



Richard "Dick" VanDeusen

November 7, 1944 - August 20, 2018

Richard Cook, "Dick", VanDeusen of Claverack, NY passed away peacefully at Columbia Memorial Hospital after a brief illness on Monday, August 20, 2018. Dick was born in Claverack, NY on November 7th, 1944 and lived his entire life as an integral part of the lovely town. He was a graduate of Hudson High School in 1964 and began his career as a craftsman at Louis Paul Jonas Studio where he was a member of the team that constructed the nine life size dinosaurs for the Sinclair Refining Company exhibit at the 1964 World's Fair in New York City and the iconic Blue Whale that hangs over the main floor of the American Museum of Natural History. After his time at Jonas Studio, Dick was a designer and craftsman at Nightwatch Lamp Company followed by years of service at Valley Oil and as the right-hand man for his Uncle Leon Cook, Jr. Dick lived a devoted life of service for numerous organizations that are the fabric of the Town of Claverack including 54 years with A.B. Shaw Fire Company, a congregant and Consistory Elder of the Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack, leadership roles with Claverack Fire District #1 as well as assistance to anyone who needed a helping hand along the way. He was Secretary of the A.B. Shaw Fire Company and Treasurer of the Columbia County Volunteer Firefighter's Association at the time of his passing. Preceded in death by his parents Cary and Dorothy VanDeusen and brother James, Dick is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Frieda; son DJ, wife Maureen and grandchildren Hunter and Victoria; daughter Jennifer White, husband Dennis and grandchildren Liam and Jillian; and numerous nieces,

nephews, and friends who he considered family.

The family invites those who would like to join them for a Celebration of Life on Sunday August 26, 2018 from 11:00AM to 3:00PM, to please do so at the AB Shaw Firehouse, 67 Route 23, Claverack. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the A. B. Shaw Fire Company, Drawer A, Claverack, NY 12513 or to FASNY – Firemen’s Home, 107 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG **26**. 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM (ET)

A.B. Shaw Fire Company
67 Route 23
Claverack, NY 12513

Tribute Wall

JF

“ I also graduated from HHS with Dick. He was one of the nicest, sweetest boys in our class. He always had a smile and nice word for everyone. I am very sorry for your loss.

Jean Earley Fox

Jean I Fox - August 26, 2018 at 12:52 PM

TF

“ DJ, Mo, Hunter and Victoria - We are so very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The Fettig Family

Tracey Fettig - August 23, 2018 at 09:30 PM

RS

“ Please accept our deepest condolences. We mourn Dick's passing, but celebrate his life. Millie, Barb and Bobby Spoor

Robert Spoor - August 23, 2018 at 11:24 AM

DR

“ Very sorry for your loss, your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

D. Scott Reed - August 22, 2018 at 02:51 PM

TR

“ DJ, I am so sorry to hear of your Father's passing. You and your family are in my prayers. Tony Riggi



Tony Riggi - August 22, 2018 at 12:44 PM

VG

“ Vickie And Brian Goodrich lit a candle in memory of Richard "Dick" VanDeusen



Vickie and Brian Goodrich - August 22, 2018 at 09:14 AM

RZ

“ To the Van Deusen Family , I like to pass along my condolences about the hearing of Dick's passing, we both graduated from Hudson High 1962 . I remember him as a fun loving and smart , it was a pleasure to have known him in school . Again sorry for your loss, Ray Zempko !

Raymond Zempko - August 22, 2018 at 08:27 AM

TS

“ Fond memories of a “great person”
RIP Dick. Tom & Greta Schindler
Longs SC

Thomas Schindler - August 22, 2018 at 08:23 AM

DS

I miss Dick, very compassionate, big heart, very thoughtful, wonderful family, my condolences to family, I know Dick, Jim, Wanda are all watching over us

Dawn Slater

Daw slater - October 19, 2018 at 07:14 PM