



## Dr. Richard M. Affalter

July 10, 1946 - June 6, 2017

On Tuesday June 6, 2017, Richard M Affalter, DMD, age 70 of Gibsonia. Forever cherished husband of Susie (Susan) Affalter. Richard passed peacefully with his wife Susie and daughter Ryan by his side. Father of Richard Affalter Jr., Ryan (John) Arington, and Sara Affalter (Mark Baltrusaitis) and stepfather of Nick Arch (Jill Davis); Also survived by his former wife, the loving Terry Affalter, mother of his beautiful children. Brother of Dorothy (Paul) Jacob of CA, Patty (Phil) Graebing, Rob (Cindy) Affalter, and the late Jane Hitt; grandfather of Seth "Biddle" & Luke "Buddy", and little pup "Blackie" AKA "Bunji-Bunji"; Richard was preceded in death by his first wife Marilyn Affalter and son Seth. Rich graduated from Penn State in 1968, The University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine in 1974, and The Army Russian Language School in Monterey, CA. Rich practiced general dentistry in Monroeville with his son Richie, and with Ti, Doreen, and Patty loyally by his side. He patients claim he perfected the very technical "jiggle lip" technique which they appreciated. Rich was an accomplished photographer and loved his birds at North Park Lake and the Aviary, as well as photographing the seasonal displays at Phipps Conservatory. Together Rich and Susie could be found kayaking while shooting the morning birds at North Park Lake with home-made breakfast sandwiches and a thermos of coffee in tow. In addition they enjoyed their weekly, sometimes epic, road cycling adventures with their good buddy John Ehrhart. Together the three of them participated in (6) MS 150 Keystone Cycling Rides. They traveled the United

States extensively with Key West, the Pacific Northwest, Acadia and Yosemite National Parks, Rock Hall, Maryland, The Pacific Coast Highway, Carmel, Solvang, and Bokeelia Florida, among their personal favorites. Rich and Susie will always remember their weekly double or triple dates with their cherished friends, the DeMarcos and the Kridlers. Special thanks to Dr. Dennis Stull, Dr. Spinola, Dr. Dave Pasquale, Dr. Davar, Dr. Scott Freeman, Dr. Shawn Wright, Dr. Girdhar, Dr. Friedland, Dr. Jeremy Stone, and Dr. Monaco. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to Allegheny County Parks Foundation, 675 Old Frankstown Rd, Pgh PA 15239," Richard M. Affalter restricted for placement of a permanent bench in North Park", so that a bench may be placed in Richard's honor at North Park Lake. Friends received Friday 1-3 & 6-8 p.m. at Simons Funeral Home, Inc., 7720 Perry Hwy, Pgh., PA 15237 where all are welcome Saturday at 9:30 a.m. to leave for the burial, followed by an outdoor memorial service at 11 a.m. at North Park Lake, North Dakota Pavillion adjacent to the Wahdo:Gwas Wetland on Pearce Mill Rd.

# Tribute Wall

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“ Rich and Susan were part of an intimate group that trekked, "dunked", ice climed, bush planed, kayaked and photographed our way across Alaska from Anchorage, Denali, Denali Highway, Mount St. Elias and more. Rich was a master at documenting the natural beauty that surrounded us every moment of the journey. He shared his talent as a gift to all of us. Long after Alaska I enjoyed a sleep-over at Rich and Susan's home where Rich in a matter of minutes resolved a biking issue for me that had been very problematic for me for way too long. Rich, thank you for being you-strong, silent, seer of beauty, sharer of talent, steady companion in the great outdoors. Peace be with you. May God shower His love and blessings on Susan, your family, friends and others whose lives were touched by yours who grieve the loss of your presence. Know that you are loved.

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**Penelope Gardner** - June 08, 2017 at 07:26 AM