



Richard "Rick" L. Epsteen

June 14, 2017

Richard "Rick" L. Epsteen, 60 of Mason City, died Wednesday evening, June 14, 2017 at Mercy Medical Center, North Iowa, in Mason City, Iowa.

A Gathering of friends and family will be held from 4:30 until 6:30 pm Monday, June 19, 2017 at Fullerton Funeral Home, 123 2nd ST. SE, Mason City. Prayers and blessings will be at 5:30 with Father Ken Gehling officiating. Inurnment was in Olena Mound Cemetery, Buffalo Center, Iowa. Those planning on an expression of sympathy may consider the Richard Epsteen memorial fund.

Richard was born in Indianapolis, Indiana the son of Richard and Delores Epsteen. He graduated from Greenwood High School in Indianapolis. He graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in Johnston, Iowa. He was the Chief of Police in St. Ansgar, retiring in 2000. On October 19, 1991, he was united in marriage to Brenda Hofbauer of Buffalo Center at the First United Methodist Church in Mason City. They have lived in Mason City since his retirement. He enjoyed swimming at the YMCA, traveling with Brenda, especially to Door County, Wisconsin. He was an avid Green Bay Packer fan in the NFL season and St. Louis Cardinal Fan during baseball. Earlier in his life he enjoyed hunting and fishing. He read books about anything Wisconsin.

Survivors include his wife Brenda, of 25 years, one sister Robyn Welcher,

Newburgh, IN; two brothers Wayne (Joyce) Epsteen, Ada, OK; and Steve Epsteen of Clear Lake; Aunt Barb, Boyd, many cousins, Mother-in-law Burdine Hofbauer, of Buffalo Center, many nieces and nephews, three sisters-in-law, and one brother-in-law.

Those preceding Rick in death include his parents, one brother Jon Epsteen, maternal grandparents Edwin and Katherine Wells, grandmother Irene Epsteen, uncles Celus Baxter and Phil Boyd, aunt Patricia Baxter, cousins Mike Baxter and Stevie Boyd, father-in-law Harold Hofbauer and a sister-in-law Cathy Hofbauer.

Fullerton Funeral Home, 123 2nd St SE, Mason City, IA 50401, 641-423-8676
www.Fullertonfh.com [Facebook/Fullertonfuneralhomes](https://www.facebook.com/Fullertonfuneralhomes)

Cemetery Details

Olena Mound Cemetery

Buffalo Center, IA

Previous Events

Gathering of Family and Friends

JUN 19. 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City
123 2nd St. SE
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-8676
mail@fullertonfh.com
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

Prayer Service

JUN 19. 5:30 PM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City
123 2nd St. SE
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-8676
mail@fullertonfh.com
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard "Rick" L. Epstein*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Randy & Holly Coffee purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Richard "Rick" L. Epstein.*



Randy & Holly Coffee - June 19, 2017 at 03:21 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" L. Epstein.*



June 17, 2017 at 02:20 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" L. Epstein.*



June 17, 2017 at 10:38 AM

MD

“ Rick started out being one of my first aquatic therapy clients at the YMCA some 10 plus years ago, but ended up being a friend that I looked forward to seeing on a regular basis at the Y. I could always count on Rick to fill me in on any neighborhood news I might have missed. I could also count on him and the others in the therapy pool to start talking about recipes and delicious food about 11 am when I was already "starving", but still had an hour left to work. Rick was truly a gentle giant, always had a kind word and a great smile. Brenda, may God bless and comfort you and your family now and in the days to come.

Mary Davenport - June 16, 2017 at 06:28 PM

LM

“ Rick & I first crossed paths when I began teaching in St. Ansgar back in 1977. It seems an eternity ago. We had several escapades during the time we were both there, including several late night (early morning) trips to Austin, MN for breakfast. There are numerous stories I could (but shouldn't!) tell. They are memories that make me smile, for sure.

After I moved to Charles City, Rick would call out of the blue to inquire how things were going for me. His genuine concern for those around him was admirable. I always felt good after our conversations. I shall miss his sense of humor and ready smile. He was a good friend, and will be missed by all who met him.

I am so happy Rick & Brenda found themselves. He considered himself a lucky man to have met her. I am so sorry for your loss, Brenda. God's blessings on you and the rest of Rick's family & friends at this difficult time.

