



RODNEY T. FERNANDEZ

March 9, 1955 - September 28, 2023

Rodney “Zorro” Fernandez, 68, of Endwell, NY passed away on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at home, surrounded with the love and support of his family. He was born in Solvay, NY in 1955, a son to the late Frank and Dulce (Rodriguez) Fernandez. Rodney was a graduate of Solvay High School, and of The Rochester Institute of Technology where he earned his Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering. Rodney started his career at IBM in 1978 where he was a loyal employee for 31 years. He moved from his hometown of Solvay, NY to Kingston, NY in 1980 to continue his career at IBM until his work location was switched once again in 1987 to the IBM birthplace and headquarters in Endicott, NY. Here, he and his former wife of 30 years, Stephanie, raised two children at their new home in Endwell, NY.

Rodney quickly became a staple in the community, zipping around town in his T-Top Nissan Pulsar or his Mitsubishi 3000GT with “Zorro” license plates and giving his neighbors a taste of high-fidelity audio as he blasted Pink Floyd’s Dark Side of the Moon from his 1970’s HiFi stereo system with home-made speakers. When he wasn’t cruising roads, he was cruising the internet for the best deals he could find on anything from technology to travel. You could also catch him at local live music events such as “Cans & Clams” or perhaps admiring the sunsets and wildlife from his pool deck while enjoying a cigar. But Rod wasn’t just a participant in community activities, he loved contributing too. He used his resources and computer expertise to repair computer issues

and donate old computers from IBM to local schools. He also frequently provided those down on their luck with odd jobs around his house for extra cash, or simply shared his pool with his neighbors. He was always willing to lend a helping hand. Rod stayed in touch with numerous friends throughout his life, attending annual fishing trips with them every Fall and Summer. He retired from IBM in 2009 at the age of 53 and enjoyed many years of retirement, spending winters at his condo in Hollywood, FL.

Rodney was a loving and supportive father and grandfather. His love, wisdom, strength, and guidance will forever “shine on” (Pink Floyd reference) in the hearts of all his family and friends as will his endless jokes, contagious smile, charismatic storytelling, and classic one-liners or “Rod-isms” as his IBM friends would say.

Rodney is survived by his two children: Stephen Fernandez (Melissa), of Endicott, NY, Kristina Fernandez (Doug Woodruff), of Endwell, NY; two grandchildren: Cristiana and Ava; four siblings: Frank L. Fernandez, of Orleans, MA, Richard "Jay-Alexander" Fernandez, of Rancho Mirage, CA, Dulce M. Fernandez (Rich Ladd) and Georgette E. Fernandez of Syracuse, NY; as well as many nieces and a nephew.

Family and friends may call Wednesday, October 4th from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME, 2601 Milton Ave, Solvay, NY 13209.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Rodney's memory to the ALS Association, PO Box 37022, Boone, IA 50037-0022 or by phone at 888-949-2577.

Cemetery Details

Assumption Cemetery-Private Burial

2401 Court St.
Syracuse, NY 13208

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 4. 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME
2601 Milton Avenue
Solvay, NY 13209
info@bagozzitwinsfh.com
<http://www.bagozzitwins.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Bagozzi Twins Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of RODNEY T. FERNANDEZ*



BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME, INC. - October 03, 2023 at 01:20 PM

DC

“ *Rod reached down and tapped me on the shoulder this morning! We haven't spoken to each other in close to 10 years. I was online and came across a story with someone named "Fernandez" and decided to try to contact him again to see how he was doing. I was shocked to find that he had died a couple of weeks ago! He worked for me in Kingston travelling back and forth to Raleigh, NC. We became friends on both a personal and professional level. I used to borrow his truck on occasion. Used to do chicken wings on occasion after work and tell lies to each other. Sorry to hear of your loss. He was a good man. Dave Connors, Hampton, NH*

DAVE CONNORS - October 14, 2023 at 11:01 AM

PA

“ *Fernandez family, your father was a great man & was taken from earth way too soon, but he is an angel in heaven looking down at each of you. He is out of his pain & suffering. I pray that you have his memories to rely on as I do.*



Pat Antal - October 04, 2023 at 09:42 AM



“ 30 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME, INC. - October 03, 2023 at 01:18 PM

DA

Absolutely beautiful pictures A life full of love remember the your mom & dad and all the Fernandez clan when I used to visit your house in our high school days Sweet memories of your family Rodney you are most missed Much love surrounded you

Donna Amellia - January 18, 2024 at 02:47 PM

JP

“ *My sincerest sympathies to the Fernandez clan- I have fond memories of Rod and he was always nice to me and my family. Best wishes!*

joe pinkes - October 02, 2023 at 10:06 AM

RL

“ Sending all my love, prayers and heartfelt condolences to the Fernandez family in honor and in memory of your dear Rodney....💕🙏

💕 What a beautiful tribute....💕🙏💕

I was privileged to meet him once and I

immediately felt his charismatic charm the first second! ❤️

What a credit to your wonderful parents, raising such beautiful, loving, and fun-loving children, and I hope it's at least a little comforting to know that Rodney is with your mom and dad, watching over you and your family with all their love...💕🙏💕

Again, sending all my love, hugs, prayers and my heart-felt condolences to you and your family....💕🙏💕



Robin Lipman - October 01, 2023 at 08:34 PM

JE

“ To Rodney’s Family and Friends:

We join in extending our sincere heartfelt sympathy to you and your family during this most difficult time. May happier memories help to sustain you and bring you comfort through this period of sorrow.

And may God grant him his wings as he soars to a place where he is free from all pain. To his loving family.....may the joy and laughter of his life, far outweigh the pain of his passing. He will indeed be missed, but never forgotten.

With love and prayers,

Jim Ennis & Sandra Winkworth



James Ennis - September 30, 2023 at 11:03 PM