



Joseph 'Rick' Stepanek

March 13, 1955 - January 2, 2026

Joseph 'Rick' Stepanek, 70, of Grand Island, passed away on January 2, 2026, at CHI Health St. Francis. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, January 12th at 10 am, at Blessed Sacrament Church with Father Robin Bashir officiating. Burial will follow at Westlawn Cemetery. Visitation will be on Sunday, January 11th from 5-7 pm, with a Rosary at 7 pm, also at the church. All Faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.

Rick was born on March 13, 1955, in St. Paul, to Leonard and Rita (Knapik) Stepanek. He was raised and received his education in the St. Paul area, graduating from St. Paul High School in 1974.

On September 22, 1984, Rick was united in marriage to Mary Ann Smith. The couple made their home in Grand Island, where Rick worked for Hall County for 45 years until his retirement in March of 2025.

Rick was a member of Blessed Sacrament Church. In his spare time, he enjoyed gardening, both vegetables and flowers. He also liked to dabble in carpentry and plumbing. He was very handy in repairs. Rick was also a huge fan of red tractors.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Mary Ann; children, Heather (José) Medrano, Brian Stepanek, Jeff (Vanessa) Stepanek; grandchildren, Kaja, Victor, Brielle, and Victoria; siblings, Lenny (Kay) Stepanek, Frank (Mary) Stepanek, Dwayne Stepanek, Mike Stepanek, Mark (Linda) Stepanek, Dee (Mark) Crane, Gloria Stepanek, Jackie (Kenny) Markvicka; brothers and sisters-in-law, Mike (Phyllis) Smith, Joan Wiese, Jim (Gloria) Smith, Dick

Smith, Janet (Rich) Savageau; and many other extended family members. Rick was preceded in death by his parents; in-laws John and Rosemary Smith; brothers-in-laws, Jerry Smith, Roger Smith and Bob Wiese. Memorials are suggested to the family for later designation.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
518 West State Street
Grand Island, NE 68801

Rosary

JAN 11. 7:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
518 West State Street
Grand Island, NE 68801

Funeral Mass

JAN 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
518 West State Street
Grand Island, NE 68801

Burial

JAN 12. 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

Westlawn Memorial Park
3826 West Stolley Park Road
Grand Island, NE 68803

Tribute Wall

AS

“ Rick was way more than a friend he was family to me. I will forever miss the laughs that we shared and the heart to heart talks. Rick you will forever be missed and hold a special place in my heart

Angelina Solis - January 10 at 03:45 PM

KE

“ KAAPA Ethanol planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph 'Rick' Stepanek.

KAAPA Ethanol - January 09 at 01:26 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph 'Rick' Stepanek.



January 09 at 01:26 PM

AS

“ Angie Solis & Randy Sorgenfrei planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph 'Rick' Stepanek.

Angie Solis & Randy Sorgenfrei - January 09 at 12:25 PM

AS

“ Angie Solis & Randy Sorgenfrei purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joseph 'Rick' Stepanek.



Angie Solis & Randy Sorgenfrei - January 09 at 12:25 PM

JL

“ Judge Patrick Lee planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph 'Rick' Stepanek.

Judge Patrick Lee - January 09 at 11:16 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph 'Rick' Stepanek.



January 09 at 11:16 AM

BW

“ My condolences to Rick's family. It was always a joy when I would catch sight of Rick at the County building. His smile and easy kindness were one of the best parts of my days there.

B Wylie - January 09 at 06:17 AM

TW

“ *Mary Ann and Brian and Jeff and family..we are so sorry to hear about Rick. Thoughts and prayers to you all ❤️ 🙏❤️ 🙏 He was sure a character always a smile, a wave, a hello neighbor, loved to give him a hard time..but he would always have something to say and also have a good day until we meet again...*

The wissings - January 08 at 09:39 PM

RS

“ *Prayers for you all as we remember Rick. So many memorable Boy Scout trips with our boys thru the years. Rick was always there helping as we managed the many scout trips. He will be missed.*



Rick & Cathy Sekora - January 08 at 09:57 AM

JB

“ *Mary Ann and all the Family
We're so sorry to hear the sad news. He was a great guy, always helping neighbors in so many ways. He will be missed.
Neighborhood won't be the same.*

Jackie Behle - January 07 at 03:21 PM