



Robert Stephen Rigdon

MAY 30, 1937 - MAR 14, 2025



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Robert Stephen Rigdon

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Robert Stephen Rigdon, 87, a devoted husband, loving father, cherished grandfather, brother, and friend, passed away peacefully at home on March 14, 2025 surrounded by his family. His passing, just 67 days after the loss of his wife, Inta, illustrates the unbreakable bond they shared.

Born in Festus, Missouri, Robert's journey was marked by service and intellectual pursuit. He served in the U.S. Army at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri before pursuing higher education. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Missouri in 1960 and later a Master in Business Administration (MBA) from Harvard University in 1962. Pursuing his business passion, he moved to LaFayette, NY, where he purchased and cultivated Apple Acres, an apple orchard that he grew into a thriving business. In the summer of 1969, Robert united in marriage with Inta, his beloved wife, and together they built a loving home in LaFayette, raising their four children.

Deeply committed to education, Robert served on the LaFayette School Board, dedicating years, including a period as President, to shaping the community's future. Beyond his professional pursuits, Robert embraced an active lifestyle, finding joy in basketball, running, weightlifting, and a disciplined daily exercise routine. An avid sailor, he spent weekends racing on Skaneateles Lake, first with Inta, and later sharing his passion with his children.

Robert and Inta created a lifetime of cherished memories, from teaching their children practical skills around the house to adventurous annual beach trips to the Outer Banks for windsurfing and weekend ski excursions. Their shared love of travel took them across the globe, from the serene British Virgin Islands to the historical landscapes of Europe, culminating in a remarkable 60-day cruise through Southeast Asia. They celebrated 55 years of love and companionship this past August.

As "Grandpa," Robert shared his wisdom and affection with his 12 grandchildren, creating lasting bonds and advice that will never be forgotten. In 2020, Robert and Inta relocated to Jamesville to



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be closer to family, forging new friendships while maintaining deep connections with loved ones near and far.

Robert will be remembered for his grounded nature, his calm demeanor, and his meticulous attention to detail. Above all, his family was his priority. His legacy lives on through his children, their spouses, his treasured grandchildren, and the countless lives he touched.

Robert was predeceased by his beloved wife, Inta Rigdon; his parents, Jesse and Iola (Siebert) Rigdon; his sister, Audrey Reniere; his brother, David Rigdon; and his sister-in-law, Marie Ritelis.

He is survived by his children, Jay (Andrea) Rigdon, Lauris (Angela) Rigdon, Valdis (Darcey) Rigdon, and Laila (Gianluca Ranieri) Rigdon; his brother, William (Elizabeth) Rigdon; his brother-in-law, Andris Ritelis; and his grandchildren: Maksims, Sean, Dean, Adam, Tobijas, Daniel, Ryan, Christopher, Penelope, Juliana, Maya, and Dylan.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2025, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME, 3401 Vickery Road (corner of Buckley Rd.), North Syracuse, NY 13212, immediately followed by a funeral service celebrating Robert's life at noon.



Events


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Visitation

 **Saturday**, April 5, 2025


 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET


 **Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home**
3401 Vickery Rd, Syracuse NY 13212



Funeral Service

 **Saturday**, April 5, 2025

 12:00 PM ET

 **Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home**
3401 Vickery Rd, Syracuse NY 13212





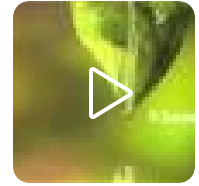
Tribute Wall

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Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home shared a **Tribute Video**.



April 1 at 5:01 AM



Diana Kleinwaks posted:

On behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Comfort Tyler Chapter (Syracuse), we send our condolences to the family. Forget Me Not Don't remember me not with sadness, Don't remember me with tears, Remember all the laughter, We've shared throughout the years, Now I am contented, That my life it was worthwhile. Knowing that I passed along the way, I made somebody smile, When you are walking down the street, And you've got me on your mind, I'm walking in your footsteps, Only half a step behind, So please don't be unhappy, Just because I'm out of sight, Remember that I'm with you, Each morning, noon, and night.

April 25 at 12:05 PM



John Besten posted:

To the entire Rigdon family, Please accept my sincere condolences to you for the loss of your mother and father. I have so many fond memories of talking with your Mom and Dad after our concerts. Together, they raised a wonderful family. My thoughts and prayers are with you. John Besten

April 17 at 7:01 AM



Lauren, Kelly, Kim, Baker And Angela sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Rigdon family.



April 3 at 3:44 PM



Beth J Doolittle posted:

As a teacher in the LaFayette School District, my mother Jennie Sloper taught at least two of the Rigdon children. She always spoke so highly of both Mr. and Mrs. Rigdon and their devotion to their children. May many happy memories of life with them bring you all comfort as you mourn the passing of both your parents. Beth (Sloper) Doolittle

March 24 at 6:25 PM



Tribute Wall

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Jean And Tyler Mccarthy posted:

Once again in too short a time, we are very saddened to hear of this loss within the Rigdon family. Bob always had a smile and a nice word for everyone. I talked with him a couple of years ago when we met at the Post Office and he was so proud of telling me about all his grandchildren. It seems the most comforting thought now is that he and Inta are together again where they would want to be. May it help to know that we send our prayers and support for each of you as you deal with this sorrow. Jean and Tyler McCarthy

March 23 at 10:10 AM



Media

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Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home shared a **Tribute Video**.

April 1 at 5:01 AM

TRIBUTE VIDEO

A Journey of Life

SCAN TO WATCH



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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