

## Robert "Rick" Shaw

April 15, 1935 - August 5, 2021

Robert J. "Rick" Shaw, 86, Ozawkie, Kansas, passed away peacefully in his home on Thursday, August 5, 2021, with his wife, Diane, by his side.

Robert was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, on April 15, 1935, the son of John Joseph Shaw, Sr. and Claire Parsells Shaw. His father, John, immigrated to the United States from Clonmel, County Tipperary, Ireland, when he was 11 years old and was one of 16 siblings. The rest of the family came to the U.S. a few at a time by boat and entered through Ellis Island. John married Claire Parsells and together they had six children, Robert, Joan, John, Ruth, Claire, Kathi.

As a young boy Robert, then known as "Bobby", picked up various work to help support the family. Beginning at ten years old, He would throw papers with his trusty dog, Butch, by his side, later sold eggs and fresh produce, and in his early teens, Bobby was hired to give pony rides at Asbury Park. In high school, Bobby enjoyed playing in a band where he and his brother John would play with the young Bruce Springsteen.

Just barely old enough to join the service, Rick became a member of the United States Air Force. He served as an aircraft mechanic and was also drummer for the military band. He was sent various places to play for fellow services men and women. Rick recalled once how they were playing a gig in

North Africa but suddenly had to take shelter due to bomb sirens going off. After danger had past, they returned to their instruments and finished playing. He also shared a frightening story of when on base in North Africa how he was walking along and suddenly heard a fire of bullets hitting the sand behind him, frantic, Rick ran for cover amazingly avoiding the rain of bullets that chased behind him. When stationed in Topeka at Forbes Field, Rick met his first wife Nada; they had three sons, John, Jim and Jay B. Later, while working at the Kiwi Radio Station and adopting the nickname "Rick" he met his second wife, Susan Rodgers; they had three children, Kimberly, Kelli and Patrick. Rick and Susan ran and operated their company Exceptional Advertising.

In 1997, Rick married Diane Arendt and they celebrated 24 years of marriage. They continued the advertising business as Exceptional Advertising Specialties until Rick's retirement in 2004. Diane continues to run the business.

Rick lived life to the fullest and loved to make everyone around him smile, children and adults alike. Whether singing a Willie Nelson song to a complete stranger, waving to a baby across the way or talking like Donald Duck to a little toddler at a grandchildren's ballgame, Rick always had fun. His favorite pastimes were spending time with family, golfing and Karaoke. Rick and Diane enjoyed wintering in Florida as well as attending their grandchildren's sporting events. Rick is loved by many and will be truly missed.

Over the past 20 years recently Rick enjoyed golfing with family and friends, caddying for Patrick in golf tournaments, assistant supervisor for Kelli's "ice cream shop" and Patrick's lawn mowing customers, frequent visits with the children and grandchildren, extended winter stays in Florida, many times meeting friends from Kansas and singing karaoke. Also, well known by many as Willie Nelson for his love of singing to all and having an annual route for passing out Christmas gifts to all six children and grandchildren.

Rick is survived by his wife, Diane; children, John Shaw (Sharon), Jim Shaw (Jana), Jay Shaw (Melanie), Kimberly "Kimmy" Hinck (Lonnie), Kelli Shaw and Patrick Shaw (Sarah); 13 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; siblings, Joan Legreggin, Claire D'Andrea (Mark) and Kathi Orozco. He was preceded in death by his granddaughter, McKenzie Hinck and siblings, John Shaw, Jr. and Ruth Wiley.

Visitation will be 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, August 18, 2021, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Rosary will be prayed at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, August 19, 2021, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 312 NE Freeman Avenue, Topeka KS 66616. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Church. Funeral will be live streamed on the funeral home Facebook Page.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Rick Shaw Memorial Fund, and sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka KS 66614. Condolences may be sent online to [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Hope Cemetery

4700 SW 17th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 18. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
[info@kevinbrennanfamily.com](mailto:info@kevinbrennanfamily.com)

## Rosary

AUG 19. 12:30 PM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
312 NE Freeman Ave  
Topeka, KS 66616

## Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 19. 1:00 PM (CT)

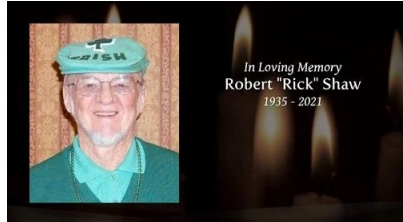
Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
312 NE Freeman Ave  
Topeka, KS 66616



# Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert "Rick" Shaw



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - August 18, 2021 at 04:22 PM



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Robert "Rick" Shaw



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - August 09, 2021 at 09:30 AM

MP

Great guy. Always, a smile for everyone. He will be missed.  
Love to Diane, Patrick and all the family.

Maggie Prellwitz

Maggie Prellwitz - August 11, 2021 at 03:35 PM



“ Robert "Rick" Shaw

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM

KB

“ So sorry for your loss Diane!! Sending prayers your way!!

