



Richard Phelps

June 10, 2024

Rick Phelps, car salesman and comedian, died on June 10th after a long battle with Parkinson's. He was 81 years old. Rick was born in New York City at a time when a kid could spend the whole day playing stickball with friends and roaming the city unaccompanied by an adult. Twenty five cents bought you some hot dogs and something to drink. He grew up loving movies, reading and the Yankees. In 1962 he met a sweet, pretty girl from Wisconsin and married her. She worked at The New Yorker and typed the short stories he wrote. They had two daughters and moved to Milwaukee. Despite not having a driver's license when he arrived in Wisconsin, he became a car salesman and made a very good living. He also joined Toastmasters, did stand-up comedy, owned a bar called Paulie's Pavilion, ran for alderman, and owned a flower shop in Grafton with his third wife, another sweet, pretty girl, with whom he had a daughter. Over the years, he marched with Father Groppi and took his daughters to anti-segregation marches. He was progressive, smart and funny.

Rick is survived by his semi-beautiful daughters, Lori Phelps, Libbey (Bob) Stueber and Louise (Rebeca) Pinhancos, along with his extra daughters Rebeca Pinhancos and Melissa McGee; grandchildren, Rickey, Julia and Aurora; siblings, Donnamarie (Ron) Mattsen and Bill (Barb) Moroco; ex-wife Katherine Lange; and many friends. He was predeceased by his parents, Marion Phelps and William Moroco; siblings, Betty Fudala, Jack Phelps and

Frank Phelps; best friend of 40 years, Henry Peters; and the sweet, pretty girl from Wisconsin, Nancy Phelps.

A celebration of Rick's life will be held at the Butler Inn, 12400 W. Hampton Avenue, on Saturday, June 29 from 4-6PM. Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails will be served. Bring a joke and some memories to share.

Rick always said to lead or end with a joke, so here goes. I was sad because I had no shoes until I met a man who had no feet. So I said, "Got any shoes you're not using?"

Previous Events

Life Celebration

JUN **29**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Butler Inn
12400 West Hampton Avenue
Butler, WI 53007

Tribute Wall

EF

“ *In the '90s with his favorite father-in-law, Martin.*



Emily Figlesthaler - June 29, 2024 at 04:25 PM

NL

“ *1 file added to the album The 80's*



Nancy Lange - June 15, 2024 at 01:46 PM