



Richard 'Dick' C. Ritscher

December 25, 1925 - March 19, 2022

Richard 'Dick' Caryl Ritscher, age 96, of Kearney, passed away Saturday, March 19, 2022 at the Good Samaritan Society – St. John's in Kearney. Private memorial services will be held at a later date.

Memorials are suggested to Rowe Sanctuary, 44450 Elm Island Road, Gibbon, NE 68840 or to Senior College of Central Nebraska, PO Box 1556, Kearney, NE 68848. Please visit www.hlmkfuneral.com to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services of Kearney are in charge of arrangements.

Dick Ritscher was born December 25, 1925, to Hattie Edith and George Emmett Ritscher. His parents and siblings, Edwina, Oliver, and George, predeceased him. He married Betty Ann Mack on March 24, 1948, and they celebrated 70 years together before her passing in 2018. Together they had six children: Carol Wahl, Sue Lentell (Randy), Malachi, Paul (Lee Ann), Jon (Susan), and Ellen Ritscher Sackett. Surviving family include five children, nine grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, and many grand-dogs, -cats, a guinea pig and a cockatoo. Beloved pets who crossed the rainbow bridge include Benji, Charli, Honi, Tag, and Toby.

Dick was a lifelong learner and graduated with a master's degree in music, a doctorate in education, and, at age 60, a Juris Doctor. His retired business card mentions that he is a "has been" — he "has been" a WWII Navy veteran,

a professional musician, a public school and college teacher and administrator, a management consultant and trainer, an attorney-at-law, and an electric utility executive. He and Betty Ann moved to Kearney in 2002, eager to engage in the community. Dick served for a term on the Planning Commission and was a founding board member of the Senior College of Central Nebraska as well as session faculty of a dozen music courses. Dick and Betty Ann anticipated and enjoyed the magic of crane season each year. Recently, Dick looked forward to his daily “funky monkey” from Barista’s Coffee House, playing his keyboard, and challenging others to cribbage.

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard 'Dick' C. Ritscher*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *My heartfelt sympathy to the entire Ritscher Family! You are in my thoughts and prayers! Dick and BettyAnn were a very special couple/cousins that I have wonderful memories. Love, Nancy Martin*

Nancy Martin - March 29, 2022 at 01:22 AM



“ *Rest in peace, Dad. You were the best father a daughter could ask for. Thank you for all you gave to me and to all of us kids. You were our rock.*

Ellen Sackett - March 22, 2022 at 11:00 PM



“ *Carol, So sorry to hear of the passing of your father. May memories of happy times be a comfort to you now,*

Pat Smith - March 22, 2022 at 10:29 PM



“ *we shared a birthday !*

Carol Ritscher - March 22, 2022 at 12:10 PM



He is my hero, who I will miss daily! And he made a mean lasagna.

Jon Ritscher - March 22, 2022 at 09:48 PM

SD

We are saddened to hear of your father's passing. I had the wonderful opportunity to work with both Dick and Betty Ann in a variety of ways in my early years of retirement and being awed by their energy and lust for learning. Over time it seemed like every time I talked with Dick I learned something I should have known and it was usually something I needed to know. And having Betty Ann in a class was an amazing delight - the energy of a freshman and the depth acquired from the experiences of a lifetime. They are held in my memory and close to my heart.

Stan Dart - March 24, 2022 at 09:35 PM



i am carol his 2 granddaughter and we shared a christmas birthday together he gave me wonderful gifts!

Carol Ritscher - March 26, 2022 at 02:05 PM