



Erik Joseph Drylie

June 4, 1983 - April 23, 2023

North Augusta, SC – Services for Erik Joseph Drylie, 39, devoted husband, father, son, brother, uncle, and friend, who died unexpectedly on April 23, 2023, will be conducted Saturday morning at 10 o'clock from Quest Church, Pastor John Kenney officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home Friday evening from 5 until 7.

Erik was raised on Hilton Head Island, where he enjoyed wearing his shorts and flip-flops many days on the beach. His path led him to a life of serving others. Erik graduated from the University of Miami with a degree in law and returned to South Carolina to serve as an attorney. He dedicated his legal career to public service, serving as an Assistant Solicitor and former Public Defender in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, and as an attorney educator at the USC Children's Law Center. Erik also served as a member of the Edgefield County Board of Education.

While Erik had many professional accomplishments, his legacy will remain because of his service to children and youth. Erik served as a volunteer recreation basketball coach and as an active volunteer with the youth ministry at Quest Church. Erik and his wife Melinda served as foster parents and 13 children were loved and nurtured in their home. While they enjoyed fostering, the last foster children they were asked to love stole their hearts and in October of 2022, they stole their last name. Erik often played basketball with

Michael in the driveway and helped Dixie with homework. He cooked gourmet meals in their home every night, and he was mostly devoted to being their dad and Melinda's husband. Erik will always be Michael and Dixie's biggest fan.

Erik is preceded in death by his grandmothers, Emmy Lou Drylie and Betty Church. Erik is survived by his wife, Melinda, his children, Dixie and Michael, his father Al Drylie, his mother, Annie Drylie, his sister and brother-in-law Heather and Scott Grupp, his nieces, Emma and Layla Grupp, his mother-in-law, Teresa Kezer, his sisters-in-law, Brittney Kezer, Michelle Hyden (Andrew) and his nieces Hailey, Forest, Lilly, and Zoe Hallman.

Erik's life mission revolved around James 1:27. He believed in caring for the vulnerable, and spent time serving in an orphanage in Guatemala and then by fostering children in his home state of South Carolina. Erik would love nothing more than donations being made in his memory for such causes. Therefore, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Erik's memory to Fostering the Family at fosteringthefamily.kindful.com or to The Hale Foundation at 402 Walker St., Augusta, GA 30901.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **28**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Posey Funeral Directors
1307 Georgia Ave
North Augusta, SC 29841
(803) 278-1181
admin@poseycares.com
<https://www.poseycares.com>

Service

APR **29**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Quest Church
5001 Gateway Blvd.
Grovetown, GA 30813

Tribute Wall



“ *Posey Funeral Directors created a Tribute Video in memory of Erik Joseph Drylie*



Posey Funeral Directors - April 26, 2023 at 09:18 AM

RP

So sad to hear he was a great man and will be missed by many. My prayers go out to his family.

Red Peel - April 26, 2023 at 04:27 PM

EC

We pray for peace and comfort for your family

Eugene and Gertrude Cuthbert - April 28, 2023 at 11:20 PM

RO

i will always keep my dad i my heart

royedgar - March 11, 2024 at 01:58 PM

RE

“ *Roy Arthur Edgar sent a virtual gift in memory of Erik Joseph Drylie*



roy arthur Edgar - March 11, 2024 at 09:48 AM

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RE

“ Roy Arthur Edgar sent a virtual gift in memory of Erik Joseph Drylie



roy arthur Edgar - March 11, 2024 at 09:47 AM

RO

“ Roy lit a candle in memory of Erik Joseph Drylie



roy - March 11, 2024 at 09:47 AM

RO

“ Roy sent a virtual gift in memory of Erik Joseph Drylie



roy - March 11, 2024 at 09:47 AM

RO

“ Roy sent a virtual gift in memory of Erik Joseph Drylie



roy - March 11, 2024 at 09:46 AM

RO

“ Roy sent a virtual gift in memory of Erik Joseph Drylie



roy - March 11, 2024 at 09:46 AM

RO

“ Roy sent a virtual gift in memory of Erik Joseph Drylie



roy - March 11, 2024 at 09:46 AM

RE

“roy will always love him

roy arthur Edgar - March 11, 2024 at 09:39 AM



“Erik Joseph Drylie

October 06, 2023 at 06:29 AM



“A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Erik Joseph Drylie.

