



## Richard George Stotz

November 24, 2020

Richard George Stotz was often heard saying to strangers, “Of all the people I have ever met, you’re one of them.” An extrovert, jokester, and consummate storyteller, Dick finished his personal story on his own terms. Stotz passed away unexpectedly from cancer on November 24, 2020, in Sun City, Arizona.

Dick was born to George and Viola Stotz on September 1st, 1934, in Minneapolis, Minnesota where he grew up playing baseball and hockey and hunting pheasants with his father. He was also known for tormenting the nuns in Catholic school. He attended Washburn High School and then enlisted in the Air Force where served in Korea.

After his discharge, Dick went on to marry Elaine Westphal and start a successful career in the material handling business working for Clark Equipment in Minneapolis. The two enjoyed many fun times with their friends at the Minnesota Valley Country Club.

His career took them to Michigan where the couple joined a bowling league and Dick acquired his nickname – “The Big Banger.”

From there Clark Equipment took them to Scottsdale, Arizona then subsequent positions with Hyster and Caterpillar landed them in Plano, Texas. He retired in December 2000.

In retirement, he served as a volunteer for child advocacy services driving foster children to their doctor appointments and parental visits. He also enjoyed his regular Whataburger coffee club meetings bringing jokes to share with the group. He was also a bit of a celebrity at the local Walmart due to his daily visits and interest in assisting other shoppers.

Stotz is survived by Elaine, children Tracey Stotz (Bob Johnson) and Rick Stotz (Marlene) as well as grandchildren Katy, Jake, Ashley, and Lauren.

He will be interred in Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego, California. In lieu of flowers, donations can be in his memory to the American Cancer Society.

# Tribute Wall

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“ I have such find memories of him during my high school years with Tracey. He had a larger than life fun personality. Sending prayers of peace and comfort to you! ❤️🙏

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**Dottie Ellis-Merki** - November 27, 2020 at 09:37 PM

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“ So sorry for your loss. We really missed Dick and you at Whataburger. Prayers for you and your family. Jack and Donna Boyett

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**Donna and Jack Boyett** - November 27, 2020 at 07:13 PM