



Richard Giessel

March 21, 2009

Richard L. Giessel, 73, of Fort Collins, died Saturday, March 21, 2009, at Poudre Valley Hospital. The Fort Collins community will miss Richard, the little guy with the crew cut who was always well dressed and knew everybody; he was a fixture of Old Town. After high school in Long Beach, Calif., he moved to Fort Collins to live with his dad, Scottie Giessel, and worked for 31 years at CSU in the Food Services Department. After retirement from CSU, Richard spent many hours in McCarty's Barbershop, taking afternoon naps in the third barber chair. From here he also cheered for the CSU Rams, the Denver Broncos and St Louis Cardinals. "Richard The Lionhearted" was the name of his coffee cup at the Silver Grille, which he frequented for years. And don't forget the 3 p.m. beer at The Town Pump and the important stop along the way at Deans Barbershop. Our gratitude goes to Foothills Gateway and Community Advantage, two Fort Collins agencies who support people with disabilities. They made it possible for Richard for work at Indigo Gallery and Austin's Grill, and also supported him when he volunteered at the Democratic headquarters. How can we thank Perkins Restaurant for opening their hearts to Richard for 3 meals and 2 coffees daily for the last four years?! They made him feel welcome every day. Thank you to the community of Fort Collins from his guardians Rosemary Perkins and Trina Lee Giessel and his 75 cousins. Richard was born on July 30, 1935, in Dodge City, Kan., to Otto H Scottie Giessel and Irene Hogue Homer. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 28 at Bohlender Funeral Chapel. Viewing will be 12 p.m. to 7

p.m. Friday, March 27, 2009, and prior to the funeral services. There will be a private burial at Roselawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Foothills Gateway or Community Advantage in care of Bohlander Funeral Chapel.

Tribute Wall

MG

“ I am happy to have had the opportunity to keep in touch with Richard throughout his adventures in life. I will miss his reminding me of my birthdate and will miss his visits to the farm every year when he brought Rosemary, Trina, and Edith Mae along with him for some enjoyable visiting. Richard has touched my life and he will not be forgotten. Rest in peace.

Marilyn Grasser - April 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DI

“ Richard I feel honored being a part of your celebration of your life! Nobody saves their comics for me. Life is so full of unexpected things. You have given me such a different way of taking these changes into my stride. I didn't want to see you leave us. I know you have places to go, people to see, and things to do. I've learned from you to approach my job: By believing in what I do, having alot of patience, respect, and definitely a measure of diligence and joy!

Diane - April 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ To Richard and to his family. My deepest sympathy and regards go out to you. Richard, you are and always will be a gentleman, confidant, friend and most importantly my brother. You have had an impact on me like no one before!! We have alot of memories, laughs, jokes, haircuts, love of the hops that will forever fill my heart with joy and happiness!! To his family, who i hold in the highest regard, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be apart of his life, even if only for a brief moment, but in that moment, we laughed a lifes worth. I wish i could have done more for Richard, but i feel cheated, knowing i could have done so much more for him. I will never look upon a train the same way, or listen to the horn as it blows when it comes into town. For that is Richard, strong and mighty!!! He always had a smile for me, and his nickname for me is the same as my mothers for me. So that in itself fills my heart with happiness. I prayed for him when i first met him years ago, and i will continue to do so, so that he will always know i think of him, and he is always close. I will hold him close to my heart like i do with my father. For they both give me strength, courage and the ability to look forward to each day, and not taking anything for granted. He is my friend, and i look forward to meeting up with him, once again, and share an ice cold draft and tell stories and share the same old laughs, and pick up where we left off. God speed Richard, may we all see gods country from the footplate of a locatmotive!!!!

FREDRICK CASTANEDA - April 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ I remember visiting Richard as a young girl, when my mother, sister, and I went to Colorado with the Diegels. Richard was so friendly and entertained us all. The next occasion was when my husband, Bill, and our family went camping in Colorado in the 70's. We stopped to see Scottie and Richard. I was amazed at how well he knew everything about sports and all statistics about the players. The last time we were together was at the Giessel family reunion about 2 years ago. All of us cousins enjoyed being with each other and I especially enjoyed seeing Richard again. I will always treasure the pictures I have of Richard at that reunion. Richard was a very happy person and friendly to all who knew him. I know God has a special place for him. May God grant him peace.

