



Arthur "Artie" Rickun

February 25, 1952 - November 26, 2023

Arthur "Artie" Rickun,

Passed away on November 26th, 2023 at his home in Mequon, Wisconsin, surrounded by the love of his life, Lynda, and their family. His almost two-year-long fight with glioblastoma was nothing less than inspiring and odd-defying, though not a surprise to his friends or family, for all who knew Artie knew of his strength. A member of the exclusive 17-inch bicep club at the Milwaukee Jewish Community Center, Artie also possessed great mental strength throughout his life, evidenced by such feats as eliminating all sugary foods and desserts from his diet nearly 18 years ago, learning to swim at age 50, committing to a life of sobriety in solidarity with his son, and learning Russian just for fun. Artie was also an active meeting leader at the Friendship House, where he both showed and garnered strength by being of service to others.

He probably wouldn't want you to read this because Artie was a humble and quiet guy who didn't like the limelight or the attention. Artie was an anti-establishment, counterculture, recovering rebel who wore blue jeans as his standard daily uniform. He never learned to tie a tie but was willing to wear one to his children's and grandchildren's events, provided someone else tied it for him.

Artie lived life on his terms, having been self-employed since the age of seventeen. His career spanned six decades in the buy-sell business with

wares such as Native American and Inuit art, antiques & collectibles, vintage toys, sports memorabilia, and musical instruments. Artie would often go on buying "calls" or sell at antique and collectible shows with his sons in tow. All three of his boys became experts in the "art of buying and selling," giving Artie great pride and joy. He found fulfillment from partnering with his son, Ben, in recent business ventures.

For most of his career, Artie's business hours were 10 am-2 pm, leaving him ample time to punch the heavy bag at the JCC, lift weights with friends far junior than he, and attend his sons' many sporting events or musical performances (aka, "gigs"). There was time for wrestling with his three boys while they were growing, to whom he never ever lost a match. Artie would soon become a loving and engaging grandpa who didn't mind playing "fashion show" on the red carpet in the living room, going on nature walks, reading and telling stories, and singing the grandkids to sleep.

Artie was never far from a guitar, which he had played since he was young. His boys grew up with him singing them to sleep with folk songs by Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Dave von Ronk, John Prine, and many others. All three of his sons learned to play guitar, and family get-togethers and holidays often turned into all-out jam sessions.

Artie would also become known as Arturo in the town of San Miguel de Allende in Guanajuato, Mexico, where he enjoyed shopping for ceramics that he and Lynda sold back home at festivals such as Bastille Days and the Wisconsin State Fair.

Artie became a spiritual and faithful man over the past decade, spending time studying with rabbis and wrapping tefillin. If you were lucky (and maybe not even Jewish), you were on Artie's "Good Shabbos" text list - something he did every Friday morning one at a time, independently, without assistance, even

when his tumor-related aphasia prevented him from saying the words.

Upon diagnosis, Artie went full force into treatment, choosing the harder but more effective methods at each step. He rarely complained and remained positive even after setbacks. In his typical fashion, when he decided to stop treatment in December of 2022, he went home and lived ten months longer than the doctors predicted, spending time with his many friends and loving family at his home of 35 years.

Artie's legacy lives on through those he touched during his lifetime, especially his wife Lynda; their children Noah (Marina), Benjamin (Katie), and Josh; their grandchildren, Zoe, Jordan, Marlow, and Jack, Artie's three big sisters, Marcie Rickun, Lainey (the late Mark) Rutberg, and Lolly Rickun, sister-in-law Jennifer Neville, brother-in-law Tim (the late Patricia) Foti, and nieces and nephews Jason Foti, Adrienne (Bruce) Bebow, Allison (Elliot Aronow) Rutberg, Andrew Rutberg, Megan (Dan) Woolf, and Jonathan Neville.

Artie chose to be buried alongside his parents, Milton and Florene Rickun, and his younger brother, Timmy, with whom he has been waiting to reunite since 1961.

Funeral services 1 PM Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at The Chapel, 3601 N. Oakland Ave., Shorewood. Interment at Mound Zion Cemetery, 14510 W. North Ave., Brookfield, WI.

Memorials to <https://give.abta.org/team/544908>

Following burial the family will see friends at Shully's A.T.S., 146 Green Bay Road, Thiensville, WI 53092, from 3:30-6:30 PM.

