



Sundae Edition

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Nov, 2023

www.HeartlandSundaeRoadRiders.com

Celebrating Reb

Notes from the Editor



On October 8, James Lee "Reb" Brant passed away at the Israel Family Hospice Home in Ames, Iowa. He was just 82 years young and had only a day before entered hospice care. What a jolt of sadness Lee's sudden passing was to family and his many, many friends, especially the Heartland Sundae Riders. We already miss Reb terribly, and decided to dedicate this issue to his memory. I'll stick to my editorial

role, posting many of our favorite Reb memories in this special issue, except for two vignettes that seem to sum up my own friendship with this great man:

When I mentioned Lee's passing to our oldest daughter, Andrea (now 38) and to twins Liz and Mark (now 34), they weren't immediately aware of whom I was speaking. "You remember," I added, "The fellow you always called *Mister Fun*."

That's when recognition and grieving came to them as well. Lee enjoyed a close kinship with our youngest members, as our three enjoyed in this photo from three decades ago. (thanks for the pic, Laura)

But my favorite visual memory of Lee was in Mackinaw City at the 1988 Lemans National Rally, watching at a distance with Mary Ann and several others

while Reb, astride his Cavalcade, mischievously eyed a large flock of seagulls gathered in a nearby parking lot (as gulls often do). After a moment to appreciate that scene of avian serenity, solidarity and beauty, Lee suddenly dropped the clutch and, with his famous crow-caw horn blaring loudly, splashed his heavy 'Cade headlong into the flock, dramatically scattering a hundred white seabirds to the Four Winds and eliciting shock and delight from those witnessing the spectacle. *Mr. Fun indeed!* (Lee knew, I'm sure, that gulls are responsive to approaching threats and none would be harmed by his marauding corvine attack.) What's *your* favorite Reb memory? Perhaps you'll find it in the pages of this issue!



Thanks to Laura Lee, Dale Peterson, Desse Johnston and Rick Pierce for all the images sent in.

Memorial for Reb—Members Write...

I'd like to share a very short video that I captured at Reb's "Celebration Of Life" service. To prep the video a bit, I can safely say that there were at least 5 different local EMT/Firefighter units from surrounding communities...and most likely more than just the 5 teams that I counted. The church was beyond packed with friends, family, coworkers, neighbors, and several Heartland Sundae Road Riders.

Several attendees shared emotional stories about their relationship with our dear Reb, including Darryl Jorpeland and Scooter Winkelman from our group.

At one point during the COL, several EMT/Firefighters scattered themselves throughout the church with their handheld radios turned up so that everyone could easily hear the "Final Call To Duty" salute to Reb. Words fail to describe the emotions.

When the COL was completed inside the church, everyone was asked to step outside for a few more final ceremonial events. Upon the completion of the Honor Guard's gun salute the playing of the American Taps, the American flag was presented to Tiara and family along with other memorial items.

With several ambulances and fire trucks lined up for two city blocks, along with many Jeeps from Reb's Jeep club. Reb was placed into one of the fire trucks for one final ride. The procession left the church, circled around town, and then finally made their way back to the church.

You can view this very short video from within the same page on our website that has Reb's slideshow that I shared with you last week. Click on the link below and then scroll down below Reb's slideshow. Memorial for Reb heartlandsundaeroadriders.com

- Dale Peterson

In our hearts and memories he will never be gone

- Desse Johnston

Keith and I watched your slide show tribute to Reb. Using Keith's words- incredible! We watched it twice. How he must have loved to cook. Just as you must love to take all the wonderful pictures. All the treasures that Reb shared with Keith will mean even more to have them in the Firehouse garage. Reb will truly be missed. Our condolences to his family and friends.

- Nancy and Keith Schmig

Memorial Donations Much Appreciated

Last week I sent an email to the LeGrand City Hall requesting how to make a donation to the Fire Dept. and First Responders in respect to Reb's memory. Earlier this week I received the following response,, if anyone else would like to make a donation with a note in honor of Reb..

