



## Richard Jay Kump

October 31, 1925 - April 13, 2020

Richard Jay Kump was born October 31, 1925 in Pocatello, Idaho, one of five children. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy as a sonar operator aboard a submarine rescue vessel. After the war, he earned a B.S. in Business from Idaho State College and did graduate studies in Switzerland, gaining expertise in German and French. While he worked as a CIC translator for the U.S. Army in Salzburg, Austria, he met Gardis Fietz, one of a pair of twins, who were soloists at the Landestheater (National Dance Theater.) Richard and Gardis married and had two daughters.

When the family moved back to the U.S., Richard earned an M.A. in Foreign Language Education from St. Louis University. He then began teaching German and French at Southeast Missouri State College, where he was a professor. Richard earned a PhD in Education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, and was a member of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society. He shared his passion for German culture and heritage in the community by co-founding a German club that held dinners and dances. He was also a member of St. Mary's Cathedral, where he served as a lector for many years. After touching the lives of countless students, he retired from Southeast Missouri State University. He was preceded in death by Gardis, his wife of over 50 years, and by two sisters and a brother. Doctor Kump is survived by one sister, two daughters, Tina and Maria, and four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be planned later this summer.

# Cemetery Details

## **Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery**

2315 Highway 61 North  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
(573) 334-1909  
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall

PB

“ *Tina and Maria - so sorry to hear about the loss of your Dad. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Take care! Patsy Brase*

Pat Brase - April 21, 2020 at 12:54 PM

JE

“ *To Tina and Maria and families*

*May ABBA God, our loving Father in heaven, draw your father, Richard, close to Him and embrace him in His everlasting love. At this time of sorrow, may God fill you up with His never ending peace and comfort.*

*John Essner*

John L. Essner - April 20, 2020 at 12:02 PM

KS

“ *Beth McFerron and I, on the behalf of St. Mary Cathedral, have had the privilege of administering Holy Communion to Professor Kump on most Sundays at The Lutheran Home. He was always so appreciative, and thankful. We were so honored to have had the opportunity not only to bring him the holy sacrament, but also to become friends with this extraordinary man. We will miss him so very much and we send our sincere condolences to his family and friends.*

Kate Schaefer - April 16, 2020 at 11:22 PM

HD

*Thank you so much for making the time to do this.*

Hayley Staten (Grand daughter) - April 17, 2020 at 02:00 PM

SJ

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. God's Peace be with you all. Comfort Keepers - At Home Help Staff

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**Sherry James** - April 16, 2020 at 12:28 PM

DE

“ To Tina and Family,

*I want to express my sincere condolences on the death of your father. Blessings to all of you.*

*(Tina, you and I attended grade school together at St Louis Cathedral, and again at Notre Dame in Cape Girardeau.)*

*Donna Simms Essner*

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**Donna Essner** - April 16, 2020 at 08:42 AM

DM

“ Richard was a colleague for many years, and I truly appreciated his help and expertise. I send my condolences to Gardis and to the whole family. He will be missed.

*Dr. Daniel A MacLeay*

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**Daniel A. MacLeay** - April 16, 2020 at 07:30 AM

RW

“ Tina, it has been many years since our paths crossed during our college years. (Remember the New Year's parties at the Halters' home.)

*Your father was part of the amazing "Greatest Generation". He has left a long lasting legacy.*

*May you and your family have a Christian faith that provides much comfort. God's peace.*

*Rita Heimbaugh Weber.*

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**Rita Weber** - April 15, 2020 at 07:24 PM