To join virtually:

When: Nov 29, 2023 01:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Artie Rickun Funeral Service

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88654548703?pwd=bjZ3Z0ZmVnFMSjNQemZGNThsbjFVdz09>

Passcode: Artie

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Webinar ID: 886 5454 8703

Passcode: 136060

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88654548703>

Previous Events

Service

NOV **29**. 1:00 PM (CT)

The Chapel
3601 N. Oakland Ave.
Shorewood, WI 53217

Shiva

NOV **29**. 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

Shully's A.T.S.
146 Green Bay Road,
Thiensville, WI 53092

Interment

NOV **29** (CT)

Mound Zion Cemetery
14510 W. North Ave.
Brookfield, WI 53005

Tribute Wall

RG

“ Wished I'd known him better than I did....
Very sad loss of a very good man..

Ralph and Chris Gries - December 08, 2023 at 04:26 PM

VL

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Vitali Liberman - November 30, 2023 at 10:20 AM

AW

“ Mr. Rickun, I have nothing but great memories hanging out in your home with Josh and the rest of your family. I'm grateful I was able to visit you guys again a few years back. Thank you for being a stand up guy and raising stand up kids. It was an honor to know you.

Andrew Walczak - November 29, 2023 at 04:15 PM

RR

“ Richard R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Arthur "Artie" Rickun.

Richard R. - November 29, 2023 at 01:57 PM

RM

“ Artie, all the times I would visit with him at his shop, meaning only to say hello and see what was new. We would get to talking, and I eventually would come away so impressed with the depth of his knowledge on any given subject. He handled himself with such grace, and confidence, all that knew him respected him. Nothing moved in Milwaukee without Artie knowing about it. I remember times going to see him about some antique toy that I had purchased, only to find that not only did he know I purchased it, and how much I paid, but that he had already passed on purchasing it himself. He was generous with sharing his stories of great finds. That gleam in his eye describing his latest adventure, even if it turned out to be a bust. He enjoyed the hunt like no other, and had no desire to ever retire.
To his loving Family, his beautiful Wife and his handsome Sons. You have my deepest and most sincere sympathy.
Richard Muza

Richard Muza - November 29, 2023 at 01:40 PM

LP

“ My thoughts, prayers and love are with you and your entire family during this extremely difficult time. He was such a caring and loving man. May his memory be a blessing.

Laurie Pass - November 29, 2023 at 10:40 AM

RL

“ My sincere condolences to the entire family. May the memories that you all shared stay close in your hearts. Cherish them always because that's what will help get you through. Thinking of all of you. My best wishes. Rixanne

Rixanne Lefco - November 29, 2023 at 08:47 AM

RR

“ Fair winds and following seas Artie. Thanks for the friendship and the opportunity to play some music together with you and your talented sons. RIP

Richard Raven - November 28, 2023 at 10:23 PM

MW

Lainey and family my heart goes out to u all. So very sorry. Warmly,
Marlene Wasserman

marlene wasserman - November 29, 2023 at 11:39 AM

MW

So very sorry for your loss.

marlene wasserman - November 29, 2023 at 11:40 AM

VL

“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Vitali Liberman - November 28, 2023 at 01:36 PM



“ 6 files added to the album Memories Album



Blane Goodman Funeral Service, LLC - November 28, 2023 at 09:13 AM



“ The world is a little sadder without Artie. Our deepest sympathies to Lynda and the entire Rickun family. Hopefully he is at peace and without pain. Harvey & Lynn Goldstein

Harvey & Lynn Goldstein - November 27, 2023 at 06:10 PM



“ I am very sad to see you go, brother Artie, but may you rest in God's peace. My deepest condolences to Lynda, and of course to your sweet sisters, Lolly and Lainey. You were truly a great guy and long time friend. We will all miss you! - Stu Nankin

Stu Nankin - November 27, 2023 at 05:48 PM



“ Purple Violet Yellow Wildflower Mix (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Arthur "Artie" Rickun.



November 27, 2023 at 05:41 PM

NO

“ 1 file added to the album Artie



Noah - November 27, 2023 at 01:59 PM

KK

What an absolutely wonderful man.

Ken Kingery - November 27, 2023 at 07:32 PM

JL

I loved the man. He was a great man and I will miss him very much.

James Lubbad - November 27, 2023 at 11:14 PM

LR

Sending much love from Indiana. Lila Rosenthal (and Andy Baker, and Della Baker-Rosenthal).

Lila Rosenthal - November 28, 2023 at 02:34 PM

AK

What a great wonderfully kind man and family friend for many many years

Andy Komisar - November 29, 2023 at 08:10 PM