- Chuck Tydrich

Enclosure:

Good Morning,

We received your message and appreciate your kind words. Reb will be missed by many. If you would like to make a donation you can make a check out to the Le Grand Fire Dept and mail it to PO BOX 430, Le Grand, IA 50142.

KyLee M. Stone

Clerk/Treasurer | City of Le Grand

104 W. Main St | PO Box 430 | Le Grand, IA 50142

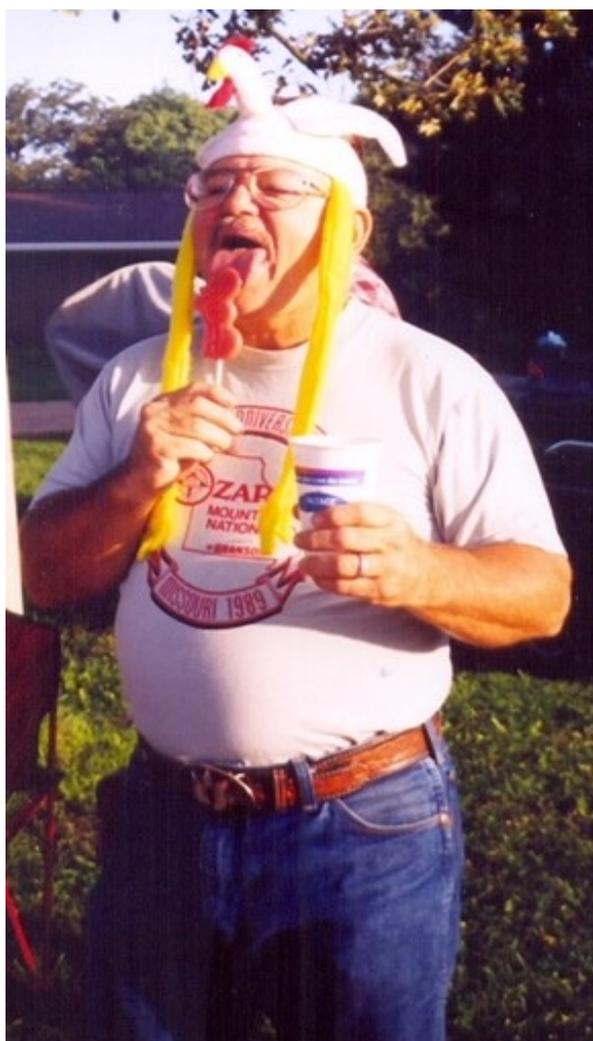
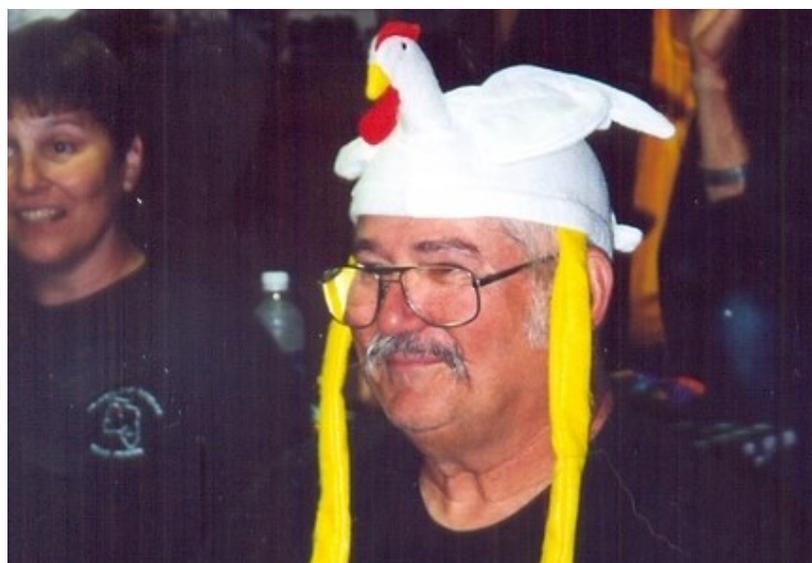
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February 24, 1941 - October 8, 2023

