday January 15, 2005, at The Kobacker House. Veteran of the United States Air Force. He was a retired Franklin County Sheriff's Deputy and received The Medal of Valor from the Franklin County Sheriff's Department. Richard was a distinguished photographer. Survived by his wife of 30 years,

Melissa; children, Donna, Nicolas and Richard II Merrick ; sisters, Valerie (Hank) Yaggi and Lesa Merrick ; step-brothers, Don (Gisella), Dennis (Jean) and David (Pat) LeHotan; step-sisters, Cathy (Chuck) Burfield, Karen (George) Boehm and Connie Pankuch; mother-in-law, Donna Darby; sister-in-law, Melody Denning; father-in-law, Richard Darby; and many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by his parents Kenneth and Kathryn Merrick, step-mother Mary Jane "Lee" Merrick and brother Nicolas Stephen Merrick. Friends may visit Monday, 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the DWAYNE R. SPENCE FUNERAL HOME and CREMATORY, 650 West Waterloo Street, Canal Winchester, where the funeral service will be Tuesday, 11 a.m. with Pastor Paul Barnes officiating. There will be 1 hour of visitation prior to the funeral service on Tuesday. Internment Wednesday, 2 p.m. at Sunset Cemetery, Galloway. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Madison Christian Church for The Richard K. Merrick Feed the Hungry Fund, 3535 Bixby Road Groveport, OH 43125 or HomeReach Hospice at Riverside Hospital, in Dick's memory. Online condolences at [www.spencefuneralhome.com](http://www.spencefuneralhome.com)

Columbus Dispatch, January 17, 2005