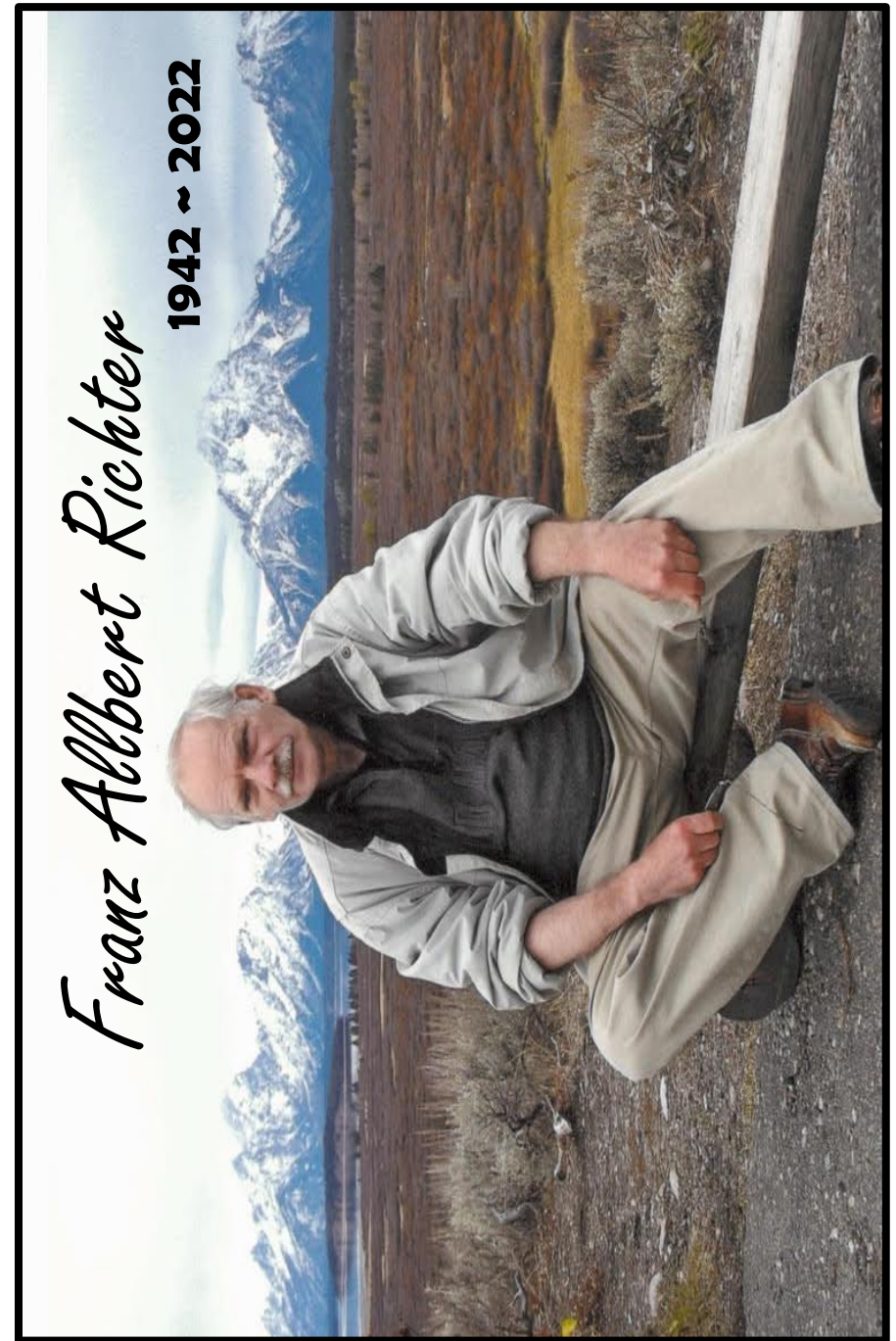


Franz Allbert Richter, born October 16th, 1942, in Seattle, WA, has long been considered one of the most influential artists and historians of the Upper Minnesota River Valley region. He grew up on a farm south of Clarkfield and after graduating from Clarkfield High school (Class of 1960) he moved to the Twin Cities to pursue further education. There he met and collaborated with the likes of Garrison Keillor, Robert Bly, and Architect Dennis Grebner. After a stint in the south and a summer in California in 1967, Richter returned to his home farm to pursue “a life in art.”

Richter is known for his exquisite pencil drawings, some of which have been used to illustrate the work of Robert Bly and Bill Holm. He was influential in the establishment of Tokheim Stoneware’s first kiln. He was an early collaborator with famed Rosemaling Artist Karen Jenson of Milan and Letterpress Printer Andy Kahmann of Montevideo. It was Richter’s sense of design and his extensive networks with creative artists in the region that helped give rise to the establishment of the Meander Upper Minnesota River Arts Crawl in 2004. Richter’s work has been distributed far and wide throughout the course of his career.

Franz passed away at the Montevideo Hospital on Friday, December 2nd, 2022, at the age of 80. He was preceded in death by his parents, Fritz and Leona (Myhre) Richter. Franz is survived by his sister, Betty (Charles) Ostlie and their 4 children: Joy (Felipe) Nava, Jared (Rachel) Ostlie, Amy-Li Ostlie, and Julae Ostlie, along with 6 great-nieces and nephews. Isaac Franz Ostlie, the youngest great-nephew, was named after Franz. Richter was loved by his family and friends and described by his nieces and nephew as lively, creative, kind and gentle. He blessed them with storytelling and invited them to take part in various art activities such as watercolor painting, Native American beading, wood chipping, and wood burning.



The Twenty-Third Psalm

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green
pastures, He leadeth me beside the still
waters.*

*He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou
art with me; thy rod and thy staff they
comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me in the
presence of mine enemies, thou anointest
my head with oil, my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, and I will dwell in
the house of the Lord forever.*



In Loving Memory of

Franz Allbert Richter

October 16, 1942



December 2, 2022

Celebration of Life

Madison Mercantile

601 1st St., Madison, Minnesota

Sunday, December 18th, 2022

3:00 PM

Officiant

Pastor Doug Clevenger

Guitarist

Julae Ostlie

Honorary Urnbearers

Patrick Moore

Gene Tokheim

Andy Kahmann

Richard Handeen

Gary Lenz

Jianhua "Chen" Qian

Dan Canton

John Beske