



Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr.

March 17, 2025

Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr., 70, of Rochester, New York, passed away peacefully on March 17, 2025 at Strong Memorial Hospital. Richard was born on September 2nd, 1954, in Rochester, New York, to Richard Saunders and Marilyn Ann Saunders (née Welsh). He is survived by his two sons, Adam R. Saunders and Christopher J. Saunders, his daughter, Jeanine Marie Lyn Saunders, and his brother, Kym Saunders.

Richard was a graduate of the Albion College, School of Business, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. Following his education, he began his career at Ron Ink Co. of Rochester, working as Production Manager. Through dedication and expertise, he rose through the ranks and was appointed Vice President and General Manager in 1987 after 12 years in the ink and graphic arts industry. Rick also had a passion for security and protective services, working in administrative security and public safety for organizations such as Airport-Holiday Inn, St. Ann's Community, Kodak, and the Xerox Corporation.

A private pilot, Rick found some of his greatest joy soaring through the skies. After earning his private pilot's license in 1993, he embraced the freedom and thrill of flight. Whether taking off on a clear morning or sharing stories of his 1974 Piper PA28-151, he lived with the heart of an aviator. When his feet were on the ground, he could be found behind the wheel of a beautifully preserved Cadillac Coupe DeVille or Eldorado, or admiring the sleek curves of a Chevrolet Corvette—two of his greatest automotive loves.

Richard was a proud member of the American Society for Quality, the Michigan Professional Police Association, and the New York State Sheriffs' Association.

A Celebration of Life Ceremony for Richard will be held on April 5th at 12PM to 3PM at the EAA Chapter 44 Aviation Center, 44 Eisenhower Dr, Brockport, NY.

"When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.' 'Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?'" – 1 Corinthians 15:54-56

Tribute Wall

RM

“ Rick McCutchan lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr.



Rick McCutchan - April 05, 2025 at 09:29 PM

RM

“ This is hard to wrap my head around. Rick and I grew up as next door neighbors and best friends starting when I was about 5 and he was 7. We grew up and did everything together all those years and into junior high and high school. Being 2 years ahead of me though, we only saw each other when I was in 7th and he was in 9th. He went on to high school and I didn't get to catch up to him again until I got into 10th and he was a senior. Even living next door still, our lives had just just taken different directions all along and we never saw each other any more. The last time I talked to him was that last year he was in HS, that would be around 1973! He went on to further education, I finished HS and went to work, our paths never crossed again! In another fateful twist, I'm at my aunt's celebration of life when I hear of his passing, it just so happens that his celebration of life is at the exact same time! What were the odds? I'm so sorry we never, ever got to catch up again - and to find out that we both became private pilots even, what are the odds of that? Oh the conversations we could've had all these decades. RIP my long lost friend, until we meet again. Maybe then we'll have time to catch up on the last 58 years maybe?

Rick McCutchan - April 05, 2025 at 09:25 PM

DC

“ Dave Carr lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr.



Dave Carr - March 24, 2025 at 04:08 PM

DO

“ Dave&Patty O'Brien lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr.



Dave&Patty O'Brien - March 24, 2025 at 12:41 PM

KS

“ Rick and I were in the same class in high school and he was such a nice guy. He was always smiling and nice to everyone. He was a wonderful person to know and my thoughts and prayers are going out to his family.

Karen S. - March 24, 2025 at 09:41 AM

A4

“ American Legion Post 494 purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr..



American Legion Post 494 - March 23, 2025 at 08:57 PM

A4

“ American Legion Post 494 planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr..

American Legion Post 494 - March 23, 2025 at 08:57 PM

JM

“ JEAN MCCULLOCH lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr.



JEAN MCCULLOCH - March 23, 2025 at 04:52 PM

MS

“ I worked with Rock at the Holiday Inn for a few years. I remained in contact with him since then. He, I, and our friend Kathy would go to the movies sometimes. He was a fun guy to be around & he will be missed.



Mark Sample - March 23, 2025 at 03:23 PM

MS

I meant to write Rick & not Rock...

Mark Sample - March 23, 2025 at 03:23 PM

TO

“ Tom O'Brien lit a candle in memory of Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr.



Tom O'Brien - March 23, 2025 at 11:20 AM

KO

“ *Our sympathy to the Saunders family, we enjoyed having Rick over for Thanksgiving and Christmas over the years we will miss him.
The family of Kathy O'Brien*

Kathy O'Brien - March 23, 2025 at 10:14 AM

KO

“ *Kathy O'Brien lit a candle in memory of
Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr.*



Kathy O'Brien - March 23, 2025 at 10:04 AM

KV

“ *KAREN J VERSACE lit a candle in memory of
Richard "Rick" Gayne Saunders Jr.*



KAREN j VERSACE - March 23, 2025 at 10:03 AM