



## Gerald Rex Medley

February 19, 1941 - August 6, 2023

Gerald 'Rex' Medley - February 1941 – August 6, 2023

Born to Gerald and Geneva Harvat Medley, Rex and his siblings, Carol, Dale and Victor

grew up in the Minne Lusa area of North Omaha. He was a natural athlete and played

baseball throughout his school years at Minne Lusa and Omaha North where he was

praised for his “flawless fielding and clinch hitting.” Graduating in 1959, Rex was forever

a proud Viking, staying connected with his classmates throughout his lifetime.

Following

graduation, he attended UNL, UNO and South Dakota State. It was at UNO where he

met Jolene, his future wife who stood by him through 61 years of marriage.

Jolene was

often referred to as a saint. They raised four children, Christine, Edith, Andrea and

Cara.

In the early days of his career, Rex worked as a typesetter, both for his father, who

owned the Omaha Typesetting Company and later at the Omaha World

Herald until computerized typesetting replaced hot metal type. Rex then moved on to a second career working for the railroad—beginning as a switchman with the Missouri Pacific and then becoming an engineer for the Union Pacific after the two companies merged. He retired after 34 years' service in 2004.

Rex had an amazing memory and could easily recite football scores as far back as the 1970s. He was a gruff guy on the outside, who wore sunglasses indoors, creatively dropped every curse word ever known to mankind, referred to his friends by their last names and his girls with affectionate nicknames; Der Klunk, the Schmede, Von Sniffle Piffle and Cara Scubbins.

Rex had a big heart on the inside and always put his family first. He helped countless friends and neighbors. For 24 years Rex served as guardian to a disabled friend. He volunteered at the North Bend VFW helping with Bingo nights for over a decade.

Rex was passionate about classic cars, sports, horse racing, music and mowing grass, especially the trails in Skyline Ranches. In his retirement, he was the ultimate band

groupie, traveling cross country with Jolene to catch a Hacienda Brothers performance.

He particularly loved taking an annual trip with friends to the Kool Deadwood Nites car show. In his later years, he had a passion for seeking out treasures at auctions whether it might be a Pyrex bowl, a select piece of carnival glass, a vintage mixer, or an orphan car. He was the family mechanic responsible for countless oil changes and repairs until his health prevented him from doing so.

We will all miss him dearly.

Rex was preceded in death by parents Gerald and Geneva Harvat Medley, brother; Dale

Medley, son-in-law; Ryan Costanzo. He is survived by his wife of 61 years; Jolene, daughters;

Christine Medley, Edith (Jerry) Hummel, Andrea Costanzo, Cara (Rony) Ortega.

Grandsons; Jakob and Max Hummel, Tate and Sam Costanzo, Sebastian Ortega,

granddaughters; Gabriela, Ariana and Natalia Ortega; sister; Carol Williams, brother

Victor Medley; brother-in-law; Craig Snyder and many nieces, nephews and good friends.

Visitation will be Thursday, August 31, 2023 10:30 – 11:30 am followed by a Celebration of Life Service at 11:30 am at the Jaynes Street Community Church (7534 Jaynes Street, Omaha NE 68134).

Memorials suggested to Metropolitan Community College Foundation, Jaynes Street Community Church, or the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Omaha.

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Cemetery

Loup City, NE

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 31. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Jaynes Street Community Church  
7534 Jaynes Street  
Omaha, NE 68134

## Celebration of Life Service

AUG 31. 11:30 AM (CT)

Jaynes Street Community Church  
7534 Jaynes Street  
Omaha, NE 68134

# Tribute Wall

SS

“ I first met Rex in 76, down at the old MOP yards. He taught me a lot about the locomotives . Talked me into engine service. You could say Rex was 'passionate'. He was quick to fire up! It was with great amusement that I would lite the fuse and stand back and watch the fireworks . I would be a rich man today , if I had a nickel for everytime he told me , "Let me tell you something sasmall" , all the while shaking that cigarette at me, between his fingers. RIP Rexybaby

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Steve Small - August 30, 2023 at 02:56 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gerald Rex Medley.



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August 28, 2023 at 03:53 PM

RS

“ I remember fondly the countless pick-up basketball games we shared at Rex's folks' place on Weber Street during our early high school years. Yes, Rex was an exceptionally good athlete...he normally won but I occasionally got in a few good licks. We beat up his dad's garage doors and broke more than one window, but his dad was also a good sport and didn't stop our games. He just came out the front door and said "Suddick", why don't you stop breaking things. I guess he thought Rex was never responsible, but he let the game continue.

In later years I learned about Rex's heart of gold. He was gruff on the exterior, but a powder puff on the interior. Rex was really almost like family to Sheryl's family. He visited Sheryl's mom and dad almost every day when they lived near one another over on Jaynes Street. Rex kept up those visitations long after that and after Sheryl's mom died and Clarence (Babe) moved into a mobile home Rex visited him often. It was almost a father/son relationship. Babe loved those visits and they made his later years better.

As most everyone who knew Rex was aware he was a rabid democrat. He could rant and rave for hours about how things were going to hell so we had many contentious, but friendly discussions about current political affairs. Rex would turn red and his voice rose an octave or two, but we always parted friends. Now that Rex has passed I can relate a prank that Sheryl and I pulled on him that I think almost gave Rex a coronary. It was during the Reagan years. We found a Reagan bumper sticker and one day as we were leaving Sheryl's house we pasted it on Rex's car rear bumper. He didn't discover it right away, but when he did I think he came close to a heart attack. He never knew Sheryl and I put that sticker on his bumper. He was absolutely incensed that someone would do that because as you know a bumper sticker is very difficult to remove. I guess only Jolene knows how he finally got it removed. He ranted and raved about that for months. Sorry Rex!

Big Red football was a big part of Rex's life. If he wasn't working he

*always came to Sheryl's folks' house to watch the game and drink Budweiser out of bottles. The cheer squad included Sheryl, me, Denny, Rex, Doris and Babe. We were always impressed with Rex's photographic memory of Big Red facts, scores, players, statistics and his ability to recite verbatim Lyle Bremser's memorable lines. Will this new generation ever get to enjoy similar fun times? We all hope so.*

*So long old friend. We'll never forget you.*

*Bob Suddick*

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**Robert Suddick** - August 28, 2023 at 12:52 PM

MR

“ *Matt R. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gerald Rex Medley.*



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**Matt R.** - August 25, 2023 at 01:42 PM

MR

“ *Matt R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gerald Rex Medley.*

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**Matt R.** - August 25, 2023 at 01:42 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Gerald Rex Medley*.



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August 21, 2023 at 04:14 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of *Gerald Rex Medley*.

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August 21, 2023 at 04:14 PM