



Vernon Jay Rakestraw

November 16, 1946 - February 27, 2021

Washington, District of Columbia

On February 27, 2021, Vernon Jay Rakestraw died at home in Washington. He was 74. Born on November 16, 1946, with English-American roots that shaped the table more than the flag. He learned that neighborhoods remember who helps without being asked.

He drew wire that would not forgive a bad die. A wire drawing die gauge block rode his bench like a conscience. Colleagues still mention a wire drawing die gauge block.

He married Jean in 1968. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two daughters through public schools and ordinary weather. After Jean died in 2014, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember someone who swept the sidewalk past the property line when weather had been unfair. He preferred the hour before a town fully wakes. Washington was home enough that he never rehearsed an introduction. The recipe card is still stained in the useful places.

Services

A memorial gathering in Washington with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

NN-OBIT-2026-C1029

<https://noticenearby.com/obituaries/vernon-jay-rakestraw-obituary-washington-dc>

On-chain proof: <https://noticenearby.com/obituaries/vernon-jay-rakestraw-obituary-washington-dc/proof>

View on blockchain: <https://basescan.org/tx/0x50d883aa7dc9c2c75f750f877e05a3c2e83820f32645cdb7409f51a7feb840da>

Base stores the content hash, publication number, memorial id, and timestamp - not the full obituary text. The complete memorial remains on Notice

*Nearby. This is not a legal affidavit.
This page is a memorial, not a legal affidavit.*