



## Richard Lee Sarff

June 29, 1960 - September 28, 2024

Rick “Sand Burr” Sarff, 64, of Petersburg, Illinois, passed away September 28, 2024.

Rick was born June 29, 1960, to Arthur and Francis (nee Dierker) Sarff in Havana, Illinois, where he was born and raised. He married his beloved, Cynthia “Cindy” Devlin on February 19, 2000, in Havana. He had a sense of humor and was known to be quite the trickster to everyone. He never took himself too seriously, except when it came to his work. He began working for the Mason County Farm Service Agency and worked his way up to the Director of the FSA for Menard County. He eventually became the Deputy Director of the Risk Management Agency for the federal government, a role he took great pride in. Rick was an avid hunter and could often be found with his late dog and buddy, Bo. He enjoyed being outdoors, golfing, woodworking, and was a Chicago Cubs and Bears fan.

Rick is survived by his wife, Cindy Sarff; daughter, Jennifer (Brad) Bryerton of Cary, Illinois; his siblings, Mary Howerter; Wayne (Grace) Sarff, Dennis (Mary) Sarff; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a brother, Kenny Sarff.

A Visitation will be held Friday, October 4, 2024, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at

Hurley Funeral Home, 122 W. Douglas, Petersburg, Illinois 62675. Burial will follow Saturday, October 5, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Ashland Cemetery, in Ashland, Illinois.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Rick's memory to either St. Jude's Children Research Hospital, [www.stjude.org/donate](http://www.stjude.org/donate) or to The Animal Protection League, [www.apl-shelter.org/donate](http://www.apl-shelter.org/donate).

Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg is assisting the family with arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Ashland City Cemetery

Ashland, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 4. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Hurley Funeral Home - Petersburg  
122 West Douglas Avenue  
Petersburg, IL 62675  
(217) 632-2500  
<https://www.hurleyfh.com/>

## Graveside Service

OCT 5. 1:00 PM (CT)

Ashland City Cemetery  
Ashland, IL

# Tribute Wall



“ Hurley Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard Lee Sarff



Hurley Funeral Home - October 04, 2024 at 04:22 PM

GR

*I am so sorry for your loss, and my prayers and thoughts are for you and your family.*

Ginny Ramage - October 04, 2024 at 09:56 PM

LL

“ Lisa L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Sarff.

Lisa L. - October 21, 2024 at 01:11 PM

JK

“ We are sorry to hear of Rick's passing. Our heart goes out to all of his family.  
Judy & John Karl

Judy Karl - October 14, 2024 at 01:18 PM

DP

“ Wayne and Grace, so sorry for your family's loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Jim and Deb Park

Deb Park - October 04, 2024 at 02:00 PM

IN

“ Heartfelt condolences to Richard's friends and family from the friends and co-workers of his nephew, Phil.

Inovatia - October 03, 2024 at 10:03 PM

KB

“ Cindy, so very sorry for your loss. Always enjoyed talking to you and Rick at West of Wise. Prayers during this difficult time.  
Bob & Kerry Bagby

Kerry Bagby - October 03, 2024 at 02:33 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.



October 03, 2024 at 02:07 PM

KG

“ Kate and Gary planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Sarff.

Kate and Gary - October 03, 2024 at 02:07 PM

EM

“ Eric Bashore, RMA Billings, MT purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.



Eric Bashore, RMA Billings, MT - October 03, 2024 at 11:08 AM

EM

“ Eric Bashore, RMA Billings, MT planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Sarff.

Eric Bashore, RMA Billings, MT - October 03, 2024 at 11:08 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.



October 03, 2024 at 11:08 AM

JS

“ Jimmy Houx--Natl Crop Ins. Services planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Sarff.

Jimmy Houx--Natl Crop Ins. Services - October 03, 2024 at 11:08 AM



“ Fall Fantasia was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.



October 03, 2024 at 10:50 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.



October 02, 2024 at 11:10 PM



“ Lori Markey purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.



Lori Markey - October 02, 2024 at 09:14 PM



“ Lori Markey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Sarff.

Lori Markey - October 02, 2024 at 09:14 PM



“ Sorry for your family's loss. He was always nice!



Jack and Donzia Boggs - October 02, 2024 at 06:42 PM

CS

“ *Craig Schaeffer lit a candle in memory of Richard Sarff*



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**Craig Schaeffer** - October 02, 2024 at 05:21 PM

BR

“ *So sorry for your loss. Rick was a big part of our family. Rick and my brother, Rod were probably as close as brothers. Rick spent so much time at our house we just included him as part of the family. Rod and Rick were always into something. This one time they came home late and were hungry. They went to looking for food and evidently found something to eat. Well my mom had this Siamese cat and it wouldn't leave them alone to eat so they just put it in the oven while they ate. Then let it out. So many memories. My prayers are with the Sarff family at this very sad time.*

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**Belle Fletcher Reed** - October 02, 2024 at 05:05 PM

KJ

“ *I can't think of any classmate genuinely nicer than Rick, or one smarter about life. It was apparent how much he loved his family, pets, wildlife, the outdoors, and keeping busy making property improvements for others to enjoy. No doubt his loss and legacy will have a lasting effect on those who knew him, particularly in regards to what's really important in the life we have remaining. Thank you Rick...*

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**Kurt Jagielski** - October 02, 2024 at 01:58 PM

PG

“ Oh Cindy, you have our deepest condolences for your loss. We will all miss Rick and infectious laugh and sense of humor. He was a really great story teller also, no detail was too small to leave out. We are here for you Cindy 🙏

Paul and Von Gittemeier - October 02, 2024 at 01:36 PM

CA

“ Rick was a coworker and friend. Always enjoyed our chats about work, baseball, and the Cubs. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.



