



Richard "Wally" Benjamin Swiderski

October 3, 1940 - April 9, 2026

Richard B "Wally" Swiderski

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of a beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend at the age of 85.

Wally lived a long and meaningful life, marked by strength, humor, dedication, and a deep love for his family. For nearly 50 years, he shared a devoted and loving marriage with his wife, Sue.

He dedicated 40 years of his life to his work at La-Z-Boy, where he built not only a career but countless friendships and lasting relationships. He was respected for his strong work ethic, fairness, and his ability to "shoot it straight," whether you asked for it or not.

He also gave back to his community in meaningful ways, serving for many years on both the Siloam Springs Library Board and the Siloam Springs Hospital Board. His commitment reflected his desire to make a difference and support the place he called home.

He was known for being tough but fair, a man of integrity with a generous and caring heart. He loved deeply.

At home, he found joy in cooking and took great pride in preparing meals to share with family and friends. One of his favorite traditions was making his homemade salsa and giving it to others, each jar carefully labeled "Return to Wally."

He also shared a special bond with his dog, Abby, who brought him lots of snuggles, comfort and companionship.

He is survived by his wife of the home; three daughters, Joan; Janis (Scott); and Jill (Brad); his brother, Ralph (Sue); his granddaughters, Sydney (Cody), Mallory (Luke) and Lauren; his grandson, Brenden; his nephew, Ben (Courtney); and his niece, Amy (Jon). He was recently blessed with his first great-grandson, Weston. He also had two great nephews and a great niece. Wally was preceded in death by his parents, Walter & Loretta Swiderski of Monroe, Michigan.

Though he will be deeply missed, his memory will live on through the love he gave, the meals he shared, and the many lives he touched.

A visitation is scheduled from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., Sunday, April 12, 2026, at Wasson Funeral Home in Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude's or Samaritan's Purse.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

2122 W. University St.
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 12. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home
441 U.S. 412
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479) 524-5131
wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Wasson Funeral Home Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard "Wally" Benjamin Swiderski*



Wasson Funeral Home - April 12 at 10:49 AM

DC

*That was absolutely a beautiful memorial of Mr Wally. I guess I have know him for about 25 years
And if your stomach and jaws didn't hurt from laughing at all of his jokes and stories, you really wasn't paying attention, i'll never forget every time I flew to Arkansas. We would always go out and eat at the Japanese steakhouse. In Bentonville, until we meet again, RIP MR. WALLY*

Dennis Clark - April 13 at 01:54 PM

DP

I worked in the corporate office of La-Z-Boy but spent a lot of time at the plants. Visiting the Siloam Springs plant was always "interesting"! We got our work done but never knew what Wally was going to pull out of his hat next! It was a pleasure working with him and I have recounted many of the crazy things done and said to other friends. Condolences to his family and friends.

David Pixley - April 14 at 11:01 AM

SM

*Wally was a great man whose attitude and love spread throughout the great LZB nation! RIP big guy!
Steve Matlock AZ*

Steve Matlock - April 14 at 07:10 PM

ST

“ *Many a happy memory sharing, exchanging Connecticut and Michigan polish sausage and peonies. And the Library Board. Glad we met, passing through*

Stephen Thomas - April 13 at 03:10 PM

DY

“ *Rest in peace Uncle Wally. You gave our family a lot of good laughs. You will be missed! Prayers to the family.
Love, Debbie Yeo*

Debbie Yeo - April 13 at 11:04 AM

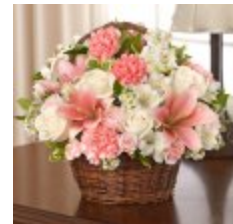
ST

“ *Susan T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Wally" Benjamin Swiderski.*

Susan T. - April 11 at 07:29 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Pink and White was purchased for the family of Richard "Wally" Benjamin Swiderski.*



April 11 at 01:45 PM

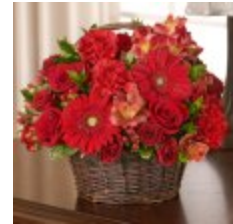
WJ

“ Wally was blessed with a unique and onry personality. He was very good at playing dumb while always being two steps ahead of whoever he was talking to. He was always playing tricks on his friends, like the time we looked at the house on the new lazboy site. The tenant Jan invited us inside for some turkey soup and some pie , we politely declined and looked at the house because Wally insisted , even though it was a tear down. A couple weeks later I got a nice card in the mail with lip stick all over the envelope from Jan , inviting me over for pie. Of course the card was from Wally . He had gotten me again.
We will miss him. Ward and Colleen jones

ward jones - April 11 at 12:23 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All Red was purchased for the family of Richard "Wally" Benjamin Swiderski.



April 10 at 11:14 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Richard "Wally" Benjamin Swiderski.

April 10 at 11:14 PM

GN

“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of one of the nicest guys I ever met. Wally and I crossed paths in nearly all, if not all of the avenues I visited. From school activities, scholarships, to Chamber work, Wally was always there and he and La-Z-Boy played a major part in each of them. He always had that big smile, was always outgoing and always great to be around. I cannot help but smile when I think of him and the times we were together. Our thoughts and prayers to Sue and the girls, and the other family members.

Grady and Sandra Nichols - April 10 at 09:26 PM

JF

“ Jim and Judy Kay Kreinans family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard "Wally" Benjamin Swiderski.

Jim and Judy Kay Kreinans family - April 10 at 03:48 PM

JF

“ Jim and Judy Kay Kreinans family purchased the Pink & White Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Richard "Wally" Benjamin Swiderski.



Jim and Judy Kay Kreinans family - April 10 at 03:48 PM

SW

“ Scott Wright lit a candle in memory of Richard "Wally" Swiderski



Scott Wright - April 10 at 03:04 PM



Wally was very nice person he would ask about our sons after he retired when i would see him in public

Vicki Hopping - April 10 at 04:33 PM

CR

First met Wally as a teenager in Monroe Michigan and he later was my upholstery instructor at La-Z- Boy. A few years later he was my supervisor for over 40 years. Had lots of fun and a lot of hard work. We had a lot of good times together. I will miss him.

Chyle Rollins

Chyle Rollins - April 10 at 10:19 PM

DC

Janis, I'm so sorry for the loss of your father. I never got to meet him but I always loved to hear you and Shelly tell funny Wally stories. I always figured he was probably quite the guy. I love you so much.

Deana Carroll - April 11 at 01:39 AM

HM

Wally and I have been friends since the late 60's and we met at La-Z-Boy. He cared very deeply for that company, and it shows in many of the comments I have read. He worked in Product Development, and I worked in Engineering, so we saw each other every day. To say he was a stinker is putting it mildly. Wally was very different in many ways, I know because I experienced most every trick he had to offer but I kept coming back for more.

My brother Dick and his wife Jeanne were just at the store Wally would go to when he came back to Monroe to stock up on kielbasa to take back to Arkansas, Joy View Meat Market in Dearborn Michigan. The owner found out while we were there that we worked at La-Z-Boy, so he came out and introduced himself. He told us all about Wally and wanted us to say Hi to him. This was on April 10th, 2026. I tried to call Wally the next day to let him know but was unable to get through. We found out the next day he was gone. He will be missed by a lot of folks especially with his very close friends he made over the years. Suzie you are a special person so you and the girls will be in our hearts during this time. May he rest in peace but I'm sure he's playing a trick on someone even as we speak. Thanks, Wally for all you taught me.

Harry and Vicki Micka

Harry J. Micka - April 15 at 07:15 AM