



P.S. I'm Dead

BY THOMAS RUBICK

This to let you know I died of brain cancer on July 19. Really. I was diagnosed in June, 2008 and have been having an interesting relationship (not one of those heroic battles) with it since. But finally the cancer won and I died. And because cancers are incredibly stupid, so did it. (Note to scientists: work on a smarter cancer with a broader understanding of the implications of its actions.)

Since I wrote this before I died I don't know the details but I'm sure my death was inspiring, noble, and loving. Or not. I really don't know. Nor does it matter once you're dead, I suspect.

I'm sorry to have left those who loved me so well my whole life: my wife Jeanne Maasch of Eugene; my sister Paulette Johnson of Ventura, California; my mother Patricia Craighead of Oxnard, California, and my truly wonderful children (Jade Rubick, Cody Rubick and Emilie Lamson) and delightful grandchildren (Tony, Sasha, Vivi, and Tina)—all of whom live in Portland. I love them beyond words and wish them the best. I also have a half-brother, Monte Rubick, in Lake Forest, California.

I was also blessed with beautiful and loving friends. More, I realized through this process, than I truly realized. In fact, there was much that I learned and I feel blessed. I have had a wonderful life. I wish you the same.

P.S. In case it's mandatory to include the facts: I was born to Patricia and Tony Rubick on March 16, 1948 in Long Beach, California. I received a BA from California State University in Long Beach and a MA from Kent State University. My first wife and the mother of my sons is Donna Sires in Portland. I married Jeanne Maasch in 1989. I lived in Eugene since 1977 and was co-founder of Rubick & Funk Graphic Design. I taught as an adjunct at the University of Oregon for five years and in the Art Department at Lane Community College for 21. That's about it.