



Eric J. DiBlasi, Sr.

August 17, 1956 - February 24, 2019

Mr. Eric John DiBlasi, Sr., 62, of Seymour, passed away on Sunday, February 24, 2019 at his home surrounded by his immediate family. The family shared scripture readings and said the Lord's Prayer while sitting around his bedside just prior to his passing.

He was born in Buffalo, NY, to Ann Marie (Gorczyca) and Major Philip DiBlasi, who both survive.

His father served in the United States Air Force, taking them to Georgia, Texas and Puerto Rico. They settled in Madisonville, KY in 1969, where Eric met his wife at Madisonville North Hopkins Senior High School, both class of 1974. He ultimately won her over by tying her shoes to her desk right before the bell dismissed them from chemistry class in 1973. On July 16, 1977, he married Joyce Gayle Rowan in Louisville, KY, and she survives.

After graduating University of Louisville in 1978 with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology with a Minor in Religious Studies, Eric enrolled in Samford University McWhorter School of Pharmacy in Birmingham, AL in 1979. He graduated in 1982. He worked as a pharmacist for 36 years in both hospital and retail settings. In recent years he was an instructor at Ivy Tech for its certified pharmacy technicians program.

Eric and Joyce moved to Seymour, IN in 1988 where they raised three sons ♦ Eric (Madeleine) DiBlasi, Jr. of Seymour, Alex (Alexa Altman) of Portland, OR, and Nicholas (Heather) DiBlasi of Paoli, IN ♦ and they all survive. Family was most important to Eric. He served as Cub Scout Den Leader for Pack 529, coached youth soccer teams and always eager to help in any activities his sons participated. He served on the Ball State University Parent Advisory Board from 2003 to 2006.

Mr. DiBlasi was also of very strong Christian faith, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." Colossians 3:23 was his work email signature. During his illness he reminded his family, ♦one way or another I will get better.' He was a member of First Baptist Church of Seymour where he served as a deacon,

accompanied the youth group on mission trips, played guitar in the praise band, served as sound system operator and served on many committees over the years. For over a span of 30 years he was also a Sunday School teacher with children and youth. His style and leadership with youth and with his peers was an inspiration to many. During his five-month illness, upon receiving cards, emails and words of encouragement from many people, Eric commented he didn't realize how many people cared for him.

Anyone who talked to him for more than five minutes picked up on the fact that music was a very important part of Eric's life. As kids, his sons were introduced to The Beatles, Pink Floyd, The Who and other favorite classic rock bands. As an avid musician he loved to be home playing one of his many guitars, one of which he restored top to bottom a couple of years ago. He was a member of former contemporary Christian band New Mercy. Les Paul was a major influence on the music he liked to play and the noise he liked to make with his guitar. When Mr. Paul died in 2009 Eric produced and hosted a Les Paul tribute for 96.3 WJAA in Seymour, where he also was co-host of the "Beatles Power Hour" for the past two years.

Eric also appreciated historic architecture, especially works by Frank Lloyd Wright. The sixth member of his family was his 1912 home, which he enjoyed restoring. Another labor of love were his two dogs, Lucy and Zoie, which he was seen frequently walking and as his sons joked, was one of his hobbies.

Eric had a wonderful sense of humor, which he instilled in his sons, and always made life at the DiBlasi house fun. While he came across as quiet, he was on stage for several theatre productions at Jackson County Community Theatre and at First Baptist Church. His favorite quote was from the movie "Harvey," "◆In this world, Elwood, you must be oh so smart or oh so pleasant.' Well, for years I was smart. I recommend pleasant. You may quote me on that." and this was reflected in the way he lived.

He is preceded in death by his in-laws, Rev. Charles and Ima Rowan, Sr.; brothers-in-law, Bill Johnson, Chuck Rowan, Jr. and Rev. Gary Rowan; sisters-in-law, Margaret Rowan and Mitzi (Utterback) Rowan; and one great-nephew, Connor Rowan.

He is also survived by his brother, Philip (Jan Hemberger) DiBlasi; brother-in-law, John (Donna) Rowan; sisters-in-law, Patricia Johnson, Susan Rowan, Nancy (Dudley) Young and Annette Rowan; 16 nieces and nephews; and 30 great-nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be on Saturday, March 2, at 10 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Seymour with Rev. Dr. Bruce Cochran and Rev. Dr. Jeremy Myers officiating. Friends may

call on Friday, March 1 from 3 to 8 p.m. at Voss Funeral Service and one hour before the service at the church on Saturday. Burial will be in Louisville Memorial Gardens, West.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be written to Indiana Creek Baptist Camp (located in Bedford, IN) and sent to Voss Funeral Service at 316 N. Chestnut St., Seymour IN 47274.

Online condolences may be given on the funeral home website at www.vossfuneralservice.com.

