



## Roderic Gordon Steinkamp

October 20, 1939 - November 25, 2024

Roderic Gordon Steinkamp, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, teacher, and friend, passed away on November 25th, 2024. He was 85 years old.

Born on October 20, 1939, in Newton, Massachusetts, Roderic “Rick” was the son of Alfred F. Steinkamp and Eileene Goudey Steinkamp, and grew up with his beloved sister, Dawn.

Rick is survived by the love of his life and wife of 58 years, Katy H. Steinkamp; his self-proclaimed greatest accomplishments – his two sons, Roderic J Steinkamp (Erica Stine) and Gregory G. Steinkamp (Kelly); and his three adored grandchildren, Carlos, Jakes, and Lindsey.

Rick graduated from Andover Academy and went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in political science from Yale University in 1961 and a master’s degree in political science from UNLV in 1998.

After graduating from Yale, Rick began a successful career in the publishing industry, working for prestigious companies including Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Houghton Mifflin, and Macmillan where he helped shape educational publishing for many years. His career culminated with his position as President of the School Division at McGraw-Hill/MacMillan.

Rick was deeply passionate about three pursuits he often referred to as his

"Three Ps" – publishing, poker, and politics. After retiring from publishing, he and Katy moved to Las Vegas, where he continued to chase his passions. His second year in Las Vegas, Rick achieved an impressive fourth-place finish in the World Series of Poker, solidifying his place in the competitive poker world.

Rick also became deeply involved in his community. He served on the board of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Nevada, took on a "little brother" of his own and was named Big Brother of the Year in 1993. In addition, he ran for political office in 1998 as a candidate for assemblyman in District 21, narrowly losing to an entrenched incumbent. His campaign, however, opened the door to a new chapter, as he was invited to teach political science at UNLV.

Teaching became one of Rick's greatest joys. He was a dedicated educator at UNLV and later at the College of Southern Nevada, where he taught until he was 83 years old. Over that period, he received the highest student evaluations of all Poly Sci adjunct professors, a recognition he cherished as a testament to his positive impact on his students.

In his later years, Rick found immense joy in watching his grandchildren grow into young adults, taking pride in their achievements and the positive impacts they are making on the world. He also continued to follow his favorite sports teams, particularly his beloved San Francisco 49ers and Giants, the Las Vegas Raiders, the Los Angeles Clippers and probably his favorite, the WNBA's Las Vegas Aces.

Rick was known for his kindness, humor, and unwavering commitment to his beliefs. He was a passionate man who always sought to do the right thing and to leave the world a little better than he found it. While his family takes comfort in knowing he is at peace, they will miss him dearly and will always carry his memory in their hearts.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Donate to St Jude in Memory of Rick ([https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Memorials/Memorials?px=8661280&pg=personal&fr\\_id=154020](https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Memorials/Memorials?px=8661280&pg=personal&fr_id=154020))

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Tribute Wall



“ Rick was always quick with a smile and a kind word when I had the pleasure of crossing paths with him when I moved my family into our first home next door. Both he and his wonderful wife Katie were endlessly warm, gracious, and welcoming to my wife and daughters as well, sharing treats and even bringing them Christmas presents. I am very grateful for the hours he and spent exploring our shared interest in baseball, history, politics, and teaching, which we both loved doing as well. Rick will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by everyone that had the pleasure of meeting him. I miss my friend.

Jason Margolis - December 04, 2024 at 08:52 PM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Roderic Gordon Steinkamp.

November 27, 2024 at 02:51 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Roderic Gordon Steinkamp.



November 26, 2024 at 05:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Roderic Gordon Steinkamp.

November 26, 2024 at 05:42 PM




*“ I miss our visits. Rest in peace my friend.*

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**Melissa** - November 26, 2024 at 01:58 PM



*“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Roderic Gordon Steinkamp.*



November 25, 2024 at 05:51 PM



*“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Roderic Gordon Steinkamp.*

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November 25, 2024 at 05:51 PM