

# Let's Talk Food



Contributed photos

Rick Olson and his prime rib.

## Olson shares the love Leaves legacy of showing love with food

By LAUREL BEAGER  
Editor

Rick Olson loved cooking and his community. He loved both so much he shared, in his own words, his successful and long-sought prime rib recipe on his funeral bulletin.

Rick's family opened The Spot in 1936 and served all kinds of food. Rick returned to International Falls after graduating from chef school in Hibbing and an Alto Shaam oven was installed at The Spot.

"That's when he started creating his prime rib," his wife, Sue, said. "People praised him, they loved it and everybody wanted to know how to cook it. People would call us Sundays at home to talk to Rick

about how to do his prime rib."

"He loved the Falls and the people and he showed his love with food," Sue said. "He loved cooking for family, friends and our customers."

Rick won many awards for his cooking in barbecue contests and cooked for Gov. Rudy Perpich at the Governor's Mansion in St. Paul. With his talent as a chef and his accomplishments, Sue said he remained humble.

"He could have advanced his chef career by moving to a bigger city, as he was asked by many restaurant owners who ate at The Spot, but he remained faithful to the International Falls area," Sue said.

When Rick became very sick, he asked Sue to write in a "five wishes" document that he wanted to share his prime rib recipe with the

**Olson to 9 ➤**



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