Cody Adkins - October 02, 2024 at 12:48 PM

TR

“ The Jackson RO purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.



The Jackson RO - October 02, 2024 at 12:41 PM

TR

“ The Jackson RO planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Lee Sarff.

The Jackson RO - October 02, 2024 at 12:41 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.*



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October 02, 2024 at 12:14 PM



“ *Brandt- Cropsey purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.*



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**Brandt- Cropsey** - October 02, 2024 at 11:07 AM



“ *Dennis, so sorry for your loss. I remember when he was born and how happy you were to get a little brother.*

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**Kristine Nuding** - October 02, 2024 at 10:49 AM



“ *Cindy and Family, Rick was a beloved part of the RMA Family. He will be missed more than words can express. My deepest condolences and prayers to you and his many, many friends.*



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**Melissa Janssen** - October 02, 2024 at 10:27 AM

DW

“ Sorry for your loss Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family ❤️🙏



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**Dan and Chris Wilson** - October 02, 2024 at 08:36 AM

JW

“ Cindy and family so sorry for your loss he was such a nuce man. You are all in my thoughts and prayers .

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**Jeanie White** - October 02, 2024 at 08:16 AM



“ Prayers to family and friends. Rick was such a great guy.

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**Kim Baker** - October 02, 2024 at 07:12 AM

VF

“ Our thoughts and prayers to Rick's family. Tim and Velva Fletcher

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**Velva Fletcher** - October 01, 2024 at 11:27 PM

PS

“ Patti Specketer lit a candle in memory of Richard Sarff



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**Patti Specketer** - October 01, 2024 at 06:53 PM

TD

“ This is such a shock. My deepest sympathy to Cindy, Jen and to his family.



Traci Davis - October 01, 2024 at 06:39 PM

KL

“ It always hurts when you loose one of your classmates. Their like family!  
I was shocked to see this and my heart goes out to his wife Cindy and family.  
RIP Ricky ❤️😭

Kristina Landry - October 01, 2024 at 03:32 PM

MP

“ Our sincere condolences to you Cindy, Rick’s friends and family. Our prayers for healing 🙏🙏. Mo and ron plattner

maureen plattner - October 01, 2024 at 12:08 PM

NE

“ My thoughts and prayers are with his family. He was such a fun friend.



Nancy Elliott - October 01, 2024 at 12:05 PM

LT

“ So very sorry for your family's loss! He was a great person!



Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson - October 01, 2024 at 12:03 PM

MB

“ Marcia B. purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Richard Lee Sarff.



Marcia B. - October 01, 2024 at 11:51 AM

DB

“ Rick was loads of fun to be around! He stood up with me when Jane and I were married. He was a good friend and classmate I will never forget. RIP Uncle Ricky and tell Rod hi for me, I will miss you until we are together again.

Denis Bryant - October 01, 2024 at 11:40 AM

LC

So sorry for the families loss!Continued prayers fir his wife,daughter,and siblings!

Lanette Crum - October 01, 2024 at 01:56 PM

CM

So sad when a classmate passes. Rick was a kind person and very well liked. I'm so glad I saw him at our last reunion. Praying for his family for some comfort.

Cheri Muller - October 01, 2024 at 08:14 PM

DW

“ Sorry for your loss Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family ❤️🙏



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**Dan and Chris Wilson** - October 01, 2024 at 11:37 AM

SA

“ So sorry for your loss. I knew Rick from working at FSA. He was a nice guy.

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**Susan Arter** - October 01, 2024 at 11:19 AM

JD

“ So sorry for your loss with Rick's passing. I still have great memories of spending time with Rick when I would come down to spend time on the farm -- fishing the little creek by the highway when the river was high, racing the slot cars at Francis and Wayne's house, walking to the Discount House (the little quonset hut along the highway). Rick will be missed! Condolences to you and all.

*John Dierker*

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**John Dierker** - October 01, 2024 at 11:11 AM

ST

“ Cindy, I'm so sorry for your loss.

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**Sue Taylor** - October 01, 2024 at 11:10 AM

LF

“ So sorry to hear about Rick, sending prayers to the family.



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**Larry and Gitana Fletcher** - October 01, 2024 at 11:04 AM

RN

“ My deepest condolences to Rick's family. Rest in peace Rick, Fly high classmate.



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**Rhonda Neeley** - October 01, 2024 at 10:54 AM

AF

“ So sorry for your family's loss. Sending you prayers!  
-ARF, Lisa, and the Friedrich family

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**Andrew Friedrich** - October 01, 2024 at 09:44 AM