



Rick Kowzic

SEP 25, 1951 - JUN 10, 2023



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6



Rick Kowzic

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Rick Linn Kowzic, 71, of Clinton passed away peacefully June 10, 2023, surrounded by his loving wife and favorite daughter.

Rick was born September 25, 1951, in Clinton, IA to Robert and Margie Kowzic. He was a South Clinton boy that had an amazing childhood that was filled with trips to Chicago to visit family, fishing with his dad, brothers, and friends, driving his mom crazy all the while making her laugh, and spending summers creating mischief and playing baseball. He graduated from Clinton High School in 1970. After high school Rick played baseball for Clinton Community College and graduated in 1972.

He loved great Rock music, cold beers with his buddies, and a blonde-haired beauty named Carla Rae Rickertsen. Rick and Carla married in August of 1976 and began a life of traveling and adventures. Their most elaborate adventure happened in 1983 when their only child, Rhya Leigh, was born. As Rick always said, "When you have the perfect child, you stop right there". He was a devoted father who constantly reminded Rhya how much he loved her and how proud he was of her, all the way till very end. Rick had an amazing work ethic and was employed with Wonder Bread, Frito Lay, and retired as a proud Union Conductor from Union Pacific Railroad in 2017.

Rick's greatest honor was the role of Grandpa. He encouraged desserts at any time, messy fun that Grandma had to clean up, countless adventures, and loving and supporting his grandchildren unapologetically. His grandchildren couldn't have asked for a better grandpa; he was the best.

Rick was incredibly intelligent and was always ready to impart some wisdom or random bit of knowledge. He was charismatic and charming, stubborn and opinionated, tremendously funny and witty, a brilliant storyteller, and adored the people he loved with his whole being. If you'd like to honor him donate to a charity that is meaningful for you, tell the people you love how important they are, fish with your buddies, cheer on your kids and grandkids, root for the Cubs and the Hawkeyes, and eat a Vitale's Pizza with sausage and anchovies.

Rick leaves many behind to mourn his loss, but carry on his incredible memory; his beautiful



Obituary

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wife Carla, brilliant daughter Rhya (Andrew Castle), the three most amazing humans, his grandchildren Tayton Castle, Lilly Hankins, and Isaac Castle; his loyal brothers Bob (Lynn) Kowzic of Decatur,IL, Ron (Sue) Kowzic of Clinton, and Randy Kowzic of Clinton; his supportive in laws, Al and Gail Thompson of Clinton and Leo and Christine Rickertsen of Eagan,MN and numerous nieces, nephews and other family members that he loved dearly. He will be reunited in heaven with his mom and dad, loved ones that have previously passed, and his lifelong best friend, Jim “Brydie” Bryden.

A Memorial Service will be 3:00pm, Thursday, June 15, 2023, at the Clinton Chapel Snell-Zornig Funeral Homes & Crematory. A visitation will be from 1:00pm to the service time Thursday. Online condolences may be expressed by visiting his obituary at www.snellzornig.com

At his visitation Rick would want you to wear anything that made you comfortable and if you feel comfortable in Cubs or Hawkeye gear then he would think that’s pretty cool.



Events

Rick Kowzic

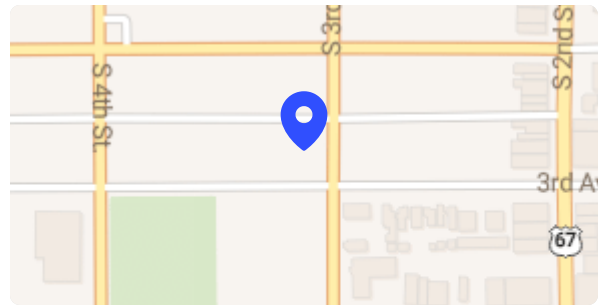
SEP 25, 1951 - JUN 10, 2023

Visitation

Thursday, June 15, 2023

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM CT

Snell-Zornig Funeral Home & Crematory, Clinton
302 Third Avenue South, Clinton IA 52732

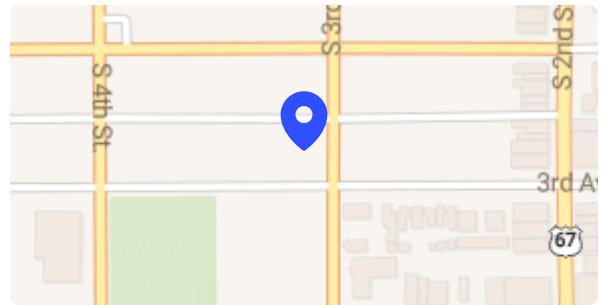


Memorial Service

Thursday, June 15, 2023

3:00 PM - 3:45 PM CT

Snell-Zornig Funeral Home & Crematory, Clinton
302 Third Avenue South, Clinton IA 52732





Tribute Wall

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LE

Lynda Engh & Christina Engh sent a Large Basket Garden to the Kowzic family.