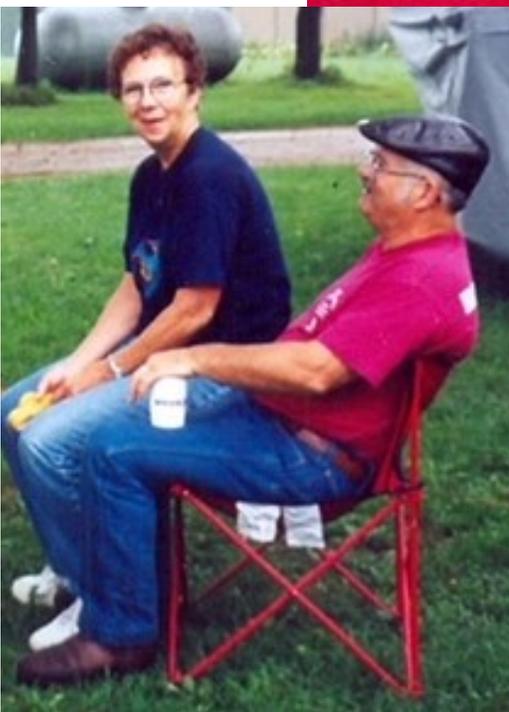
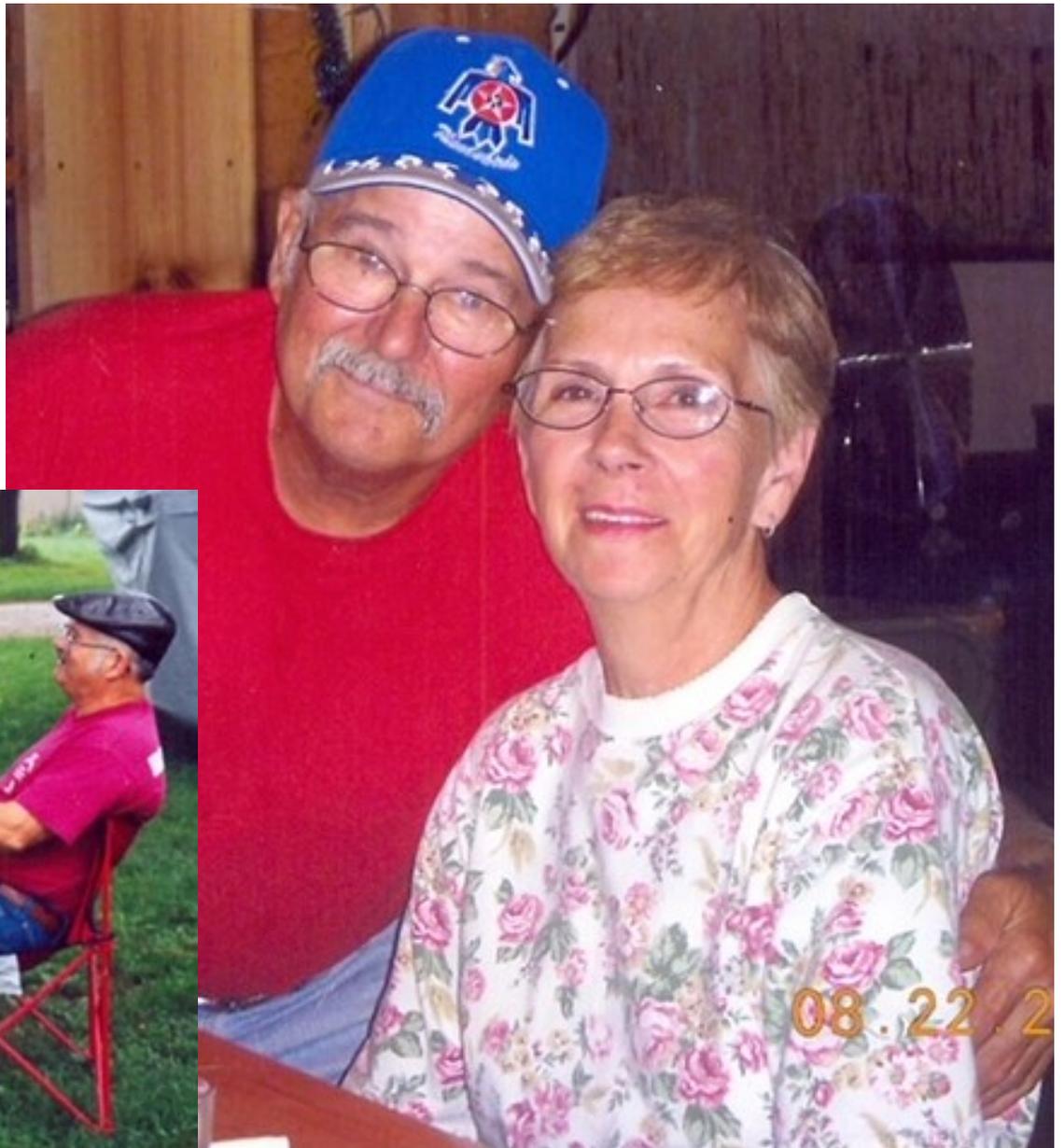
Clowning Around with Reb...



