



## Richard F. "Dick" Meginniss

February 21, 1936 - February 4, 2018

Richard "Dick" Fredrick Meginniss, 81 of Estero, FL and Lake Geneva, WI, died Sunday, February 4, 2018, at Winkler Court in Fort Myers, FL. Formerly of Grayslake, IL Dick had been a resident of Estero for the past 15 years. He was born February 21, 1936, in Evanston, IL the son of the late Harry G. and Lorna E. (Wilkinson) Meginniss and graduated from Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, IL, where he was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Dick began his career teaching science in Deer Path School in Lake Forest, IL. After earning his Master of Science degree at Northern Illinois University, he worked in research at Abbott Laboratories in Great Lakes, IL. Dick's career as a biology professor started in 1967 at the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater. In 2002 he retired from College of Lake County in Grayslake, IL.

Dick was an avid golfer who also enjoyed sailing, cross-country skiing, and camping. Through the years, he received many awards and grants, including four National Science Foundation Summer Institutes and a Fulbright Educational Exchange to Oxford, England. One of his favorite memories was being invited to take tea with Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. In 1993-1994 he was the College of Lake County NISOD Teaching Excellence Award recipient.

Survivors include his beloved wife of 56 years, Joan (Nelson) Meginniss;

loving daughters, Kathleen (Scott) White of Rockford, IL and Christine (Michael) Buchta of Dousman, WI; sister, Helen (Robert) Dewey of Crescent City, CA; and cherished grandchildren, Jessica, Jack and Natalie.

Donations may be made as follows:

The Richard F. Meginniss Nursing Scholarship Fund managed by the College of Lake County Foundation. Please make checks payable to the CLC Foundation, include in the memo "Richard F. Meginniss" and mail to 19351 W. Washington Street Grayslake, IL 60030-1198 or online at <https://foundation.clcillinois.edu/>. Under the designation drop down menu, select "other" and enter "Meginniss",

The Richard F. Meginniss Memorial Scholarship Fund at Lake Forest College. Please make checks payable to Lake Forest College. Include in the memo "Richard F. Meginniss" and mail to LFC Office of Development, 555 North Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045 or online at

<http://link.lakeforest.edu/meginnissmemorial>

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Richard F. "Dick" Meginniss*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



**Christy Buchta** - April 22, 2018 at 08:51 AM



*Missing you so much, Dad! Our "car ride conversations" between home and college (and the many more since then) will always hold a special place in my heart!*

**Christy Buchta** - April 22, 2018 at 09:07 AM



“ *Dear Joan and Your family,*

*Very sorry to hear about your husband. My prayers and thoughts are with you all. What a beautiful tribute to open up a scholarship at the College of Lake County in his memory!  
God bless, Vickie Goode - CLC Counselor*

**Vickie Goode** - February 28, 2018 at 10:08 AM

SA

“ Jerry and Sherry send you our prayers and sympathy. Dick will be missed.

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**Sherry Anderson** - February 22, 2018 at 08:25 PM

JB

“ So many great memories! Joan and I were friends through high school. It was after college, during our teaching years, that I met Dick, and I thought, "What a great guy!" Later on, I was so happy to share in their celebration of marriage. In recent years, when Joan and Dick were at our cabin in northern Wisconsin, we were able to help Dick connect with old friends at Lake Owen where he had been a camp counselor for many summers. It was evident that he he been loved and appreciated by everyone there. I think that is true of anyone who has ever known Dick. It certainly is true of Lowell and I.

*Jeanine & Lowell Bliss*

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**Jeanine Bliss** - February 16, 2018 at 09:28 AM

RT

“ Dearest Joan and Family,  
I am so sorry to learn about Dick's passing. What a gracious and caring man. I remember that the two of you were the first people to come to the hospital when Kirk was born. I volunteer at my local Historical Society and, while researching information for something else, came upon information about the two of you teaching together in Lake Forest and then dating and eventually marrying. I believe both of you rented houses in my current neighborhood while you were single and teaching. This is really ironic, but a few days ago I was organizing cups in a kitchen cabinet and came upon a white Mickey Mouse cup with "MEGINNISS" written on the bottom. I assume Kirk must have been in his office and Dick gave it to him. Funny how these things happen. Dick left such a memorable impression on those he met. He will be missed. So glad you have your girls and grandchildren around you, Joan. Hoping to see you in June.