Larry Michehl - June 16, 2017 at 04:47 PM

TD

“ I met Rick at the YMCA where we shared many stories and much laughter after swim class. He was a genuinely caring and wonderful man, always willing to help others, share a story or give advice. Rick had a great sense of humor and his infectious laugh and smile never failed to brighten the day of those around him! I will miss seeing Rick driving around in our neighborhood in his truck and stopping to chat and joke with us. Brenda and family, know that he cared about you all deeply and loved to talk about his latest adventures with you. RIP Rick.

Tiffany Dunlay - June 16, 2017 at 04:24 PM

LT

“ I met Rick while working the front desk at the YMCA in Mason City. Rick would always stop and chat with me on his way out. He was always such a fun person to talk with! Even after I left the YMCA we kept in touch he would stop and say hello and loved talking Nascar with my sons and husband! Rick you will truly be missed!! May you Rest In Peace 🕯️



Lisa Trewet - June 16, 2017 at 03:36 PM

“ I was going to read this at the Service but don't think I can make it through it. Here are my thoughts and some memories of Ricky! There's not enough words to explain how I feel about losing Rick. It's a sad day for all of us left behind but I know he's happy with his mom dad grandma grandpa Johnny and other people that he love through the years.

He was a gentle giant among men, he was loving, supportive, kind, silly, and always there when you needed him, and just a very very special human being. I am so glad that he was a part of my family. There was a special place in his heart for his nephews Sam, Jack, Kyle, and Jakob. They all knew that if they ever needed anything they could count on uncle Rick to be there for them. He would stay in contact no matter what. I know he knew that they loved him right back. Even though miles separated them I don't think that they could be any closer in their hearts if they tried.

Rick and I go back many many years. We met at his brother Wayne's acreage in Mason city. I had horses but he wasn't too into them at that time. He was the sweetest and kindest guy and he always made me laugh. We had a lot of good times together. I considered him a big brother.

One of the funniest things that I can remember him doing was balancing a spoon on the end of his nose. That spoon seemed to like that nose of his because it would stay there a long time! LOL

He was also the caretaker of everyone in his family. Always there for anyone sick or in need of help. He picked a profession of being a cop so he could help others. (I think he really liked carrying a gun too!)

He loved his brothers and his mom dearly. He remembered everyone's birthdays and Anniversaries.

I'm so glad he picked Brenda to share his life with. She was perfect for him and she loved him and shared her life with him in many special ways. Mostly going to Door County every year!!! She also let him share his life with so many others. Thank you Brenda!

I hope I never forget your loud infectious laugh. It makes me smile

thinking of it and you. And I was reminded to mention his awesome hugs. You were engulfed in love and laughter when you were hugged by him.

May you Rest In Peace Rick!

We love you and will see you again one day!

We will miss your presence here on Earth. Have fun with Johnny and your mom and dad in Heaven cause I know that's where you are!

Pam Gore - June 16, 2017 at 03:11 PM

SC

“ *What a treasure this man was! I first met Rick in 1991 when my the 2year old and I moved home to St. Ansgar. He protected us through some very difficult situations, and became a dear friend. My daughter called him "Ranger Rick". Our lives are blessed from knowing this incredible man! Our sincerest sympathy to Brenda, and his family. ❤️*

shirley Crippen - June 16, 2017 at 02:36 PM

CC

“ *Rick will be truly missed by all of those whose lives he touched! I met him first at the YMCA and continued our friendship throughout the years. Thoughts and prayers for Brenda and family and friends who are mourning now.*

Cheri Collins

Cheri Collins - June 16, 2017 at 01:43 PM

CW

“ i grew up across the street from Rick on Rose Lane, in Greenwood, IN. Countless times on FB he has lifted my spirtis. I will miss his comments, and am greatly saddened to hear this news. My heart and prayers are with everyone who is hurting today.

carol lazor williams

carol williams - June 16, 2017 at 10:37 AM

SH

“ They say to "share your most treasured memory of Rick". I can't choose. Like so many, he was a special person in their lives. Brenda, extended family and friends, you all know how extraordinary Rick was. May you each find comfort in your memories. He will be missed and this world will be a little darker without him. Heaven however is filled full of laughter from this kind mans soul.

Sally Hertel

Sally Hertel - June 16, 2017 at 08:03 AM