



Richard T. Bower

June 16, 1949 - November 2, 2022

Richard T. Bower, 73, of Argyle, Texas, passed away Wednesday, November 2, 2022. Rich was born in Perry, Iowa on June 16, 1949, to Robert O. Bower and Helen A. Potter. In his childhood, he enjoyed all his neighborhood friends on Eastern Avenue and could often be found terrorizing the area in a coonskin cap. He also enjoyed walking his pet goose, Festus.

In high school, Rich played the drums in a band called the Henchmen, formed with four friends. He also worked summers for his father at Bower & Bower Construction. During this time, he met the love of his life, Bette Conard. Rich graduated from Perry High School in 1967, married Bette in Perry, Iowa on January 31, 1970, and later graduated from Simpson College in 1971.

After working at the Leather Guild in Adel, Iowa and Ski Country Components in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, Richard began a long career in the food service industry in the Des Moines area where he and Bette welcomed their son, Benjamin, in 1979.

The family then relocated to Texas in 1984 where Rich's unique personality allowed the family to be introduced to some unbelievable neighbors that remain lifelong friends. Rich made a career change becoming an executive recruiter which he did until his retirement.

Rich enjoyed spending time at the lake, attending numerous family activities, alien theories, listening to music, and had a love of animals, especially dogs.

Richard is survived by his wife, Bette; son, Benjamin of Fort Worth, Texas; in-laws, Carol and David Schipper of Indianola, Iowa, JoAnn Conard of Vero Beach, Florida, James Jr. and Becky Conard of Earlham, Iowa, Patricia Walker of Cabot, Arkansas, and Jeff Clemens of Chillicothe, Missouri.

He was adored and loved by his numerous nieces & nephews who enjoyed his creative storytelling and his genius sense of humor.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Barbara Bower and Mary Clemens; and in-laws, James and Veneta Conard.

A memorial to be scheduled at a later date. Online condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Terri Slay and Slay Memorial Funeral Center.

Tribute Wall

MB

“ Admittedly, it takes me awhile to process some of the blows in life. Rich's passing was one for sure. Denny and I were a part of this great neighborhood of friends. Rich was definitely the glue. We still laugh remembering, whenever we couldn't find Denny, just had to check with Bette to see if Denny was at their house with Rich. Of course, he was.

They would be listening to music...watching Football...discussing politics, etc., etc. One of Rich's many attributes, he was always interested in what you had to say. It was a good thing that Bette didn't mind company!?!? He was loved by so many. Thanks for the Memories.

I'm sure Denny and John welcomed Rich with open arms and a Martini.

I can picture them listening to Tunes and catching up.

Marsha Buckles - March 14, 2023 at 05:08 AM

RS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rusty Schulze - November 17, 2022 at 11:15 PM

ES

“ Rich and Bette were the first to welcome us to our new Bedford neighborhood - and oh, what a neighborhood it was! Rich was at the heart of it, with his wit and wonderful sense of humor. It was always an adventure when Flyn and Rich got together! Oh, the memories! Our get-togethers and trips are still "famous" in my mind, and were the best of times. An absence of months or years was like only a minute when we got back together. Rich being gone is like having a hole in the universe. Rich, you were - and are - well-loved! Always, always, we'll remember!

Ellen Simmons - November 10, 2022 at 10:00 AM

BY

John and I were part of that terrific neighborhood crew. There were so many fun gatherings. We spent hours by the pool playing games of Trivial Pursuit and have arguments about what rock groups played what songs before we could just "Google" the answers. Rich wasn't above calling the local radio station to get the answer and was usually right. Rich, you will so be missed by your loved ones and friends.

Barbara Yunket - November 12, 2022 at 08:23 AM

AB

We were so sad to hear of Rich's passing. Can't be! Though it has been awhile since we have been together, you have no idea of the number of times that you two have come up in our memories & conversations. Our time in that Bedford neighborhood was the best of times. The music (how great was that new MTV!) .. the parties & "recovery days" .. Trivial Pursuit .. the pies .. soo many great memories. Our family loved the man .. he was the center of everything. Todd & Joel thought he was so cool .. & he was. I am sure it is hard for you to imagine life without his physical presence .. but you can be comforted in knowing that Rich has merely "left the building" .. his wonderful spirit lives on. Our love & condolences to his two favorite people .. Bette & Ben.

Hal & Ardith Bartlett

Ardith Bartlett - November 12, 2022 at 04:16 PM

RS

I just posted a photo of Rich and Bette, from back in the day, at one of our Halloween parties....I recall Hardman as Forrest Gump, and the other Gary as Braveheart...we all ended up heading to Dennys about 2:00 a.m. (still in costumes)!

Rusty Schulze - November 17, 2022 at 11:26 PM