



Richard Dennis Soroka

JUL 10, 1951 - NOV 1, 2020



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Richard Soroka, originally from Baldwin, passed peacefully on November 1. Dr. Rick, as he was known, was preceded in death by his loving parents, Walter and Elmira Soroka.

He is survived by his brother, Walter C. Soroka (Catherine), nephew, Bradley (Meagan), and great-nephew, Tyler, along with caring cousins and wonderful friends. Rick graduated from Franklin and Marshall College, received his master's degree and was a doctoral candidate at Georgia Tech, and planned to teach college level psychology.

His professional career was cut short by a tragic automobile accident in 1979 which left him severely injured.

His most recent 25 years were spent as a resident of The Pines of Mount Lebanon. Family and friends will gather Wednesday, November 4 at 1:00 at the chapel inside the mausoleum at Jefferson Memorial, 301 Curry Hollow Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. A funeral service will follow at 2:00.



Tribute Wall

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Jesse Arman posted:

Rick was a good friend of mine at Franklin and Marshall College 50 years ago. He was smart, funny, and a warm and caring individual. I learned only today (December 26, 2022) about his 1979 accident and 2020 death. He deserved better, though there is no doubt that the world is a better place as a result of his influence. Rest in peace, my friend.

December 26 at 11:24 AM



John F. Gearing posted:

Rick was the coolest, the hippest. He could be sarcastic, when appropriate, but also tremendously funny. And incredibly intelligent. I knew him during my first year at "The Famous School of Psychology of Atlanta, Georgia" as we called it. He was just finishing his dissertation and getting ready to take up a teaching position at the university level. It was a tradition at that time that the grad students would put together a short film of skits, rather Monty Pythonesque, called "The Beauzeaux Film" that was shown at the first "official" party of the new school year. I was lucky enough to have a role in one of the skits ("Lassie the Rat") that year and got to work with Rick on the film. Full of energy and endlessly creative is how I'd describe him. His injury in the accident was a terrible blow to all of us. Whenever he came to Atlanta with his parents afterwards, a group of us would hang out with the Sorokas and catch up with Rick. Although the injury left him with greatly diminished communication ability, we felt that "the old Rick" was still there, from the way he would respond to things we said or add a great punch line to a story. He was a good guy. I can still see him in my mind's eye. He will always be missed. John F. Gearing

February 13 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Richard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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