



## Richard Lee Hubbard

July 18, 1953 - May 30, 2014

Richard L. "Rich" Hubbard, age 60, of Dixon, died peacefully Friday, May 30, 2014, in his home surrounded by close family and friends. He was born July 18, 1953, in Freeport, the son of Dorothy (Straub) and Lawrence Hubbard. He was Director of Technology for Amboy Community School District 272, since 1999. He was also active in Boy Scouts of America and an avid photographer.

Rich married the love of his life, Jeanette Kutz in Dixon in 1985.

Not many people knew he was fighting for his life, from the dreaded disease, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease) per his wishes. He refused to let this disease dominate him and worked up until a few days before his death. Pity is unbearable when it's staring you in the face. The details are now trivial when you lose in the end. Do know that he was not alone in his fight, and the time of his death was not expected by anyone.

Rich took pride in everything he did. His step-father Bill always told him, "It doesn't matter what you do, just be the best at it." He worked extremely hard and in the end realized it was half responsible for shortening his life. One regret was not seeing a doctor sooner. Chicken soup and aspirin do not cure it all.

His wife Jeanette, son Richard J. (Sarah), and grandson Richard C., were the greatest loves in life. He just wished he had a couple more years to express the extreme pride and joy they brought to him. Also surviving him are his mother Dorothy Shearer of Lanark; siblings Larry (Darla) Hubbard of Lanark,

Brad (Dana) Hubbard of Oregon, Sherry Hubbard of Mt. Carroll, and Melvin (Becky) Hubbard of Shannon; his father Lawrence Hubbard of Lanark, and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his step-father Bill Shearer.

Rich had a very good heart and a strong personality. Like with family, you either liked him or you didn't. Most everyone did. He didn't mind one way or another. That was just Rich. Call him what you want, as long as it is not "Good ol' Boy," he disliked that old cliché.

No funeral services will be held, per his wishes. He didn't want the display.

Most traditional info has been omitted, because dead or alive you knew how he felt about you. He didn't mince words. His spirit lives on just like in his favorite song "Spirit in the Sky." Rich will be forever loved and missed, family pet Bella included.

A Celebration of Rich's life will take place on July 18, 2014, at a time and place to be determined. A memorial has been established.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Richard Lee Hubbard*

October 08, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *Richard Lee Hubbard*

December 31, 2022 at 02:40 AM



“ *While this is an opportunity to pay tribute to Rich, it can't be done without including his counterpart, Jeanette. I would like to refer to them as the dynamic duo as Rich silently walked the halls at Lincoln School with a serious look on his face, staff knew he was thinking about how to solve one of our technology problems or come up with a new way to support us and our students. Jeanette and Rich were a true team as they supported one another both in life as well as work. While for many years Jeanette was our main tech person, we had the benefit of both of their master minds working on our network. They would come in early and stay way beyond business hours to get the job done. The dynamic duo was so committed to helping other that they worked together in both districts. Rich always had the curiosity to learn more. Rich was a quiet, gentle man but his love for his family and helping others was clear. All who knew Rich knew he would do anything he could to help out a friend if possible. God Bless his family ---- may you find comfort in knowing Rich was respected by those who knew him.*



Shari Eddinger - June 21, 2014 at 08:59 AM

MA

“ I have only had the pleasure of knowing Rich for three years. Before I even met him I was impressed with the technology in the district. He was very humble about any accolades I offered. I am blessed that he & Jeanette befriended me and I gained a deeper appreciation of them as I watched their true love & caring for one another. Additionally, Rich was a futurist, he wasn't stuck in what was or what is, he was prepared to help students be 21st century learners and thinkers.

I am thankful for the after hours discussions, advice, caring and empathy Rich offered as a way to help me be successful or at least not take things personally.

It is said people come into our lives for a reason, Rich certainly helped me grow as a person and educator. I wasn't prepared to not have him here as I conclude my current job.

Rich and Jeanette you both hold a special place in my heart.

Peace be with you.

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**Mary Ann** - June 17, 2014 at 06:55 PM

DL

“ I met Rich when I worked at Apple and called on school districts. He was one of the most amazing people that I have ever had the pleasure of meeting and feel so lucky to have been able to call him a friend. To me Rich stood for everything good in this world.