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**Kathleen Browne** - August 19, 2021 at 04:00 PM

SF

“ Diane, Wally and I were so sad to hear of Rick's passing. Always had a smile on his face, so much fun to golf with, and his love for karaoke! Our thoughts are with you during this time and beyond. May our Lord bring you the peace and comfort at this time.

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**Shelly Deines Finn** - August 19, 2021 at 02:19 AM

SW

“ Diane,

*I can't imagine how lost you must feel. You and Rick did so much together. No matter where I ran into the both of you, you were always having fun. I miss seeing Rick and Dad at the golf course but I always remember how much fun they had, giving each other a hard time. I'm sorry I missed the visitation but please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Susie Weick*

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**Susie Weick** - August 18, 2021 at 11:27 PM

SW

“ What a nice man!!  
Always with a smile and I loved dealing with him in business for years. Condolences Diane.

*Stan Walker*  
*Stan's Auto Sales*

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**Stan Walker** - August 18, 2021 at 08:05 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Robert "Rick" Shaw.*



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August 18, 2021 at 02:47 PM



“ *I don't ever remember seeing Rick without a smile on his face even when playing with novice golf partners. I will miss that smile & hearing him sing. Deepest sympathy. Char Richards*

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**Char Richards** - August 18, 2021 at 02:26 PM

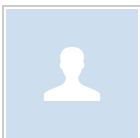


“ *Memories of my big brother Bob and I. He was such a kind, loving, and caring brother.*



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**joan legregin** - August 18, 2021 at 12:34 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "Rick" Shaw.*



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August 17, 2021 at 12:49 PM

KO

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Kathi S Orozco** - August 16, 2021 at 08:01 PM

SM

“ *Sisters Joan, Claire & Kathi (& Mark) purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Robert "Rick" Shaw.*



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**Sisters Joan, Claire & Kathi (& Mark)** - August 15, 2021 at 10:17 PM

“ My dear sweet brother. You were already moved out of the house and in the air force by the time I was born. I still have the telegram you sent mom to congratulate her on my birth. Though we never lived in the same house growing up- as you were the Big Older Brother- your love filled my heart. There are so many memories of fun times together when you and the boys moved back to NJ and you had a dry cleaning business. Your boat in Shark River and then I was so sad when you moved back to Kansas.

Then there were fun memories of your new home in Ozakie that you were building. I remember you drove sister Joan and I to the water tower in a truck to fill your big container with water since the house didn't have running water yet. When we got back to your house, you used rain gutters connected to the truck to drain the water from the truck into your well or tank or whatever!!!!

I remember your visits to see Mark and I with the girls in Neshanic NJ when your girls were little and most importantly you didn't miss any of my kids weddings. You and Diane traveled to CA to attend the weddings- was it for me or the dancing parties or the beer??? Not sure but we were honored you both took the time to share in the joys with us!!

I loved the time when I was at a meeting in Kansas City Missouri and you and Diane picked me up so I could stay with you a couple of days. You drove me to see, Jimmy, Jay and John and then made sure Kimmie and Lonnie invited us to dinner so I could spend some time with them, Kellie and Patrick. And lest I forget, you drove me in the golf cart around the course you loved to play golf at!!! OH and one more thing- on the way home you stopped to buy one beer, you opened the bottle and drove home sipping for the drive home. You told me that was your ritual. "One more for the road brother" I wish I could hug you one more time, joke with you, sing with you and say "How ya doing? in the Jersey accent or how do you feel - singing "I feel good doodle loodle loo- so good, so good, cause I got you!!!!

*Thank you for the love, the laugh, the dances, the jokes, the memories but most of all for enriching my life. I love you brother, The Irish Bear!!!*

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**Claire D'Andrea-Bobs sister** - August 15, 2021 at 06:28 PM

CS

“ 13 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Claire D'Andrea-Bobs sister** - August 15, 2021 at 06:16 PM

AN

“ Diane,

*We had so much fun playing couples club golf with you guys. Win or lose we always had a good laugh. I know it has been tough the last couple years, we have missed hanging out and playing games, but am sure he is in a blessed place today.*

*Love to you, Patrick and all the family*

*,  
Dennis and Angela Purinton*

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**Angela** - August 11, 2021 at 04:30 PM

ED

“ Can't begin to share all the great memories we have of Rick on and off the golf course here at Lake Perry CC. He was everyone's friend and was a joy to be around. He will certainly missed by all. Our sincere condolences. Ed & Sharon Delk

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**Ed & Sharon Delk** - August 10, 2021 at 07:35 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Robert "Rick" Shaw.



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August 09, 2021 at 04:00 PM

KC

“ *Diane, Deepest Sympathy from your LULAC Senior Center Family. Fly high Rick, until we meet again.*

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**Kathy, and Topeka LULAC Senior Center** - August 09, 2021 at 09:40 AM