



Richard Irwin Goodman

April 2, 1942 - August 19, 2025

Richard “Dick” Goodman passed away suddenly and unexpectedly in the early hours of August 19th, 2025. He had just attended a Suwanee planning meeting, gotten ready for bed and finished the Wordle. He passed away silently moments later with his wife and cat nearby.

Dick was born in New York City on April 2nd 1942 to Sheila and Jack Goodman. He was raised first in The Bronx and then in Elmont, New York. He graduated from Clarkson College in upstate New York with a Bachelor’s Degree of Science in Liberal Arts.

He began his career in public relations with the Mel Adams PR firm in Manhattan and later moved to Florida where he served as the President of the Public Relations Association of Miami.

He was a talented artist and photographer and lover of model trains. He was known for his love of jokes and puns and wrote a humor column in Miami Today for which he won the “Achiever Award” in 1993.

He married his wife Louise, on December 31st, 1975. Together they moved to Suwanee, Georgia, in 2006 where he became involved in his new hometown. He attended Leadership Gwinnett, and in 2010, Charlotte Nash, the Gwinnett County Commission Chairperson, appointed him to the Gwinnett County Public Library Board of Trustees where he served as Chair for nine years,

retiring in 2020 along with Mrs. Nash.

He was elected to the Suwanee City Council in 2009 and served through 2020. He was responsible for spearheading Suwanee's annual "Sculp Tour" and for selecting the beautiful suspended art piece that adorns the lobby of Suwanee City Hall. He promoted the initiative to request that all property developers in the City of Suwanee dedicate 1% of their building budget to a work of art displayed on their property, which continues today.

He loved the City of Suwanee and often remarked on the beauty of this town and how happy he was to live here.

His older brother Michael predeceased him. He is survived by three children by his first wife, Carol née Roccaro: Melissa Stanton and her husband Brian, David Goodman and his wife Mary Ellen Flannery, and Jennifer Goodman and her partner Jason Foster-Bey and seven grandchildren, Jack, Ava, Corinne, Lucy, Josephine, Margaret and William. He also shared three step-children with his wife of nearly 50 years, Louise: Edward Mehrman, Michael Mehrman, and Denise Varenhorst and her husband Regan Varenhorst, in addition to five more grandchildren, Ivy, Timothy, Chloe, Cassidy and Riley.

He is also survived by his beloved cat Tigger, a present from his wife. Tigger brought Dick immense joy, companionship and delight and is a testament to a pet's ability to enhance a person's life and touch their heart.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel of Flanigan Funeral Home. There will be a Reception immediately following at Suwanee City Hall, 330 Town Center Ave, Suwanee, GA 30024.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes to purchase the bench, an original granite sculpture which sits in front of the library and is part of the Suwanee Sculp Tour. Please click on the link:

<https://goodman.cheddarup.com/>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 5. 2:00 PM.

Chapel of Flanigan Funeral Home

Reception

OCT 5 (ET)

Suwanee City Hall
330 Town Center Ave
Suwanee
Suwanee, GA 30024

Tribute Wall

RC

“ Dick was always someone you could rely on. He was very good at his craft and always professional. He exemplified a positive outlook on life. My wife and I extend our condolences to Louise.

Ray Casas - September 12, 2025 at 12:01 PM

DO

“ My heart was broken to learn of his passing. 💔😭🙏 Many prayers and coldolences to his beautiful wife and wonderful family. He was an amazing man of man talents. He loved art, his community, the library and he was over the moon when Tigger joined the family. He will be dearly missed, but never forgotten.

Deborah Oscarson - September 11, 2025 at 04:08 PM

PR

“ I will always remember Dick for his sense of humor and creativity. Driving in the car with him, we stopped at a red light. Like magic, he turned to us (kids) and said, “watch this!” He blew, and the light turned green! I was amazed! I still use that trick today with my own grandchildren! Dick also made bedroom door signs for all the kids, and he very thoughtfully made one for me: “Pam’s pad” with the sweetest frog sitting on a lily pad. Generous, kind, funny, and thoughtful are just a few of the words I use to describe Dick.

Pam Renna - September 10, 2025 at 12:42 PM

AH

“ Richard and his fellow council members are the reason that we were able to bring Huthmaker Violins to Suwanee, and Richard himself was so supportive of us for over a decade. We never stopped appreciating everything that he has done for us and this community and will miss seeing his smile. He leaves behind a big hole in the heart of Suwanee. -Anna Huthmaker, Huthmaker Violins

Anna Huthmaker - September 03, 2025 at 04:47 PM

NL

“ I just learned of Dick's passing, and I am so sorry for his family's loss. I worked with Dick many times over the years, as we shared many clients. He was a kind and gentle soul, and probably the best copywriter that I ever knew! Rest in peace my friend.

Neil Littauer - September 02, 2025 at 05:30 PM

PJ

“ Sharing his knowledge with young Ms. Olivia.



Patricia M Jones - August 24, 2025 at 02:08 PM

DV

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



denise varenhorst - August 22, 2025 at 09:44 PM

KT

“ 1 file added to the album Dick Goodman



Kimberly Towne - August 21, 2025 at 06:31 PM

KT

“ My memories of Dick will be of his sense of humor - and a smile that truly went all the way up to his eyes! He had a playful, sometimes mischievous way, of sharing a joke or an anecdote. He was selfless in his community service and dedicated to his family, friends, and of course his beloved Tigger :) He is a character whose laughter will be greatly missed.

Kimberly Towne - August 21, 2025 at 06:30 PM

JC

This is so heartbreaking! He will be sorely missed! Grateful for his friendship and the many great memories I have with him. I will never forget his willingness to go out on a limb and stand with me 16 years ago when I ran for the State House! What an amazing friend!

Josh Clark - August 22, 2025 at 06:58 PM

KT

“ 1 file added to the album Dick Goodman



Kimberly Towne - August 21, 2025 at 06:23 PM