Through him our families became friends and even though life gets crazy busy, Rich and gang have always and will continue to always be in our thoughts. This world lost a very special person last week. I hope that you have found peace Rich. I miss you very much!

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**dagmr ladle** - June 13, 2014 at 10:15 PM

CB

“ Jeanette and family, Wishing you wonderful memories at this difficult time. Cindy Byrd

Cindy Byrd - June 11, 2014 at 08:03 PM

BD

“ You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Rich was a wonderful man. I'm glad I got to see him a few weeks ago.  
Love you,  
Beth Dir

Beth Dir - June 11, 2014 at 04:13 PM

DG

“ We are so sorry for your loss.

Don & Laura (Bausman) Giedd - June 10, 2014 at 12:12 PM

BW

“ Rich was such an intelligent, caring, motivating person. I knew him through the ROE. He was such an inspiration and teacher. We have all been blessed to have had him in our lives. A light has gone out, now we must carry the candles forward in his honor. May you and your family find peace in the difficult days ahead. Know there are many of us who are holding you up during this time. God Bless, B. Wiegmann



B. Wiegmann - June 05, 2014 at 12:45 PM

JB

“ I read Rich's obituary in the Freeport Journal Standard, where I live. What a tribute. It read just as Rich really was. I had the privilege of working with Rich when I taught technology at AHS from 2006-2008. He was the best IT director I have ever worked with. He taught me so much in those two years. Rich made sure that the students and staff of AHS had the best hardware, software, and printers so our students could learn and use those skills in life after school. His shoes will be very difficult to fill. I pray that your family, friends, the Boy Scout family, and the community of the Amboy District give you the love and support that you need. Rich was a one-of-a-kind man and I will miss him. I am blessed to have known him. Jeannie (Yeske) Brinkmeier

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**Jeannie Brinkmeier** - June 04, 2014 at 07:49 PM

AM

“ We're very sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Jane and Andrea Mills

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**Andrea Mills** - June 04, 2014 at 12:37 PM

DA

“ Sorry for your loss Richard was my dad's hired man. He was great to work with. May the Lord comfort all of you in this time. Doug Artman

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**Doug Artman** - June 03, 2014 at 08:47 PM

LG

“ RIP Rich - I enjoyed our years working together at AHS. You always went above and beyond to help everyone. You will truly be missed.

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**Lisa Goy** - June 03, 2014 at 02:43 PM

CT

“ Rich was a great man, colleague and friend, I will miss him greatly. He was an amazing asset to the technology field and his loss will be felt by many.

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**Chris Carey- BC Tech** - June 03, 2014 at 12:10 PM

GP

“ What a strong and talented man ... married to an equally strong and talented woman. He lived a great example of hard work and picking the best partner for all of life's ups and downs. I am so very sad that his time with us was cut short. He will always be remembered with fondness and I will always smile when I think of him.

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**Gina Payne** - June 03, 2014 at 08:03 AM

EG

“ Godspeed, Rich. I had the pleasure of working with Rich at the Tri-County Press in the 1980s. Condolences to his family.  
--Eric and Susan Gubelman

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**Eric Gubelman** - June 02, 2014 at 11:02 PM

DG

“ It is with great sadness that I learn today that Rich has passed to his reward. I worked with him and learned so much from him. We shared political views and a love of green tea. His work ethic and passion for technological progress were admirable. He certainly helped the reading program every chance he got. RIP Rich. Job well done.

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**Deb Gilmore** - June 02, 2014 at 09:59 PM

PA

“ Love you I am so sorry. Big HUGS to you. I cherish the times we worked together. You are in my prayers.  
*Pammy Faber*

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**Pam** - June 02, 2014 at 06:44 PM

DF

“ When I started working at the Lee/Ogle ROE in 2004, one of the first tech people I met was Rich Hubbard, from Amboy Schools. Rich made me feel welcomed and helped me set up some of the first tech meetings at the ROE. Over the next ten years I would exchanged tech ideas and learn a lot from Rich. I saw Rich go from more of a tech-geek type of guy to a complete tech guy who incorporated tech into classroom instruction. I have not met many who are more dedicated about their job than what Rich was. Rich was still posting tech and education articles on Facebook and Twitter, up until just a few days ago. He never stopped working, doing what he loved to do. Rich, I'm going to miss you.

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**Dana Fellows** - June 02, 2014 at 05:14 PM