

My name is Rick Darveau. I am 54 years old and live in South China, Maine with my wife Michelle. God and family are first in my life. Michelle and I have two grown children, Mason, and Kaitlyn, whom we are very proud of. We are also now first-time grandparents to our 3-month-old grandson Carson, whose parents are Mason and his wife Megan. We are members of Central Church, headquartered in Augusta, Maine, where I have served in several volunteer positions since 2018 to include: connections team leader (greeter), finance team member, community group (Bible study) leader, and GriefShare facilitator. I am a retired military officer after 33 years of service and currently work as a facility engineering department supervisor for the Maine Army National Guard in Augusta, Maine.

My interest in assisting people with their grief started after serving as a casualty assistance officer for a wife and family who lost their spouse and father. This was the toughest but most honorable duty I performed in the military. My father, a Vietnam veteran, died in 2020. Having had some experience in the military, I helped plan his funeral as well as assisted my mother to receive her survivor benefits. After Dad's death, I took a course in grief counseling called the Grief Recovery Method. This course was good, but I knew I wanted to help people more and include God in the process. Then I found out about and became certified in GriefShare, a Christian-based grief support group. I now co-lead the GriefShare course at Central Church and hope to assist others in their grief with the resources and discussions that GriefShare provides.