



Mr. Richard R. "Rick" Schafer

August 8, 1969 - January 17, 2025

FRANKFORT – Mr. Richard R. “Rick” Schafer, age 55, passed away due to unforeseen circumstances on Friday, January 17, 2025, in the comfort of his home.

Born in Utica on August 8, 1969, Rick was the son of the former Bonnie Ambruso and the late Robert Schafer. He also knew the love and guidance of his stepfather, Dominick Purpura. Rick was a graduate of Whitesboro High School/Class of 1987.

At one time, Rick held a position at the North Utica Price Chopper in the customer service department. At the time of his passing, he was employed in the customer call center at Defense Finance and Accounting Services in Rome.

Rick was fun-loving and extremely loyal when it came to his family. He had a passion for life and believed in living every day to the fullest. Rick was a passionate and avid sports fan, rooting for the NY Yankees, Giants, Rangers, and the Knicks.

Rick was a fantastic uncle and enjoyed spending time with his nephew, Zachary. He held a place in his heart for all living things. He was of the Catholic faith.

Rick is survived by his mother and stepfather, Bonnie and Dominick Purpura; sister, Dawn Cardillo and Ronnie Ellis; and brothers, Robert Schafer, and Cody Schafer. Rick's memory will be cherished by his niece and nephew, Eden Schafer; and Zachary Cardillo, who was also his godson and with whom he shared an unbreakable bond. Rick also held a closeness to his former brother-in-law and Zachary's father, Nick Cardillo. He will remain in the hearts of his many aunts and uncles, especially his aunt, Eleanor M. DeVito (the late John A. DeVito, Sr.); many cousins, including John A. Jr. and Deidra DeVito and John's children, Nick DeVito and his fiancée, Marisa Milanese, Mike DeVito, and Christine DeVito; Kelly J. and Michelle DeVito and their children, Dylan DeVito, Logan DeVito, Kalissa Devito, and Teagan DeVito; and Yvonne and Mark McClusky and their family. Rick had many close friendships throughout his life especially with Kevin Rothstein, Jason Barnello, and Matt Lynch. Rick also shared a loving relationship with Lynn Morris. He was additionally predeceased by his maternal grandparents, Rocco D. and Gloria C. (Cicccone) Ambruso.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to the Frankfort Police and Paramedics.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Rick's Memorial Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life, which will commence on Saturday, January 25, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Catholic Community of Whitesboro at St. Paul's Church, 16 Park Ave., Whitesboro. There will be an opportunity to greet the family at the conclusion of Mass. By family request, please omit floral offerings.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

JAN 25. 9:30 AM (ET)

The Catholic Community of Whitesboro at St. Paul's Church

16 Park Ave.

Whitesboro, NY 13492

<https://stpaulswhitesboro.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ Dearest Bonnie and Dawn, I will always remember Rick. He will always hold a special place in my heart as you both of you do, also. I am so sad over Rick. I still cannot believe it. We worked together at the Bank for a long time. We had so much fun and many laughs. You will always be missed and loved Rick. Love, Cindy "The Shot One..."

Cindy Dannettel - October 15, 2025 at 11:18 AM

MA

“ To Bonnie and Dawn, please keep each other close for we all know this is a very difficult time. Look to the lord and each other for comfort. I miss my friend/brother much. Especially that laugh.

*If you guys ever need anything, give me a call.
Love, Matt.*

Matthew - February 20, 2025 at 03:13 PM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album Me and rick at the Stadium



Matthew - February 20, 2025 at 03:00 PM

MA

Unfortunately, Rick was a bit ticked off at that moment. He spilled his ice cold soda just before this pick. (See the wet spot) I did not realize it until after I took the picture. It was so hot a humid that day as well. We didn't get a chance to go see the Knicks play together. It was in the future plans though. I'm still in shock! Love you brother!!! Rest in paradise. God has a plan for you!!!

Matthew - February 20, 2025 at 08:05 PM

DC

He loved you like a brother, Matt. Thank you for being such a great friend to Rick. It's been 3 and a half months and I'm still in shock. I miss my brother so much and can't wait for the day I see him again 💔

dawn cardillo - May 06, 2025 at 06:44 PM

MC

“ *Rick & I worked together for many years at DFAS, I'm going to miss our chats about Met's & Yankee's baseball and just life in general, you were a good dude, Rick .& You'll be missed, Rest easy my friend.*

Mike C - January 30, 2025 at 11:11 AM

RM

“ *Bonnie - I am so sorry to hear about Rick's passing. A friendly and happy go lucky guy ! I just read about his passing and my heart aches for you - let our belief in the resurrection comfort you as he is with Jesus who loves him very much and YOU TOO ! Rudy Marchitelli*

Rudy Marchitelli - January 23, 2025 at 02:36 PM

DB

“ Bonnie, Dawn and Family,

I am so sorry to hear about Rick's passing. A wonderful guy! We had so many great times at Fleet Bank/Bank of America!

I will keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers!

Rest in peace my friend!

Debbie Barbero - January 20, 2025 at 04:19 PM

JG

“ Rick will be missed by so many. He surely is not someone you forget. I worked with Rick for years at DFAS, he was a friend I could always count on. I will always remember his flare and passion. Rest Easy Rick, we will take it from here ❤️

Jessica Grande - January 20, 2025 at 12:02 PM

MA

Indeed, 1000%

Matthew - February 20, 2025 at 03:15 PM

 Gerald Putnam

“ Rick Schafer you will be missed and remembered. We started work together and every day was fun/wild. You had so many stories and great anecdotes that it was an honor to sit near you and hear what was happening. I was not a Giant fan but I knew their record every year as we talked about them after every game - win or lose. You were a cool dude. You were serious when you needed to be but you left that behind when it was time to head home for the night. Much too young to be gone my brother.

Gerald Putnam - January 19, 2025 at 10:47 PM

LM

“ Hi my name is Lynn Morris. And I am Rick's girl friend. Rick will always And forever be the love of my life. I'm so very honored to have him as mine and in my life. He made me smile every day of my life. Rick made me feel so very alive. I'm so broken up my heart is very broken in to pieces. I can't imagine my life without him. I'll never ever be the same. I have never ever met a wonderful man like Rick before in my life. He treated me so very special and wanted. My baby is forever in my life and heart. When he died he part of me died with him. I love you baby. You just rest and that I'm with you always and forever. My heart felt condolences to Rick's MOM and sister and families. Love always Lynn. I will miss his phone calls every single day for 6 years I'll miss his beautiful voice and laugh. 😭😭 I will treasure his last text he wrote me the day he passed he said good morning my love. Love you baby always and forever. 🥺

Lynn Morris - January 19, 2025 at 08:56 PM