



Richard J. Zabinski

March 27, 1950 - December 21, 2015

Richard J. Zabinski, P.E., of Albany, NY died at Albany Medical Center on Monday, December 21, 2015 having recently been diagnosed with cancer. He was 65.

Born in Albany on March 27, 1950, Richard was the son of Joseph Zabinski and the late Florence (Smolinski) Zabinski. A graduate of Christian Brothers Academy, Richard completed his undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering at RPI in 1971 and earned his Master of Science in Transportation Engineering at Union College. He served in the Army Corps of Engineers, attaining the rank of Captain. Richard retired after a long career at the New York State Department of Transportation. He had many professional affiliations and accomplishments, having served as the International Director of District 1 of the Institute of Traffic Engineers, and as the 8th President of the Intelligent Transportation Society of New York (ITS-NY). He was an inaugural inductee of the ITS-NY Hall of Fame.

A man of eclectic and eccentric interests, Richard loved the outdoors, enjoyed exploring state and national parks, and was member of the Mohawk-Hudson Power Squadron and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. A lifetime member of Mensa, Richard enjoyed attending science cafes and was a regular participant at the SciTech Cafe in Amherst, MA. He was also an avid amateur radio operator and an accomplished photographer.

In addition to his father, Richard is survived by his two brothers, Michael (Patricia) Zabinski and Raymond (Linda) Zabinski. He was also the uncle of Joseph, Kevin, Stephanie, Mary Catherine, and Peter Zabinski. His gentle manner and sense of humor will be dearly missed.

Relatives and friends are invited and may visit with Richard's family on Wednesday, December 23, 2015 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm in the Lasak & Gigliotti Funeral Home, now located at 208 North Allen Street, Albany.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, December 24, 2015 at 9:00 am at Blessed Sacrament Church, Albany. Interment will immediately follow the Mass at Our Lady of Angels Cemetery, Colonie.

Those wishing to remember Richard in a special way may send contributions to the American Cancer Society, 1 Penny Lane, Latham, NY 12110.

To leave Richard's family a message on their guestbook, obtain directions or view other helpful services, please visit www.LGfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Our Lady of Angels Cemetery

1389 Central Ave
Albany, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **23**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Lasak & Gigliotti Funeral Directors
208 North Allen Street
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 463-1566

Service

DEC **24**. 9:00 AM (ET)

Blessed Sacrament Church
607 Central Ave
Albany, NY 12206

Tribute Wall

KS

“ I last talked with Zab (what we all called him) in 1980 at the cafeteria on the State Office Building Campus, so it's been a while. I had just moved back to the area from Houston. We lost touch after that, We shared a love of cars, which i'll always cherish about him.

God bless you, his family.

Prayerfully, in Zab's memory,

Kevin D. Smith

CBA '67

RPI '72

Always Zab's friend

Kevin D. Smith - December 28, 2015 at 10:16 AM

SG

“ To Rick's family and my transportation colleagues, I grieve with you in the loss of a humble and dedicated professional.

I met Rick many years ago when I worked at the Federal Highway Administration in Albany and Rick was in planning. My most recent memories of Rick were when I came to NYSDOT and Rick asked me to speak at the ITS-NY Annual Meeting at the Gideon Putnam Hotel in Saratoga Springs. He meticulously prepared notes for me to use in my remarks and always asked if there anything else he could do which I took as a subtle reminder about the upcoming meeting. During my tenure at NYSDOT I was a regular speaker at the Saratoga ITS-NY meeting due in no small part to Rick's efforts and his tireless work on behalf of ITS-NY. After retiring I missed seeing Rick and attending the Saratoga meetings, so I was so saddened to learn of his passing.

I will hold Rick in my prayers during Christmas season.

Stan Gee

Stan Gee - December 23, 2015 at 05:08 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard J. Zabinski.



December 23, 2015 at 07:18 AM

DD

“ Dotty Drinkwater purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Richard J. Zabinski.



Dotty Drinkwater - December 22, 2015 at 01:16 PM

DA

“ Rick was a dear friend and, after he retired from NYSDOT, we all looked forward to continue seeing him each year in June at the ITS-NY Annual Meeting and Technology Exhibition in Saratoga Springs. He was an outstanding devotee of ITS-NY from its inception and throughout the ensuing several decades. He served as our ITS-NY President and was an Inaugural Member of the ITS-NY Hall of Fame. More than that, Rick was a gentleman, a man of honor, and a dear friend. We will miss him deeply. Our extreme condolences to Rick's family, whom he treasured. The Officers, Board of Directors, Administrator, and Members of ITS-NY (the Intelligent Transportation Society of New York).

Dotty Drinkwater, ITS-NY Administrator - December 22, 2015 at 12:21 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Richard J. Zabinski.



December 22, 2015 at 11:01 AM