Recent Shots...



Vintage Lee and Tiara...







Early Planning for Quad-State 2024

By Joan Winkelman

The Minnesota group would like input from members for the location of Quad State. Here is the info, we'd like your vote by mid December. Would members prefer to:

- 1) Return to Eagle Cliff Campground in Lanesboro MN -we were there in 2016. Eagle Cliff has motel rooms on-site. — <https://eagle-cliff.com/>
- 2) Return to Lake Pepin Campground in Lake City MN ((for long term members, you may remember going there in the 80's). Lake Pepin has an AmericInn next door.
- 3) Try a new campground in Winona MN: Prairie Island Campground. Prairie Island is on north end of Winona and there are 10 motels and 5 bed and breakfasts nearby. - <https://www.prairieislandcampground.com/>

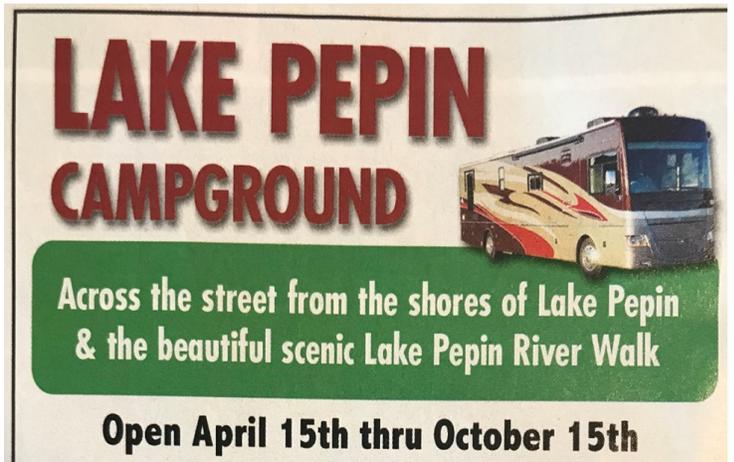
Send your votes / preferences directly to Joan!



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2023 Heartland Sundae Riders Schedule

- Nov 24 *Thanksgiving with Friends - Contact Laura Lee for information at 847-609-6046*
- Dec 9 *Christmas Party at Weiners in Oshkosh. RSVP Mark*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Sorry folks—None this month!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Patti Kruse—Nov 2
Mikey Sucharski—Nov 4
Tom McPeak—Nov 6
Ken Flood—Nov 11
Pat Neal—Nov 16
Leah Ostwald—Nov 20