



## Dennis A. Brebner

May 7, 1952 - May 17, 2023

Dennis Brebner, 71, of Lake Bluff, Illinois, found peace on Wednesday, May 17th, 2023, surrounded by his loving family after a valiant fight with cancer. He was born on May 7th, 1952, to Alex “Sandy” Simpson Brebner and Adeline T. Brebner (nee Baldwin) of Lake Forest.

Dennis is survived by his wife of 44 years, Maureen (nee Thunder); son Christopher (Angela) Thunder, and their children Michelle, Catherine, Alyssa, Dylan, and Dalton; son Ryan (Megan) Brebner, and their children Patrick, Claire, and William; daughter Laura (Charles III) Robbins, and their son, Charles IV; and daughter Elizabeth (Jeremiah) Hintz, and their daughters Adeline and Avalee; as well as his brothers, Richard (Nancy) and Thomas (Josephine) Brebner. He is preceded in death by his oldest brother William “Bill” (surviving Cheryl) Brebner.

Upon graduation from Lake Forest High School in 1970, Dennis attended the University of Illinois-Champaign, and earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1974. Dennis quickly secured a position as an Administrative Aide for the Lake County Department of Personnel until transferring to the DuPage County Personnel Department to serve as Executive. By 1980, he returned to Lake County as Assistant Personnel Director, and graduated with a Doctorate of Jurisprudence from DePaul University Law School in Chicago, Illinois, in 1982. In 1986, Dennis founded the Law Firm of Robinson and Brebner. In

1992, Dennis established R&B Solutions and continued to practice law under Dennis A. Brebner and Associates. Both his company and law firm focused on helping those in need by working with hospitals and state governments to advocate for the uninsured, protect student borrowers from default, and securing disability benefits. Dennis also successfully challenged the State of Illinois' "sudden onset" requirement for Medicaid in the Illinois Supreme Court on behalf of an Illinois hospital, establishing a precedent used to this day.

Dennis was known for his generosity, love of family, and his incredible judge of character. Dennis enjoyed long walks through the woods and around his treasured hometown with his family and beloved dogs. He adored playing with his grandchildren. He loved taking his boat on Lake Michigan, delighted in ice cream on a beautiful day in the Square with family and going for a summer drive. Dennis was a natural orator with an entrepreneurial spirit, a fervent interest in politics, kind and warm, and always willing to fiercely protect his loved ones and care for those dear to him. He possessed a wealth of stories, great appreciation of history and genealogy, an unwavering integrity, and dedication to providing his family with the best possible life without concern for himself. Although he will be deeply missed, his spirit lives on in the memories of his family.

A Celebration of Life is planned for July 1, 2023 at the Gorton Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, IL, from 1 to 5pm. For more info. [www.RTfunerals.com](http://www.RTfunerals.com) or (847) 234-9649.

In lieu of flowers, please support the Stop EtO in Lake County campaign and advocate against the dangerous emissions of ethylene oxide.

# Cemetery Details

## Lake Forest Cemetery

1525 North Lake Road  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUL 1. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Gorton Center  
400 E. Illinois Road  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

# Tribute Wall

TL

“ Dennis and I traveled to Germany and Austria after college and had a really good time. I especially remember the scenic train ride through the mountains, our stay in Salzburg, and the Inn keeper welcoming us in German. Although we haven't lived in the same area, he was a great friend!

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**Thomas Letten** - June 05, 2023 at 02:24 PM

JR

“ Dennis could discern entire plots of brand new episodes of "Star Trek the Next Generation" and "Law and Order" before the first commercial break (in which he'd share his predictions) much to amusement and amazement to Chris and myself - Josh Rucinski

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**Josh Rucinski** - May 26, 2023 at 02:22 PM

SC

“ Dennis was a friend of mine and partner in crime LOL. I fondly remember playing golf with Dennis, brother Dick and great friend Michael Douglas at the patch and having a bunch of laughs over the frustration of the game. I guess we all laughed at each other; it wasn't a pretty sight. We shared some unique experiences and after high school we went our separate ways like so many, but when I saw him it was always great to talk and catch up. I will miss him. Thanks Dennis for your warmth and friendship.

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**stafford carpenter** - May 24, 2023 at 05:40 PM