Events

MAR **Visitation** 03:00PM - 08:00PM

1

Voss Chapel

316 North Chestnut Street, Seymour, IN, US, 47274

MAR **Visitation** 09:00AM - 10:00AM

2

First Baptist Church

505 Community Drive, Seymour, IN, US

MAR **Funeral** 10:00AM

2

First Baptist Church

505 Community Drive, Seymour, IN, US

Comments



“ Eric always had a smile and a good word for us. I will miss seeing him on his dog walks . DBS



Dave Swaney - February 26, 2019 at 08:36 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Sarah McGill - February 26, 2019 at 06:14 PM



“ Joyce and family.. You all, were blessed to know Eric and to enjoy him. This is a very sad time



Tandi Mitchell Sager - February 26, 2019 at 05:24 PM



“ Joyce and family,

I am so very saddened to hear of Eric's passing. I was so hopeful for a different outcome.

I am very aware of the feelings associated with such a loss and know that no words I say here can begin to diminish the grief and loss you all are feeling. The best I can offer at this stage is my spiritual and prayerful support. May the Spirit of the

Comforter be with you as all of you walk through this fresh grief and difficult experience together.

I will not be able to be with you personally for either visitation or Memorial Service as I am in Florida and will only be beginning my return trip on Friday.

May the Comfort of the Holy Spirit be your Gift.

Rev. Donald R. Smith

Donald Smith - February 26, 2019 at 03:15 PM



“ I remember Eric from being a pharmacist at the hospital. He always did funny drawings on notes to nurses. Joyce, so sorry for your loss.

Peggy Findley - February 26, 2019 at 04:30 PM



“ Joyce and family I am so sorry for your loss. I am sure he is jamming with the Savior though. Prayers for you all

Mindy - February 26, 2019 at 05:41 PM



“ Joyce and Family, You don't know who we are but we are very good friends of Phil and Ann. She called us but could not get to the phone to let us know. They talked a lot about Eric and we had the chance to meet him when he came to visit. My heart goes out to everyone in the family. All I can say is that may the Peace of Christ be with you in this time, especially in the weeks and months to come. God Bless.

Rev. Marty and Pamela Martinez
Earlington United Methodist Church

Rev. Marty Martinez - February 28, 2019 at 09:32 AM



“ I was the coordinator at a cornerstone group home so had lots of contact with Eric at Genoa. What a sweet, funny man. He will be missed. So sorry.

Carta Lian

Carra Lian - February 28, 2019 at 10:54 PM



“ Kathy Utterback Jetton lit a candle in memory of Eric J. DiBlasi, Sr.



Kathy utterback jetton - February 26, 2019 at 03:10 PM



“ Teresa Dowden lit a candle in memory of Eric J. DiBlasi, Sr.



teresa dowden - February 26, 2019 at 02:44 PM



“ I knew him from working at the Centerstone pharmacy in Columbus. He was always so nice. I know he was a Christian. I really missed him when he quit. I'm so sorry to hear of his passing. Praying for God's comfort and strength to the family.

teresa dowden - February 26, 2019 at 02:43 PM



“ Christie Beal France lit a candle in memory of Eric J. DiBlasi, Sr.



Christie Beal France - February 26, 2019 at 02:15 PM



“ Never will forget all the good times at the pharmacy. Eric always made the day fun some how. Rest in peace Eric



Jamie Mosley - February 26, 2019 at 01:16 PM



“ I had the great honor and privilege of working with Eric at Austin Pharmacy. He was a warm, kind, generous, wonderful man. He had a quick wit that always made me laugh. Knowing him and calling him a friend enriched my life. My heart aches for all of you. Lean on your Faith and God, knowing Eric is right there with him.



Kelly Railing Watson - February 26, 2019 at 11:42 AM



“ Our family is so saddened by the passing of Eric. Our families go way back with many fond memories. One of the things that stood out to me the most about Eric was his willingness to volunteer to take youth & teens on mission trips. He put his comfort aside to impact the spiritual lives of children & teens. We need more men like Eric in this world! Joyce, Eric Jr, Alex & Nick, my heart hurts for each of you knowing it will be hard to go on without your husband/father! However, your grief & pain are a testimony to the great love you shared. I know you will find comfort & peace in the arms of our Savior, Jesus Christ! May God give each of you "blessed assurance" each time you think of Eric, knowing God's great plan of salvation is now a reality for him. Praising God for the life, love, commitment & faithfulness of Eric. Draw near to Christ, for that is where your loved one is!!!

Carol, Tom, Shane & Brett - February 26, 2019 at 11:01 AM



“ Tom's name is supposed to be on there too!

Carol, Tom, Shane & Brett - February 26, 2019 at 11:04 AM



“ Eric was always a smiling face. I appreciated his sense of humor. Prayers & hugs to you & your family.

Susan Waltz - February 26, 2019 at 11:53 AM