



## Richard M. Kucera

April 13, 2015

Richard M. Kucera, 72, of Minnetonka, Minnesota passed away peacefully on Monday, April 13, 2015 in St. Louis Park, Minnesota. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Ruth.

Born December 5, 1942 to Richard and Ida Kucera in Minneapolis, he was a life-long resident of Minnetonka and graduated from Minnetonka High School 1961. He attended the University of Minnesota, and then enlisted in the United States Navy where he served from 1964 to 1968.

After his military service, Richard attended the Minnesota School of Business where he met his future wife, Sandra Wilson. They married in 1970, and raised four spirited, much-loved daughters.

His legacy of service to country and community continued throughout his career as an officer with the Minnetonka Police Department from 1971 to 1999.

Richard was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and served as the Second Counselor in the Bishopric of the Minnetonka Ward. His strength of character, generosity of spirit and depth of faith enriched the lives of everyone who knew him.

Steady and selfless, Richard's love of family knew no borders. He was an anchor for his girls and a hero to his grandchildren. He took fashion cues from no one (including his girls), spoke only when he had something to say, and relished every minute spent outdoors. A relentless practical joker, his sense of humor remained fully intact even in his final hours. He embraced life, and had no fear in death.

Immeasurably blessed by his memory are his devoted wife of nearly 45 years, Sandra; beloved daughters Marla Kucera, Reva (Jeff) Olson, Jana (James) Walbruch, Emily (Dan) Allen; priceless grandchildren Jacob, Chloe and Isaiah Olson, Sophia Walbruch, and Eva and Benson Allen; four sisters and brothers-in-law; four nieces and nephews; extended family, and countless friends.

A celebration of Richard's life will be held Saturday, April 18, 2015 at 11:00AM at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Plymouth. Friends may visit the family prior to the service from 9:30 to 11:00AM at the church. Burial will follow at Groveland Cemetery in Minnetonka; a light luncheon will be served at the church after the interment.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the American Heart Association or the Boy Scouts of America.

<http://www.washburn-mcreavy.com/contact-us/hopkins-locations>

# Tribute Wall

DA

“*Dick you were a true friend, quick with a smile and "How you Been" I was blessed knowing you both as a friend and brother in uniform. Rest in Peace my Brother. Blessed are the Peace Makers for they shall be called children of God. Matthew 5:9*



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**Dennis Alex** - April 16, 2015 at 08:32 PM

RS

“*Dear Sandy and family,  
Just learned of Dick's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. When I reflect back upon my service with the Minnetonka Police Department, I'm drawn to my memories of Dick's excellent performance as a police sergeant. He was very well respected and liked by all, both in the department and in the community. He could always be counted on. He was level-headed and a consistently professional associate. It was an honor and privilege to have served with him. He will be missed by all.  
May God bless you and your family and may Dick rest in peace.  
Richard Setter*

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**Richard Setter** - April 16, 2015 at 03:10 PM

JC

“ While it has been many years since I left Minnesota I still hold fond memories of my friendship with Kuch. We drove to Colorado to go skiing and for the old timers out there we stopped to visit former Mtka Police Officer Jim Graves; we ran 10 k's together; we were on the S.E.T. team together; I even bought my first house from Kuch. He was there when I needed him after I had a run in with a miscreant neighbor (I think the statute of limitations has run out). I learned many great values from Kuch on a personal and professional level. Rest in peace Kuch.

*Jim Chaffee*

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**Jim Chaffee** - April 16, 2015 at 01:31 PM

MB

“ Dear Sandy & Family,

*One of the greatest days in our lives was a very cold and snowy April 18, 2000. On that day we attended the Temple with Dick and Margie when they received their endowments. Dan was Dick's escort, and Sandy was Margie's escort.*

*We share your grief at the passing of a kind man, and a good friend. We love Dick and we love you Sandy. Our prayers are with you.*

*Margie & Dan Brian*

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**Margie & Dan Brian** - April 16, 2015 at 12:44 PM

DW

“ To my beloved sister Sandy and her family: please know that I am grieving over the loss of Dick along with the rest of our family. I have many memories of Dick, but a few stand out in my mind as a reminder of "Milhouse" (as Laura lovingly referred to him as) who was always a man who was strong in body and strong in mind.

*I remember when Dick came to Utah after Mom had open heart surgery to look after her while she recuperated, because as Dick said "Beth did the same for me." I remember how he spent several hours in the Utah summer heat trimming the trees and bushes in our yard along with our neighbors hedge and hardly worked up a sweat. It was amazing to watch someone who had had several open heart surgeries be so strong and vital. Were it not for Dick's help when he and Sandy were in Utah to find a care facility for Mom, I might still be sleeping on the same lumpy mattress I had owned for over 15 years. I remember what a great job Dick did helping me get my new mattress and box spring to my basement bedroom and how he helped me get the old mattress and box spring outside so I could take it to the dump. I was concerned that lifting the mattress and box spring might put too much of a strain on Dick's heart, but he just shrugged off my suggestion and pitched in to help after I had struggled with my new mattress and box spring for over an hour. I thought that was amazing considering that Dick was 20 years my senior and had had three open heart surgeries.*

*Dick always had a good sense of humor and dry wit that his oldest daughter Marla has been blessed with. In my mind's eye I can still see him smiling with a toothpick hanging out of his mouth. I recall when I was working the graveyard shift in the frozen food section at Byerly's how nice it was to see Dick when he would eat at Byerly's restaurant and then stop to visit with me for a few minutes. I'll never forget the time Dick and his partner showed up after the graveyard cashier called the police when an alarm in the business office went off at Byerly's. It was quite a shock for me to see Dick in his sergeant's uniform carrying a very large rifle when I was so used to seeing him in a polo shirt and khaki pants. I remember Dick asking*

*me if I wanted to go in the office with him to check things out and telling him "no, that's why you get paid more than me!" Dick gave me a big grin as he headed towards the office with rifle in hand and fortunately found nothing . . . it was a false alarm. Through it all, Dick was, well, Dick: always the same in and out of uniform, and a pleasant, familiar face to see at 2 AM when I was used to seeing grumpy drunk people and strange folks playing bongos in the Byerly's parking lot. Rest in peace, my friend.*

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**David Wilson** - April 16, 2015 at 02:47 AM

KA

*Absolutely wonderful memories, David, we were very fortunate to have him as family*

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**Karen Allensworth** - April 17, 2015 at 07:49 PM

TM

“*Kuch was my Sergeant at Minnetonka PD. He was a good cop and friend. It had been a few years since I'd seen Kuch and by great chance we met for lunch in February with mutual retiree Bob Craig in Alabama. What a great time we had! I am so glad we had that time together. Rest in peace Kuch.*

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**Tim Mulcrone** - April 15, 2015 at 11:18 PM