



## Frank Foster Sallee

February 17, 2020

Frank Foster “Rusty” Sallee passed away peacefully on February 17, 2020 after a formidable battle with Parkinson’s Disease.

Rusty was born in St. Joseph, Missouri to Frank Sallee and Nancy Foster Sallee. He grew up in the small town of Camdenton in the Lake of the Ozarks. In high school, Rusty played football and basketball for the Camdenton Lakers and remained close friends throughout his life with many of his teammates as he did with future law school classmates, colleagues, and neighbors. Rusty attended Dartmouth College and played football there before returning to his roots to complete his undergraduate studies. In 1978, he graduated alongside his mother, both earning their bachelor’s degrees from the University of Missouri. After a few years in banking, Rusty returned to MU where he earned his Juris Doctor in 1984. Rusty and his former wife, Nancy, raised their daughter, Betsy, their pride and joy, in Kansas City. He practiced law there for nearly 25 years and was the definition of a Gentleman’s Lawyer.

In 2009 Rusty moved to Jamestown, Rhode Island where he married his wife, Lisa, and immersed himself in the small town which is not unlike the one in which he grew up - where everyone knows everyone and there is a close-knit community. Rusty was admitted to the RI Bar and practiced law part-time and partnered with Lisa in running the Lionel Champlin Guest House together. He served on several volunteer boards for the Town of Jamestown and was a

member of the Jamestown Rotary Club, Jamestown Chamber of Commerce, and the Jamestown Community Chorus. In each of these organizations, he held the role of president for at least one term.

Rusty was most successful in life in the way with which most of us struggle. He was a genuinely kind and gentle man with an easy spirit. He rarely had a negative or unkind word to say about anyone and was generous with his time and skills. He was thoughtful of others and performed acts of kindness of which most will never know. He could be trusted with a confidence, was loyal, forgave easily, and assumed the best in others. He thought deeply about the way he lived life and stood by his convictions. After being an avid professional and college football fan for most of his life, he came to a decision several years ago to stop supporting the sport with the overwhelming evidence of brain injury that results for so many players.

Rusty's favorite toast was 'Alla Famiglia!' and his favorite pastime was spending time with his family. He often stopped to catch a beautiful sunset or vista and never took the beauty of Jamestown for granted. He leaves behind his wife, Lisa; his daughter, Betsy; his stepdaughters, Hannah, Alyssa, Kendra, and Camille; his sister, Deborah; his sister, Linda and her husband, Jerald; his brother, David and his wife, Lori; his sister-in-law, Laura Ray; his nieces and nephews, Loyd, Jacob, Carrie, Davis, Claire, Tyler, Taylor, Daniel, Eliana, Sebastian, Sophia, and Sydney; and beloved friends, Katelyn and Zach.

A memorial service and luncheon will be held at Swan Point Cemetery in Providence on Friday, March 20, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, a donation to the Jamestown Rotary Club, the Jamestown Community Chorus or the HopeHealth Hospice of RI would fittingly honor Rusty's life. Rest in Peace Kid #5.



# Tribute Wall

MJ

“ *Dear Lisa  
I am so sorry for the sad news of your loss. Rusty was a kind and gentle presence at the Lionel Chapman Guest House, both friendly and helpful with any question or need. More recently, it was heart-breaking to know his struggle, one that you endured as well. I will remember Rusty fondly as will Tammy Staab, Michelle Marra and other JAC artists who have passed your way. My heart is with you, Lisa, in this difficult time.*  
*Marjorie Jensen*  
*LCGH guest, September 2018, 2019*

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**Marjorie E Jensen** - March 17, 2020 at 08:17 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Frank Foster Sallee.*



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March 01, 2020 at 04:10 PM

TG

“ *We are so sad to learn about Rusty's death. Our love and sympathy to Lisa and to Rusty's family. We met Rusty about 10 years ago. We liked him immediately. Many good times with Rusty and Lisa, dinners, bike rides, cocktails on the porch at the Inn where Rusty and I solved most of the world's problems. It's too bad we weren't in charge of that. We will miss you , Rusty, but our love for you will remain in our hearts forever. Ted and Nancy*

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**Ted Guterman** - February 23, 2020 at 12:48 PM

KC

“ I met Rusty in 1983 or '84, during law school at the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he was a top student. After graduation both of us ended up in Kansas City, which turned out to be a good place to raise our families and pursue our careers. Over the years there were family dinners, canoe trips, and New Years Eve celebrations. Rusty helped raise his exceptional daughter, Betsy -- his most important legacy. He was a credit to his profession. He was a damn good friend, and he is gone far too soon.

*Keith Cary*

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**Keith Cary** - February 22, 2020 at 10:24 PM

GR

“ There are no words to express our sadness for all you have been through. We are so sorry for your loss. Will see you March 20.  
*Joe and Gerry*

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**Geraldine Roszkowski** - February 22, 2020 at 08:51 AM

RI

“ Our deepest sympathy to Lisa and the girls. Rusty was kind, gentle and will be missed. Ann, Greg, Doug and I will share Rusty's life tribute on March 20th.

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**Richard Imbruce** - February 21, 2020 at 07:25 PM

CT

“ Rich and I share your sadness. Rusty's smile could heal at a glance. He was at ease in his person and made those around him comfortable. You have our deepest sympathy, thoughts and prayers.

*Love,  
Carol and Rich*

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**Carol Ann Theuer** - February 21, 2020 at 02:39 PM

LW

“Rusty was perhaps the best man I have had the privilege to know and call my friend. If I could be half the Rusty was, I would consider myself blessed.

*Rest in Peace, brother. You earned it.*

*Love you,*

*Lindsay*

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**Lindsay Wood** - February 20, 2020 at 11:35 PM