Barbara Easter - April 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ I first met Richard and his father in the 1980's. Rosemary arranged a visit so I could try to dredge up some old family history of the Giessels. That day I was focused more on Otto, but Richard was very friendly and wanted to become acquainted with his family that he had never met. From that day, Richard acted like he had known me forever. Richard seemed to always be bubbling over with happiness and friendliness. I was always impressed with his memory, humor, and enthusiasm. He was an innocent breath of fresh air to all who knew him.

michael d giessel - March 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ It is with deep sorrow that I learned of the passing of Richard. I first met Richard in 1961 when I was a lowly service station attendant working at Chuck's 66 gas station downtown. Richard always had a smile for everyone and quick wit. The world will be a lesser place without him. My condolences to his friends and family. REST IN PEACE RICHARD Lloyd

Lloyd D. Majors - March 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Having Richard come back to Kansas for holidays and family reunions, was just as much fun for us as it was for him. We were always greeted at the door with a huge smile, a big hug, and several jokes! We couldn't wait to hear his new jokes. I'll never forget him cheering on the Broncos, especially when they played the K.C. Chiefs he and Rosemary were the only two Bronco fans in a house full of Chief fans, but that just made him cheer even louder, and the Raiders. He said he was a Raider hater. Richard was a small man with a giant heart. We will miss you!!

Jeanne Huslig - March 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ One of the first stories that I remember about Richard was when he attended his Uncle Luis and Aunt Loretta Giessel's 25th Wedding Anniversary. Msgr. Herrman, who was also a guest, happened to see Richard, and asked him if he started school yet. Richard replied, " Hell, I went to kindergarten last year!" I will always remember Richard standing at my bedroom door at 4:30 in the morning, waiting for me to get up, make the coffee, and give him his breakfast. Thank you for being a part of our family. You will truly be missed.

Edith Mae Giessel - March 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Dickie lived his life with such joy and was so friendly to everyone. I will always remember him. Rest in Peace.

Bob & Mary Pettit - March 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ Faithfully, every Sunday, Richard watched Mass For Shut-Ins, then he went out the rest of the day! He never saw the irony in that. After Richard had heart surgery, there were lung complications, so he had to spend 6 weeks in the hospital. I was there 24-7 for support. One day when he was having trouble breathing, he looked up at me and said, "I would do the same for you." The day Richard was to have his colonoscopy, the doctors wanted to make sure that his colon was empty. As he sat on a portable commode in his hospital room, a nurse repeatedly asked him, "Are you done?" He looked up at her with a weary expression and said, "No, flip me over and fry me on the other side!" Richard loved reading. His favorite author was Danielle Steel, of which he had a huge collection.

Trina Giessel - March 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Richard would wake up at 3:00 A.M., get dressed, put on Old Spice Aftershave and his hearing aids, then he watched women exercise on TV. This was his way of getting his exercise for the day!!

Bruce Giessel - March 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ We were cousins and about the same age. We played together, when Dickie lived in Dodge City, Kansas. May he rest in peace.
Sandy Carmichael Fricke

Sam and Sandy Fricke - March 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ This was one of the most beautifully written obituaries I have ever read. Dick was a gem: totally honest, shy until he got to know you, and a person who brought light into others' lives. I hope the Pump has plans for his glass---it was the only one in the Pump. It needs to be saved, somehow. Rest in peace, Dick, you are loved.

Patti and Mort Rosenfelder - March 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ With love and prayers, Margaret

Margaret Schuette - March 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ I remember seeing Richard down town in Fort Collins every time I went shopping there. In high school I worked at Northern Pharmacy where I met Dick & he worked there too, doing odd jobs. It was a pleasue to know & work with him.

Carla - March 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Our trip to Disney World was 4 days of laughter. And the best part was seeing the amazement in your face. Thanks for sharing your life with me. Rosemary

Rosemary Perkins - March 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM