



Richard "Dick" Barrett

October 20, 1946 - August 30, 2023

Albany, NY- We are sad to announce that Richard "Dick" Barrett of Loudonville (Albany), NY entered into eternal rest on August 30th at the age of 76. He was preceded in death by his loving parents, Louise and Richard Barrett, Sr, his dear brother, Dennis (Anne) Barrett and his beloved wife, Kathleen (O'Brien) Barrett. He leaves behind his three children Kerry (Wilson) Mendez, Richard (Tara) Barrett and Katie (Neil) O'Connor. He also leaves behind his 9 adored grandchildren including Kevin, Justin and Aidan Mendez; Ashley, Kendall and Owen Barrett; Ryan, Emma and Kara O'Connor. He is the brother-in-law to Bill (Karen) O'Brien and Joan (Bill) Sandwick.

For many years, Dick was the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation for the City of Albany and was instrumental in organizing numerous community favorites including the Tulip Festival, Park Playhouse, City Youth Employment and Swinburne Ice Rink. He was a life-long Democratic Committeeman in Albany and then Colonie who supported many political candidates and protected voting rights. He was an active member of Blessed Sacrament Church Community and a graduate of Blessed Sacrament School. He also attended Vincentian Institute, class of 1964 and Siena College graduating with honors with a BS in Physics in 1968. Dick cherished his involvement in the West End Little League and the Albany Twilight League as a coach, Vice President, historian and photographer. Always a lover of books and anything

historically focused, Dick helped research and authored many books, videos and articles centered on Albany politics, railroads and local baseball teams right up to the time of passing. It was never uncommon to find a photo, statistic or quote in the local newspapers attributed to “Dick Barrett”.

As a train aficionado, Dick was a board member of the New York Central System Historical Society, and helped organize the annual national convention, and pen train articles for the organization. He was widely known as the local West Albany Shop historian and New York Central archivist. He shared his wealth of knowledge of trains with the community by building formal exhibits at the Albany Institute of History and Art in Albany, train shows and local libraries.

Dick will be remembered for his love of Harley motorcycles, Winston Churchill books, New York Yankees, everything modeled trains and yellow lab dogs. He was an author, commissioner, historian, orator, politician, husband, dad and grandfather and will be missed by many.

The family would like to thank Dr. Caulfield and the dedicated nursing staff at Shaker Place (Meacham Hall) for the care Dick received there over the past two years.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Dick’s family Tuesday, September 5, 2023 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm in McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany, NY 121206. Please enter the funeral home from the rear parking lot entrance only.

Funeral services Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 10:30 am at Blessed Sacrament Church, 607 Central Ave. (Father John Bradley Way) Albany, NY 12206 where his Funeral Mass will be celebrated.

The Rite of Committal will be held at Our Lady of Angels Cemetery immediately following the Mass.

To leave a message for the family please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Those desiring may send a remembrance in Dick's name to the Reverend John Bradley Scholarship Fund at Blessed Sacrament School, 605 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12206.

Cemetery Details

Our Lady of Angels Cemetery

1389 Central Ave
Albany, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 5. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.
208 N Allen St
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 489-0188
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com
<http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com>

Service

SEP 6. 10:30 AM (ET)

Blessed Sacrament Church
607 Central Ave (Father John Bradley Way)
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 489-0188
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

JM

“ *My deepest condolences to his family and friends. I hope you can find comfort in imagining him whole again, free of pain and suffering catching up with long lost relatives and friends.*

Jim Morris - October 10, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *Richard "Dick" Barrett*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM

SH

“ *1 file added to the album Albany Twilight League*



Steve Heiser - September 05, 2023 at 07:26 PM

MO

“ *So sorry for your loss. He is now reunited with his beloved wife Kathy. May he rest in eternal peace.*

Michael and Theresa O'Brien

Michael & Theresa O'Brien - September 05, 2023 at 06:43 PM

ST

“ *The History of Albany and its surrounding. Proud to say Bleeker was a part of his legacy. He shared many stories with me and many others about what was going on. A true leader in so many ways. R.I.P. Richl could go on for ever about your life all good. We all owe you so much.*

stu - September 04, 2023 at 04:19 PM

EM

“ *Family of Richard Barrett:*

My condolences on the loss of your most beloved father and grandfather.

Fondly recall serving with him on the Albany County Democratic Committee from 1985-93.

May your period of bereavement and grief be, mercifully, short.

God bless you all.

Edward J. Bradley, Sr., M.P.A.

Edward J. Bradley, Sr., M.P.A. - September 03, 2023 at 08:13 PM

MC

“Katie, Kerry and Richard, we send our prayers and love for your families at this difficult loss. Your dad was one of a kind who helped countless thousands of people. He lived the public servant's life and shared his support for countless elected officials. A no nonsense analyst, he loved breaking down the numbers, sharing his passion for his family, faith, parish and beloved West Albany Shops. We all will miss him, God bless you all, Mike and Katie Connors

Michael Connors - September 03, 2023 at 07:15 PM

MH

“Barrett Family,
I very sorry for your loss.
Mary Hammond

mary Hammond - September 02, 2023 at 02:00 PM

KM

“Dick Barrett was so responsive to me when I sought copies of photos of my grandfather, William Aloysius Meany, from his many years of working at the West Albany railroad shops. I greatly appreciate his assistance. What a talented and contributing human being.

Kathy Meany - September 02, 2023 at 09:18 AM

JC

“Condolences to the Barrett family. Always enjoyed learning about, and talking about, the history of the New York Central Railroad with Dick, especially the "20th Century Limited" train. Dick was a gentleman who will be truly missed.

Joseph Condon - September 02, 2023 at 07:50 AM

FQ

“ It takes my breath away. I worked at the county with my friend and a perfect gentleman!

frank quackenbush - September 01, 2023 at 08:44 PM

JO

“ Kerry, Rich, Kate, I am so sorry for the loss of your Dad, he will always remembered with fond memories and his video camera at family events saying “stop complaining, you will cherish these videos one day” May you rest in comfort and peace Bill, Joan, Renee, Kelsey

joan - September 01, 2023 at 06:24 PM

RS

“ Kerry, Richard, & Katie - Deepest condolences but I'm sure your dad is now at peace & happy to be with your mom, again. Too many memories to share here, all good & lasting ones. I can only imagine the reunion in heaven right now of your dad, my husband Michael, & all the guys from the Dick Connors Lunch Group gabbing away about Albany, politics, & everything else! Your dad & each of you are in my thoughts & prayers.

Rosemary Sheridan

Rosemary Sheridan - September 01, 2023 at 04:50 PM