June 15 at 6:47 AM

RG

Rozanne Guilliams posted:

Prayers to Carla and family, may he rest in peace. He was a great guy. 🙏❤️

June 15 at 4:29 AM

RI

Rich posted:

RIP Rick. Always remember you servicing Eagle #234 on your Frito Lay route. You were always up for discussing the latest sporting event, or a good joke! .

June 14 at 12:51 PM

MH

Mark Howard posted:

I bowled with bone for lots of years, he will be missed by me and a lot of bowlers and friends at Bonnie's, tho I think I will miss him the most , now where am I going to get my beef heart and tongue? R.I.P. BONE YOU WILL BE MISSED.

June 14 at 11:42 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Kowzic family.



June 14 at 8:19 AM



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Lynn Fagerlie posted:

What a beautiful obituary for an amazing man. I was proud to be Rick's cousin and grateful that we were able to keep in touch through texting over these last many years. What a proud and loving grandpa—he beamed with every update and photo he'd share of Lilly, Zekey and Tayton. My mom loved him dearly and got to be with him when he took her down to Miami to watch the Cubs' 3-game series. What a terrific nephew who honored and treasured his aunt. Our love goes out to Carla and Rhya and the kids, and Bob, Ron and Randy, and all the family and friends whose lives he impacted. Rick was one of strongest, most positive people I have ever met. His light made this world brighter. I will miss him so much. Lynn Fagerlie

June 13 at 4:56 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Rick.



June 13 at 3:18 PM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Kowzic family.



June 13 at 3:18 PM



Lynda Meggenberg posted:

So sad to hear of Rick's passing. The Kowzic boys were my favorite 'boy cousins', when kids. My deepest condolences to the Kowzic family. Lynda Meggenberg

June 13 at 10:34 AM



Nancy Bryden Heun posted:

Rick was a fixture in our home and my bother, Jim Bryden's best friend. What a nice kid he was and grew into an even nicer man.

June 13 at 8:51 AM



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Connie Brashaw posted:

Remember the good old days at mine and Deb's house playing cards. We had a lot of laughs and good times. I am so sorry for your loss. He was a great guy. Prayers to you and the family. Connie Brashaw

June 13 at 7:43 AM



Jim Lorenzen posted:

Our deepest sympathy to Carla, Bob, Ron, Randy and their families at the passing of Rick. I remember him showing up at our house in South Clinton one New Years Eve looking for the "party"; it was just me and Ma waiting for Dad to get home from work (3-11 shift). Rick had confused it with our annual Christmas Eve party. -- Always great to see him or any of the Kowzic clan. Love Jim and Lisa Lorenzen

June 13 at 6:35 AM



Jim Shaw posted:

My deepest sympathies to Carla & all the family. We lived down the street from each other, I consider Rick to be my first friend, 65yrs pretty cool. I owe the Kowzic family a great deal his older brothers taught us how to play baseball but Rick gave me some of the best days of my life he introduced me to bowling & pizza the same day!! Thanks for being my friend. I will see you on the other side.

June 13 at 6:02 AM



Mary & Leon Lehmkuhl lit a candle in honor of Rick.

Our sympathies to Rick's family. He was the ultimate good neighbor. Hardly ever seen, but there if you needed him.

June 13 at 3:46 AM





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EW

Eric Wardrip posted:

It's hard to express the big hole in my heart that I am feeling since I heard the news of Bone's passing. (Sorry, but he has been "Bone" to me for many years.) I first met him at Franklin, and he was always one-of-a-kind. Maybe a little hard-headed, but there was no better friend. He battled a really bad illness for many years; I never heard him complain. Speaking of friendship, I always thought of him in terms of his dear friend Bridey; it's a comfort to think that they are together again. He was a great family man, tremendously proud of his daughter and grandchildren. My heart goes out to Carla and the rest of his family. May he rest in peace; the world is diminished by his absence.

June 12 at 5:53 PM

MB

Mike Blanchard posted:

My father as principal of Irving always spoke so highly of the Kowzic boys and actually all of the kids in South Clinton. As a student at Franklin we always played Irving, Ronnie could really hit the long ball and at home at night I would complain. He would say wait till you play against his little brother. He was a good guy, good ball player and later in life I got to play with him on a couple of softball teams. Always fun, always respected very sad that we lost him, my sympathy to his family.

June 12 at 2:19 PM

SR

Sue And Bub Ready posted:

Rick was a wonderful person. My brother Brydie and he were best friends starting in grade school. They were inseparable until Jim's passing 8 years ago. I'm sure they will be having a great time in Heaven. He will be so missed.

June 12 at 12:32 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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