



Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo

March 1, 1969 - November 26, 2016

Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo, age 47 of Elm Grove, died peacefully on Saturday, November 26, 2016 at home surrounded by his family after a courageous battle with esophagus cancer.

He was born March 1, 1969 in Wheeling.

Rick was a graduate of Linsly School and WV Wesleyan. He was the assistant general manager at Grand Vue Park, Moundsville, where he dedicated his time and knowledge to advance the Park and make it something special that the community would enjoy and be proud of. Grand Vue was a place where he brought the beauty out in people and nature. He was a Catholic by Faith, an avid Steeler and NASCAR fan and enjoyed gardening.

He was preceded in death by his father: George Vargo; maternal grandparents: John and Julia Hummell and paternal grandparents: Joseph and Mary Vargo.

Survivors include his wife, of 25 years, Debbie Wymer Vargo; three sons: Andrew, Nicholas and Alex Vargo, all at home; mother: Shirley Hummell Vargo of Wheeling; four siblings: Christine Vargo of Wheeling, Gregory Vargo of Wheeling, Robert (Mary Ann) Vargo of Dayton, OH and Tricia Vargo of Wheeling; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Rick deeply appreciated all of the phone calls, text messages, cards and emails during his illness.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday from 1-3 & 6-8pm and Thursday from 9-10am at the Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory, 1 Ridgecrest Road,

Wheeling/Bethlehem with a Vigil Service on Thursday at 9:30am.

Funeral Liturgy with Mass will be celebrated on Thursday at 10:30am at St. Joseph Cathedral, 1300 Eoff St., Wheeling with Msgr. Kevin Quirk as celebrant.

Interment in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Wheeling.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Grand Vue Park Foundation, 250 Trail Dr., Moundsville, WV 26041

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary Cemetery

Wheeling, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 30. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem
1 Ridgecrest Road
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Visitation

NOV 30. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem
1 Ridgecrest Road
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Visitation

DEC 1. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem
1 Ridgecrest Road
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Vigil Service

DEC 1. 9:30 AM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem
1 Ridgecrest Road
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Liturgy with Mass

DEC 1. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Joseph's Cathedral
1300 Eoff Street
Wheeling, WV

Tribute Wall



“ *Grisell Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo*



Grisell Funeral Homes - November 28, 2016 at 12:03 PM

GS

Beautiful family. Wonderful memories to cherish and be thankful for them. Rick was a special person and I appreciate his contribution to the growth and beauty of Grand Vue Park. Gussie Smith

Gussie Smith - November 28, 2016 at 10:54 PM

DN

“ I know this is late coming. Forgive me. Rick was and STILL IS the best and coolest guy I ever knew. I went to Linsly with him. He would always come into his homeroom, where I had a class, the music room, and crack some joke with Rob Buch. He glided like I cant explain.

He taught me how to throw a shot put in middle school. He gave me advice on girls. Me and my sister Linda were good friends with him. I also went to Woodsdale Elementary with his younger sister Tricia. Im so sad to hear I cant talk to him again, but I will in the next world though. What a great guy!

I'll never forget you Rick. You were totally the coolest guy, and I wanted to be like you. You had such charm and ease with people. God bless you and your family. I'll see you again.

With the most Love,

Dennis Naum

Dennis Naum - June 06, 2021 at 07:46 PM

KE

“ His personality was magnetic and he was a joy to be around, he was like a big brother with so much love and energy. Will miss you big bro, it's been a pleasure.

Kevin - January 01, 2017 at 11:59 AM

LE

“ Debbie, Andrew, Nick and Alex....So very sorry for your loss. My condolences and prayers are extended to all of you.

Lynn Ellis - December 01, 2016 at 09:01 AM

DD

“ *Condolences to family of Rick as he was a nice young man with a big heart and would go out of his way to help with your planned event at Grand Vue Park.
Prayers to all that ever knew Rick.*

Dave / Donna Durbin - November 30, 2016 at 02:11 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo.*



November 30, 2016 at 09:30 AM

BM

“ *So sorry! Rick is greatly missed!*

Bill Metzner - November 30, 2016 at 05:49 AM

LL

“ *Lorri Lutes sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo*



lorri lutes - November 29, 2016 at 11:51 PM

LL

“ my thoughts goin out to the vargo family sry for ur loss lorri lutes



lorri lutes - November 29, 2016 at 11:50 PM

Beth Sherman

“ Our deepest condolences to the Vargo family. Rick was a kind man and like a dad to Nick. We are so sorry for your loss. Our fond memories of him will live on. Sincerely, Beth, Zach, and Nick Sherman.



Beth Sherman - November 29, 2016 at 09:51 PM

ML

“ Men & Women of the Air Force Research Laboratory purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo.



Men & Women of the Air Force Research Laboratory - November 29, 2016 at 01:05 PM



“ Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo.



