

Garl Kalman Rieke, Ph.D., died peacefully at home surrounded by his family on July 21, 2022. Born in Seattle, WA, June 30, 1942, he was diagnosed with Diabetes Mellitus at age 3 ½ and managed his disease for 76 years. It helped define him and shaped his dedication to science, medicine, and working hard to solve problems. A graduate of the University of Washington, Seattle, Garl went on to obtain a Ph.D. in Anatomy and Cell Biology at Louisiana State University Medical Center, New Orleans, in 1971. After completing a post-doctoral study at the UCLA Brain Research Institute in 1973, he began his career teaching neuroscience to medical students.



Garl was passionate about his profession and taught nearly 3,000 students over 35 years of teaching and doing research at the following schools: Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia (1973-1978); Texas A & M University School of Medicine, College Station, TX (1978-1984); Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN (1984-1990); and concluded his career at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine, Grand Forks, ND (1991-2008).

After retirement in 2008 he and his wife Judy (married September 3, 1966) moved to St. Paul, MN, and also maintained a family country home in Stockholm, SD. His interests and hobbies were wide ranging. He enjoyed building and flying model airplanes, working in his woodshop, bird watching, reading, traveling, and especially fishing which he did with intensity. He was curious and loved being outdoors observing the natural world all around him while hoping to land the big one. He was successful many places including Alaska; Hawaii; Canada; and Rush Lake, Minnesota, on his son Eric's dock.

It was important to him to give back through service especially to his church, Unity Church-Unitarian. Garl helped with the welcome team, worked in the bookstall, tutored at Obama School across the street, and most of all he loved to travel back to his beloved New Orleans with other church members to repair homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina. Garl also served on the Board of Directors of the Gallery Towers Condominium Association where he and Judy lived in St. Paul.

His family was precious to him, and he leaves his wife of nearly 56 years, Judith (Judy), sons Stuart (Monique), Anchorage, AK, and Eric (Kathleen) Clear Lake, MN; brother, Ross (Kit) Rockledge, FL and sister-in-law Roberta Rabine, Sioux Falls, SD. to mourn. He will also be greatly missed by his younger grandchildren, Hunter and Wesson (Stuart) and Alexis and Izabel (Eric) with whom he enjoyed many highly competitive games of UNO and Sorry. In addition he leaves older grandchildren Megan Sennie, Minneapolis; Paul Sennie, Jr (Rachel) and children, Anchorage, AK; and Adam Smith (Brittany) and children, Dallas, TX. He was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Elizabeth Rieke and his in-laws, Gwen and Fred Dorman.

The family requests that any memorials please be sent in his memory to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation or the American Diabetes Association. The family also wishes to thank and acknowledge Our Lady of Peace Hospice for their extraordinary assistance and compassionate care during the final phase of Garl's journey. See www.simpletraditions.com for photos and more information.

In Memoriam



Garl Kalman Rieke

June 30, 1942 - July 21, 2022

Memorial Service for Garl Kalman Rieke
Saturday, October 8, 2022 • 1:00 p.m.

GATHERING MUSIC

Dean Magraw

TOLLING OF THE BELL

OPENING WORDS

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

CHALICE LIGHTING

In our time of grief, we light a flame of sharing, the flame of ongoing life. In this time when we search for understanding and serenity in the face of loss, we light this sign of our quest for truth, meaning, and community.

SMUDGING AND BLESSING

Monique Vondall Rieke
Megan Sennie

OPENING HYMN (205)

Amazing Grace!

CANDLES OF MYSTERY AND MEMORY
Paul Sennie, Jr., Hunter Vondall, Wesson LittleBird

MUSICAL OFFERING

Dean Magraw

READINGS

“Because I Could Not Stop for Death” by Emily Dickinson
Read by Kathleen Rieke

“The Doorstep” poem written and read by Stuart Rieke

MUSICAL OFFERING

Canon in D – Pachelbel
Ahmed Anzaldúa, piano

CANDLES OF GRIEF AND JOY
Alexis Rieke, Izabel Rieke

LIST OF DAD’S SAYINGS

Eric Rieke

MUSICAL OFFERING

Cast Your Fate to the Wind

CANDLE OF COMMUNITY
Adam and Brittany Smith Family

COLLAGE OF VOICES

RESPONSIVE READING (720)

“We Remember Them”

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

EULOGY

CANDLE OF LOVE
Judy Rieke

CLOSING SONG

Somewhere Over the Rainbow

Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
There’s a land that I heard of once in a lullaby

Somewhere over the rainbow, skies are blue
And the dreams that you dare to dream really do come true

Someday I’ll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far behind me
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops
That’s where you’ll find me

Somewhere over the rainbow, bluebirds fly
Birds fly over the rainbow
Why, then, oh, why can’t I?
If happy little bluebirds fly
Beyond the rainbow
Why, oh, why can’t I?

CLOSING WORDS AND BLESSITION

