



## Rex Alan Baker

November 20, 1952 - April 20, 2021

Rex Alan Baker, 68, of Phoenix, AZ, and formerly of Rockton, IL, died on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 after a long struggle with congestive heart failure.

He was born on November 20, 1952 in Beloit, WI to Cody and Marie Baker. As the only child, he was the center of attention and the apple of his parent's eye. In 1964, at the age of eleven, his parents died in a car accident and he was then cared for by his grandmother Iva Baker. He was a 1970 graduate of Hononegah High School in Rockton, IL and soon after graduated from Rockford Barber College in September of 1971.

Rex enjoyed working as a barber for many years, while he also had a long career as Director of Facilities at the YMCA in Scottsdale, AZ and Dallas, TX. With a deep love for classic cars with loud, fast engines, Rex spent his youth cruising with his lifelong best friend, Tony Schiro, and in later years visiting car shows and museums to talk with fellow car enthusiasts. Rex enjoyed live music and went to concerts often, his favorites being classic rock and country music. His sense of humor was widely admired in his extensive network of friends, his laughter freely given and love easily earned. His loss is deeply felt by the many who loved him and enjoyed his company.

Rex is survived by his children; daughters, Jessica Baker of York, PA, Christina Baker and Helena Baker both of Phoenix, AZ; sons, Mathew Baker, Marcus Baker and Nathan Baker all of Phoenix, AZ and Jeremy Alan (Rana) Wood of South Beloit, IL; granddaughters, Emma Schmidt of Phoenix, AZ and Maddison Wood of South Beloit, IL; cousins, Toni Pini, Faye Merdian, Brian and Scotty Travers; best friend of over 51 years, Tony (Melonie) Shiro and family of Belvidere, IL; other relatives and friends including, Karlsson Roth of Prescott, AZ, his caring neighbors, and everyone at the Ole' Brass Rail in Phoenix.

He is predeceased by his parents; son, Chad Baker; aunts, Alice and Cecilia; and cousin, Gail.

A Visitation of Remembrance for Rex will be from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Sunday,

May 2, 2021 in the Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium,  
2355 Cranston Rd., Beloit, WI. Rex will be laid to rest with his parents at a later date.  
Social distancing and face masks are required.

# Events

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**MAY**   **Visitation**                      12:00PM - 02:00PM

**2**

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Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium  
2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI, US, 53511

# Comments

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“ Rex was one special guy who will be missed dearly! I had the opportunity to work with Rex at the Scottsdale/PV YMCA "back in the day" and I treasure the memories we had with each other and with our fellow colleagues/friends. I am blessed to be your friend - Love ya, Rex!

Dan Dummermuth - May 05, 2021 at 08:37 AM

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“ So many beautiful memories with my best friend Rex. We met in barber school in 1970 and We have kept in touch ever since. I've made several trips to Arizona to visit him and for the last 20 years he has come here every year and spent two weeks with us. Loved him dearly. Remember cruising around in that Buick GS with him driving. Even though we have aged being with Rex we were just like kids again great times. Thanks for the 51 years of friendship Rex. Rest In Peace



Tony Schiro - May 01, 2021 at 12:26 PM

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“ Your Beautiful Soul, Happy Spirit & Smile will remain in our hearts forever! R.I.P. , Cuz! Love & Hugs



Faye Pini Merdian - May 01, 2021 at 05:32 AM

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“ I knew Rex for a short time in the early 1970s and had the pleasure of briefly owning that yellow 1970 Buick GSX that he had previously owned. I seem to remember it smelled of English Leather. He was a nice, easy-going guy and the car was very fun to drive. I have a memory of riding with him in it before he sold it, along with a couple other friends, and getting up to a bit of mischief in Rockton late one night, possibly a burn-out in front of the cop shop, just good fun! I have a feeling we both wished over the years that we'd kept that car! RIP Rex and condolences to his entire family.



Angie - April 30, 2021 at 07:10 PM

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“ Rex will be missed by many, including those of us who worked with him at the Scottsdale YMCA in the late 80s, early 90s. A great guy, humble and hard working, he was a key part of our team and a big reason for our success. He loved his family and was proud of all his children and especially the youngest ones. Even through his health issues, Rexie stayed positive and upbeat, and maintained a great sense of humor. Rest in peace, my friend.

- Gene deManincor  
Rochester NY

Gene deManincor - April 30, 2021 at 07:45 AM

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“ 19 files added to the tribute wall

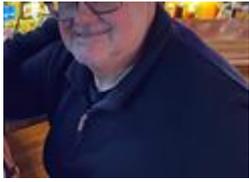


Rana Wood - April 29, 2021 at 10:03 AM

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“ 50 files added to the album LifeTributes



**Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium** - April 28, 2021 at 02:25 PM