Richard Lee Conkling

October 28, 1944 - April 7, 2016

RICHARD "DICK"CONKLING SR.

Richard "Dick" Conkling Sr. of Roeland Park, KS died on April 7, 2016, at St. Luke’s Hospital surrounded by family. Those who knew Dick will remember his humor, creative phone messages, and light-hearted pranks. Dick was an idea man. He could see the big picture. Often his creations were so grandiose, others would doubt the outcome. His children played in clubhouses that he built. He restored and rebuilt antique furniture. For many, Dick will be remembered as Santa. He believed his greatest accomplishment was envisioning, designing and building two sleighs, used for Santa performances around town, bringing joy to many children and families for decades. He loved big hugs from small children, driving his sleigh down the open road, and promoting merriment year around. His family will never forget his laughter, his hugs, and his unconditional love.
Dick was born on October 28, 1944 in KCK. He attended Westport and SW High Schools in KC, MO before serving two enlistments in the US Navy, stationed first in Key West, FL and then Kodiak, AK before traveling the world aboard the USS Duluth. Dick married the love of his life, Helen Jones, on December 28, 1974 and was employed in the graphic arts industry for most of his life, working at Trabon Printing from 1998 until his retirement.
Dick is survived by his wife, Helen; four children, Richard "Rick" Conkling, Jr. (Sarah), Jason Conkling (Patricia), Jennifer Bates and Melissa Castillo

(Carlos); his brother Jim, and niece Shelly Gangi (Matt). He delighted in his five grandchildren and one great-grand. Visitation will be 6-8 PM Tuesday April 12 at Maple Hill Funeral Home. Services will be 10 AM., Wednesday at the chapel. Burial will follow services at Maple Hill Cemetery. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Dick's life. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions either to Santa-America (a national non-profit delivering Love, Hope, and Joy to children in Hospice care, www.santa-america.org) or to The Elves of Christmas Present, P.O. Box 3535, Olathe, KS 66063 (a local charity delivering experiential gifts to children in need in the Kansas City area).
We still hear your sleigh bells, Dick, and we believe.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

2301 S 34th St
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 262-6610
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **12**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home
3300 Shawnee Dr
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 831-3345
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com
https://maplehillfuneralhome.com

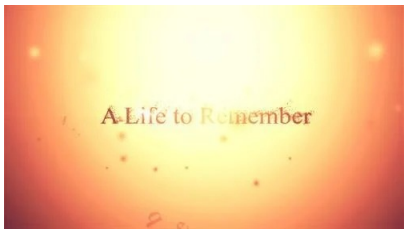
Funeral Service

APR **13**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home
3300 Shawnee Dr
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 831-3345
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com
https://maplehillfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard Lee Conkling



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - April 12, 2016 at 03:11 PM

Richard Lee Conkling

October 08, 2023 at 10:59 AM

Richard Lee Conkling

September 17, 2022 at 08:24 PM

MC

I miss you every day Dad. It's just so hard to comprehend that you're not here with us. Loving you always, Melissa.

Melissa Castillo - May 12, 2017 at 09:48 AM

JB

Condolences to the Conkling family. The Berrigan family has had many fond memories of Dick during the Christmas Holidays. He was always engaging and kind. What a wonderful warm hearted man! You will be missed.

Justine & Patrick Berrigan - April 12, 2016 at 03:17 PM

DG

We have so many wonderful, fun, crazy and loving memories of Dick. The legacy he has left will be everlasting...that smile, the laugh, the love he shared with his family and friends will be remembered by all who came to know the big guy. Our love to each of you.

Dan & Theresa Van Goethem - April 12, 2016 at 03:03 PM

77 files added to the album LifeTributes

Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - April 12, 2016 at 02:55 PM

Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Conkling.

April 12, 2016 at 09:39 AM

Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Conkling.

April 12, 2016 at 09:36 AM

FF

From, Dennis, Larry, Ron,& Lewis Goins & families purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Richard Lee Conkling.

From, Dennis, Larry, Ron,& Lewis Goins & families - April 11, 2016 at 05:09 PM

Vanessa Burkholde

I have a lot of childhood memories involving the Conkling family! My condolences to the family.
Vanessa Burkholder

Vanessa Burkholder - April 11, 2016 at 12:01 PM

Jason Conkling

Jennifer Bates was added to the Family Tree.

Jason Conkling - April 09, 2016 at 02:52 PM

Jason Conkling

Melissa Castillo was added to the Family Tree.

Jason Conkling - April 09, 2016 at 02:52 PM

Jason Conkling

Jason Conkling was added to the Family Tree.

Jason Conkling - April 09, 2016 at 02:51 PM

Jason Conkling

Richard Conkling was added to the Family Tree.

Jason Conkling - April 09, 2016 at 02:51 PM

Jason Conkling

Wanda Conkling was added to the Family Tree.

Jason Conkling - April 09, 2016 at 02:49 PM

Jason Conkling

Helen Conkling was added to the Family Tree.

Jason Conkling - April 09, 2016 at 02:45 PM

Jason Conkling

1 file added to the album New Album Name

Jason Conkling - April 09, 2016 at 02:32 PM

CF

My condolences to the Conkling family. Dick was such an active and vibrant man. I have many memories of him working on the cyber sleigh or mowing the yard. Whenever I hear Deck the Halls--I'll be thinking of Dick.
Carol F.

Carol Foret - April 09, 2016 at 01:46 PM