May 21, 2023 at 09:50 PM



“A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Erik Joseph Drylie.

May 21, 2023 at 09:50 PM

MN

“I am so sorry to hear this. We worked at The Cheesecake Factory together. He was a really good guy. Sending love and prayers to his family

Michael Nathanson - May 17, 2023 at 04:43 PM

CB

“So saddened to hear this. Erik was such a sweet guy. I'll be praying for you all, Heather, Annie, Al, Melinda, and your two precious children. He will be missed, but his impact on the lives of those he met, will live on forever.

Cathy Brown - April 29, 2023 at 10:59 AM

PB

“ *Melinda, I remember you from the UH Coumadin Lab. I know how much you love children and how happy you were with the first foster assignment you got. So sorry to read this about Erik. We will keep your family in our prayers. God will take care of you! 💕💕*

Paul and Carol Bunch

Paul Bunch - April 28, 2023 at 08:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.*



April 27, 2023 at 08:16 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.*



April 27, 2023 at 03:48 PM

JB

“ I worked on the DJJ team with Erik at the CLC, and he was one of my favorite people I have ever worked with. I always enjoyed our morning conversations about traffic, books, movies, cooking, traveling, and our families. He was a genuine person who was always easy to talk to. I am heartbroken to hear about his passing. I pray for comfort and peace for his family during this very difficult time. He will be missed.

Jennifer Barr - April 27, 2023 at 09:42 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.



April 27, 2023 at 08:34 AM

MK

“ All the Sisters of the Infant Jesus in New York, offer our heartfelt condolences to the family on this painful loss. We will remember Eric and the family in our Mass tomorrow and in our prayers for the remainder of the week.

*With our love and prayers,
Sister Mary Lou and all the Sisters*

Mary L Kelly - April 26, 2023 at 05:54 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.*



April 26, 2023 at 04:32 PM



“ *Erik was never anything but kind to me and always made me feel welcome whenever I saw him. I am so heartbroken by the news of his passing. Melinda, Dixie, Michael, and family, you are all in my prayers.*

Sarah Dasher - April 26, 2023 at 04:19 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.*



April 26, 2023 at 01:55 PM



“ *Erik was a good friend to all at the Edgefield County Courthouse. Last week he made a comment at work that was so funny, I had a hard time breathing! He will be missed!*

Sonny Reel - April 26, 2023 at 01:46 PM



“ 85 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Posey Funeral Directors - April 26, 2023 at 09:11 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.



April 26, 2023 at 08:46 AM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.



April 26, 2023 at 08:41 AM

LU

“ Erik I only knew you for a short time, but it didn't seem like it. You were a very nice person very family oriented, very pleasant. I'm glad to have met you, I'm glad to know your mom & your family. I will keep an eye on your mom. Until we meet again, your friend Lucy. My condolences to the family.

Lucy - April 25, 2023 at 08:32 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.



April 25, 2023 at 07:36 PM

SD

“ I will always remember Erik as an outstanding student at HHCA who loved the Lord and his fellow friends. No words can take away or reduce the grief you are having but please know that Erik was loved and will always be in my heart.

With sympathy,
Sam Dagher - Teacher

Sam Dagher - April 25, 2023 at 07:15 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.



April 25, 2023 at 04:54 PM

JC

“ Erik, a school board member's state of mind has a great deal to do with his or hers effectiveness as a leader. No matter how difficult the situation, YOU always maintained a positive attitude and conveyed your certitude that the board's decision was in the best interest of all Edgefield County School students. For this, we will always be grateful! May God's Grace be with Melinda and the kids.

James Courtney - April 25, 2023 at 04:45 PM

EE

“ Melinda, our hearts go out to you. We are holding you & your family in our prayers. ~Eryn Eubanks & The Family Fold

Eryn Eubanks - April 25, 2023 at 04:20 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.



April 25, 2023 at 03:23 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Erik Joseph Drylie.



April 25, 2023 at 02:54 PM

CW

“ Erik, you were one of a kind. The most loving and fun dad, a generous foster parent, a good friend and an amazing cook! You sir will be missed forever. We love you and we'll take good care of Melinda and the kids, until we meet again friend.

cortney wheeler - April 25, 2023 at 02:41 PM