



Richard C. Barth

January 24, 1947 - March 18, 2017

Rick Barth sailed off into the sunset the night of March 17, 2017 after a long fight with cancer. He passed away the morning of the 18th. His greatest regrets are not being able to take advantage of this Snook fishing season and continuing his work on Palmer Ranch- for which he devoted his last twenty years.

Rick is survived by his son Zachary and brother Bob. The Barth clan moved to Sarasota in the '50's.

Rick enjoyed threatening the snowbirds, spending time on the water and creating a name for Palmer Ranch's environmental initiative which has been noted by UF and other environmental organizations as a premier large scale community in terms of natural preservation within the state of FL.

Rick leaves behind many friends, Sarasota preservation projects and an eternal mark upon the local community for which he dedicated his life to improving.

A Celebration of Life will be on Siesta Beach at 7:00 a.m. March 23.

Comments



“ Was a friend of Rick's at Brookside Junior High in the early 60's when we used to take his boat out on Philippi Creek. Over 50-years later I met him again coincidentally at a Philippi Creek restaurant.

Within a short time we were friends again despite the passage of time. He told me of his health issue but it didn't seem to affect his joy of living or his devotion to friends and family. He was the same old Rick I knew growing up but with an added dimension of courage to face whatever was to happen.

It's with great sorrow to recently learn of his passing as I was looking forward to seeing him again. However, I'm grateful for the brief time that we did spend together.

Bill Etherton - January 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ I will miss Rick very much! He was always so generous with sharing his vast knowledge of Palmer Ranch and my favorite park, Culverhouse Nature Park. I loved listening to him. And I enjoyed watching him fly his exquisite kites on Siesta Beach! Here is a photo of him explaining the various habitats in CNP back in 2009.



Catherine Dente - March 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM



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Catherine Dente - March 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ My wife and I first met Rick in late 1971. He and I were both in the Air Force and were neighbors in an off base apartment complex. We hit it off right away, we played cards and partied in Las Vegas on a regular basis. When I was discharged in September of 1972 Rick invited us to go to Sarasota later that month. Rick was the ultimate tour guide, he loved his hometown and knew every nook and cranny that was a good time. After we returned to the San Diego area we lost contact with each other. To make a long story short I used Classmates to reconnect with Rick in Oct. 2013. My wife and I are so grateful to have been able to share the last three plus years catching up with each other's lives even if only by phone and emails. Rick was already fighting a courageous fight with cancer and his biggest concern was how much time he had left to be with his son Zachary. His love and pride for Zachary helped fuel his desire to beat his disease. When I found out in 2015 that I too had prostate cancer he was there to offer support and encouragement. That's what friends do, and Rick will forever live in my heart. God Bless You Rick, and God Bless Zachary.

Mike and Diana Richardson - March 23, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick was a dear friend of mine for over 15 years, and I'll always remember him flying his kites at the beach out on Siesta Key, working hard to improve Palmer Ranch, playing foosball like he really meant it, sharing good times with friends around the fire at night, and always trying to invent some new gizmo that would do something better than the current gizmo. Rick was inquisitive to a fault and was never afraid to take chances to try something new.

He lived life to the fullest and was full of love for his friends and most of all, his son Zack. He had a big heart that never stopped giving.

Most of all, he was a great father to Zack, and was extremely proud of him. His face would break into such a big grin as he talked about him - he was truly a proud dad.

I will miss you dearly, Rick, and all the fun times and long talks we shared. You did well here, and left a great legacy in Palmer Ranch and the work you accomplished there, but an even greater and more important legacy in your son - you will live on through him, and I know he will continue to make you proud.

Farewell, my friend. Sail on, as we strike eight bells, and pray you reach safe harbor.

Diana Visser - March 23, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ We remember Dick very well. He was a very funny guy.....We are sorry for your lose Bob. We miss you guys...

Jay & Adrienne Frank

March 23, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick gave a guy like me a chance, and taught me a lot. A wealth of wisdom and a kind heart. You will be missed!

Jeremy Hampson - March 22, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ I met Rick in 1999 and we immediately hit it off. He told me that he loved to fly kites and I told him I did too, except that my kites were bigger, they were hang gliders. We laughed about that and became good friends. He loved getting the hang gliding calendars I gave him many Christmases. I finally talked him into going up to Wallaby Ranch near Davenport, FL where my friend has a hang gliding school. He took a training flight with Malcolm and had a tremendous time and later he and Zach went back and each took a flight. We thoroughly enjoyed getting together on Siesta Beach when he was flying his kites. Zach, I am so sorry to hear of his passing and I hope to see you again. He was SO VERY proud of you !!! So sail on Rick, as said previously, soar with the eagles, you've done it before and now you can do it forever. I will miss you my friend !

John Graham - March 22, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ I always enjoyed Rick's smiling face at RHS. He was a great classmate. Soar with the eagles, Rick. You will be missed.

Dale (Robbins) Burton - RHS Class of '65

Dale Burton - March 21, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Our breakfast's together over the years and his deep discussions about Sarasota, Palmer Ranch, fishing, boating and life. Surely will miss you friend.

Al Mahan - March 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM