



Rodney F. Kaiser

March 27, 2021

Rodney F. Kaiser, 77, of DeWitt, NY passed away peacefully March 27. Rod was born and raised in Rochester, NY; attended Clarkson College and graduated from University of Rochester.

A true behind the scenes entertainment technology professional, Rod was employed by Kliegl Brothers, Inc. in Long Island City, NY, Hoffend and Sons, Inc, in Rochester, NY and retired from J.R. Clancy, Inc. in Syracuse, NY in 2013. An expert in stage rigging fundamentals, mechanics, manufacturing, and operation, Rod generously shared his knowledge with end users, architects and consultants. Rod was very active in the process of standards creation for stage rigging from its inception to ANSI acceptance of the first standard for theatrical counterweight rigging. Rod was active in United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc. and was inducted as a USITT Fellow in 2012.

In June 1982, Rod married an associate of an allied business, and he and his son relocated to Syracuse, NY where he worked and his wife's business is located. Together Rod and his wife, Chris, enjoyed many happy years sharing their passions for travel, antiquing and technical theatre work.

Rod was predeceased by his parents, Ruth and Fred Kaiser and his first wife, Susan (DeWitt) Kaiser. Rod is survived by his wife, Christine; son, Emmet (Alison) of Los Angeles; sister, Doris (Frank) DeWitt and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be Wednesday, March 31st at 5 pm at Fergerson Funeral Home, 215 South Main Street, North Syracuse and live streamed on his tribute page at [FergersonFuneralHome.com](https://www.FergersonFuneralHome.com)

Rod and his family invite you to support Behind the Scenes, <https://wp.behindthescenescharity.org/>, a charity founded to provide assistance to entertainment technology professionals in need, to honor Rod's memory.

Events

MAR **Memorial Service** **05:00PM**

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Ferguson Funeral Home, Inc.

215 South Main Street, North Syracuse, NY, US, 13212

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Fergerson Funeral Home - March 31, 2021 at 04:18 PM



“ It was a privilege to get to know him in his time at Clancy. Always took my calls and provided good advice. He will be missed by many.

Jim Niesel - March 31, 2021 at 05:40 PM



“ We were greatly saddened to hear of Rodney's passing. As a friend and colleague both at Hoffend and Clancy I could always count on him for good counsel when I was faced with a problem. His calm demeanor and quiet sense of humor will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Chris at this time.

Jack, Susie and Sarah

jack nettleton - March 31, 2021 at 05:39 PM



“ His warm smile and thoughtfulness of all those around him will be missed. We have such fond memories of times shared over the years and we were lucky to have known him. Mary & Len Nitzberg

Mary Nitzberg - March 31, 2021 at 04:24 PM



“ All our memories of such a kind and generous man will last several lifetimes, Warm and healing wishes to Chris and the family.

Pat MacKay - March 30, 2021 at 10:20 PM



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Pat MacKay - March 30, 2021 at 10:20 PM



“ A friendship never ends. Good memories last beyond a lifetime. Tim

Tim Kelly - March 31, 2021 at 02:36 PM



“ A gentleman who will be missed by many.

Jules LAuve - March 29, 2021 at 11:43 PM



“ Rodney set an example of service to the industry that will continue to be something to which we can all aspire. My heart goes out to Chris, the family, and all those who he touched as they process the grief from his death.

Mark Shanda - March 29, 2021 at 03:44 PM



“ Rod was a true professional. Careful, thoughtful, and very kind. My thoughts are with you Chris, and your family. Rod will be missed.

Bruce Brockman

Bruce Brockman - March 29, 2021 at 01:22 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rodney F. Kaiser.



March 28, 2021 at 05:07 PM



“ Chris and Emmet—
Words cannot express our sorrow for your loss. So many wonderful memories of times spent with Rod. He will be missed.
Bob & Laura Davidson

bob - March 28, 2021 at 10:33 AM