In Sympathy,  
Rosemary Troxel

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Rosemary T - February 15, 2018 at 06:59 PM

VM

“ Dick was such a kind and loving man who always greeted me with a big smile and a hug. I knew he was special when he married my best friend. I had the pleasure of being in Dick and Joan's wedding so feel fortunate to have known him for over 56 years. He was such a good host and cook and many of his friends and family enjoyed the fruits of his labor for many years. I will miss seeing Dick in Lake Geneva and Florida and that big smile that always welcomed me. Joan and Dick were a wonderful team and the best friends anyone could ever have. Thanks for the memories!

Vern Magee

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Vern Magee - February 12, 2018 at 10:09 PM

KW

“ 1 file added to the album *Boppa*



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**Kat White** - February 12, 2018 at 06:04 PM

KW

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Kat White** - February 12, 2018 at 05:55 PM

RF

“ *Dear Joan and family,*

*We were saddened to learn of Dick's passing. He was one of the first people I met when I first came to CLC in 1971. We had many wonderful conversations over the years and even had a chance to golf a few rounds over the years. I hope that your memories with Dick will serve you as a source of inspiration and comfort in the future.*

*Bob & Cyrilla Finnegan*

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**Robert Finnegan** - February 12, 2018 at 04:38 PM

SH

“ I simply can't believe that Dick has passed, or my extreme good fortune in having had him as an office mate for over 25 years. In all that time we never had exchanged a hurtful or nasty comment, even though we had some differences of opinion on a mercifully small number of issues.

Dick was one of the most most masculine men I have ever known, and I benefited significantly from his advice more than once. I'll always remember telling him, "Dick, I'm thinking about buying my first new car, but its a awfully big investment". His reply was "no, its an expense". It was like a light bulb went off in my brain - of course, you get ahead by minimizing expenses, and then maximizing investments. It was a more than helpful comment for which I am grateful. When Dick talked, I listened.

Our hearts go out to Joan, Kathy, Chrissy, and the rest of the clan. We are all lucky to have crossed paths with Dick Meginniss. Scott Hickman and Debi Laurie

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Scott Hickman - February 11, 2018 at 02:02 PM

MW

“ Dick was such a good friend and a very nice man! We spent time together as families and as couples. Any time we were together we laughed and shared stories. I will miss this charming man, but I have fond memories of our times together. Love you, Dickers!!  
Marilyn Ward

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Marilyn Ward - February 09, 2018 at 05:13 PM

TW

“ 4 files added to the album New Album Name



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**Toby Ward** - February 09, 2018 at 04:04 PM

TW

“ Dick was a great husband, father, teacher, friend and golfer. Strike that last one.

*Marilyn and I so enjoyed the company of the Meginniss family our year in England, and the many dinners, visits, and golf outings over the past 40 years. I will always remember his fall in the mud at the tithe barn, his golf scoring talent, and his special friendship. I will miss my friend and golfing buddy*

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**Toby Ward** - February 09, 2018 at 12:29 PM

RN

“ I enjoyed golfing with Dick at the Lake Lawn Course in Delavan, WI. I admired all the cooking he did when the Class Reunion Committee would meet to plan the next event. I really enjoyed his sense of humor on those "drop in" chats we had. I will miss him and ask for prayers for his family and friends.

*Rex Newcomb*

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**Rex Newcomb** - February 09, 2018 at 10:31 AM

CN

“ Please accept my condolences and prayers for all in this time of sorrow. Seems to be so many moving on recently. My thoughts are with you, Joan, and the children. -c

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**Charlie Nystrom** - February 09, 2018 at 10:17 AM

JK

“ My heart is broken at the loss of my childhood neighbor. Dick was so much more than a friendly neighbor. He was another "Dad" who was always patient and kind to my brother and me as we raced up and down his driveway on our bicycles for so many years. Dick always stopped to talk with us, genuinely curious as to how we were and always kept track of our grades! He often would pop his head out of the patio to say good morning and probably make sure we were behaving ourselves! Many of my friends had him as a professor at CLC, and he was a "tough" instructor, I was lucky enough to know him as a loving father. I will miss your sweet and friendly smile, Dick.

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**Julie Kane** - February 08, 2018 at 12:23 PM