November 29, 2016 at 12:41 PM

MM

“ So sorry to hear of Rick's passing. I met him when he was a young man, and our paths would cross occasionally over the years. He was always gracious and seemed genuinely glad to see me again. My sincere condolences to his entire family.

Marty Maness - November 29, 2016 at 11:02 AM

BR

“ I'm very sorry for your loss and want to share this message with Rick's son Andrew.
Andrew, when you were an elementary student at Sherrard, I came to know your dad.
He always found time to say hi and share in some conversation.
My best memories of him however were the times he came to pick you up and patiently waited for you and then when he saw you, he showed his excitement.
He was a dad who showed his love and admiration for his son.
I hope you will always have great memories of times with him and may all who knew him be glad that they did.
May the Good Lord be with all of you.
Mr. Reese/Sherrard Elementary-Middle

bob reese - November 29, 2016 at 09:49 AM



“ 15 files added to the album LifeTributes



Grisell Funeral Homes - November 29, 2016 at 09:21 AM



“ *My heartfelt sympathy to the Vargo family. I have very fond memories of your wonderful family and our years of friendship on the Island. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. --Aileen Gilson Kelly*

Aileen Kelly - November 29, 2016 at 07:44 AM



“ *My deepest condolences to the entire Vargo family....Rick will be missed...he was loved by many....a true blessing to all that knew him...he always treated me and my children like gold...a man of great respect...the world has suffered a loss and my prayers are with you all...your family are the most wonderful people i ever knew...my thoughts are with you all! Penny Hamilton and family*



Penny Hamilton - November 28, 2016 at 10:39 PM



“ *Rainbow Reflections Basket was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo.*



November 28, 2016 at 10:03 PM



“ *Carrie and I send our condolences to the Vargo Family. Rick became my best friend over the past few years and I will cherish the memories that we created. You will be truly missed and thought of often.*

Craig White - November 28, 2016 at 09:14 PM



“ *Grand Vue Park Board, Staff and friends send our condolences to Rick's family. We were so fortunate to work with him for the last 5 years. Rick, you will be missed and will always be a part of Grand Vue Park!*

Craig White - November 28, 2016 at 09:10 PM



“ *To the entire Vargo family, please accept my deepest condolences. -Tami Elewski-Iler*



Tami Elewski-Iler - November 28, 2016 at 08:34 PM

LR

“ Lacey Santorine & Tierra Reed purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo.



Lacey Santorine & Tierra Reed - November 28, 2016 at 02:34 PM

ML

“ Michelle Lemons lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo



Michelle Lemons - November 28, 2016 at 01:15 PM



“ 235 files added to the album LifeTributes



Grisell Funeral Homes - November 28, 2016 at 11:49 AM

JT

“ *The West Virginia Storytelling Guild sends its deepest sympathy to the Vargo family. Rick was instrumental in making our Guild members feel welcomed and cared for during our storytelling festivals at the park. Those who met him during these events remember him fondly.*

Judi Tarowsky - November 28, 2016 at 10:05 AM

 Cynthia Hall

“ *My deepest sympathy to your family. My prayers and thoughts are with you*
-Robert and Cynthia Hall

Cynthia Hall - November 28, 2016 at 07:49 AM

JH

“ *Our deepest condolences to the Vargo family from the Hamm family. May God hold Rick in his arms.*

Jamie Hamm

Jamie Hamm - November 28, 2016 at 07:43 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard "Rick" Joseph Vargo.*



November 27, 2016 at 09:13 PM

DH

“ Shirley, We're, so very, sorry.
We love you.

Doug and Barbara Hercules

Doug and Barbara Hercules - November 27, 2016 at 09:12 PM

EH

“ RIP My friend. Condolences, Prayers & Hugs to the Vargo family.
Eric Hunter.

Eric Hunter - November 27, 2016 at 07:54 PM

JD

“ My deepest condolences to Mrs. Vargo along with Chris, Greg, Bob,
Tricia.

The many, many summers we (Rick, Sherri, Carla, Bob, Chris, Greg and myself) all shared together. Playing football in the alley or in the empty lot. Going to the tennis courts or just hanging out talking. Just being friends. Many great memories with the Vargo family.

*Love to all,
June*

June Noon Domin - November 27, 2016 at 06:00 PM

JN

“ Shirley and kids. So very upset about Rick, many great memories of
him and Jerry Scott playing in the alley . Our prayers and thoughts
are with all of you. Janet and Jerry

Jerry and Janet Nixon - November 27, 2016 at 05:16 PM

JD

“ So sorry to see you leave us Rick. You always made everyone laugh. You turned into a great husband and father. I wish only the best to your family. Until we meet again for the turkey bowl game in the sky.

Jay Davis - November 27, 2016 at 03:44 PM

MH

“ Our condolences to the whole Vargo Family. He will be missed by many.
Rick was a great friend and classmate.
~Marcy Bowman Huntsman-Botizan

marcy Huntsman-Borizan - November 27, 2016 at 03:25 PM