



Eric Cecil Dick

January 16, 1975 - January 5, 2021

Eric Dick passed away unexpectedly, January 5.

Eric was born January 16, 1975 to Cecil and Gloria Dick. He grew up in Burlington Wisconsin, attending Burlington Area schools. Eric went on to major in political science at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. His grandfather referred to him as “the old politician,” so it was no surprise that politics would be his future.

Eric was employed by the Minnesota Medical Association, advocating for physicians and health care issues in general. It was a job he thoroughly enjoyed and was passionate about. Prior to his current position, he worked for Congressman Ron Kind (Wisconsin) as both a staff member and coordinating his campaigns and for the Minnesota legislature.

Piper and Holland, his dogs, were the love of his life. Eric also enjoyed travelling, with Amsterdam being a favorite destination. Eric could also be known to chat about music for hours. Favorite bands included Jason Isbell and Phish. He was also known to listen to a Grateful Dead or Bob Dylan song or two.

Eric is survived by his dogs. He is also survived by his sister Amy (Scott) Gleason of Durham, North Carolina. Other surviving relatives are his aunt, Judy Anderson of Mukwonago, Wisconsin; cousins, Wendy (Scott) Chatterton of Mukwonago; John (Kate) Weiser, of Rochester; Tracy Reichenbach (Ryan), of Superior, Colorado; and Matt Weiser (Lee Ann) of Waconia; and many close friends.

He was preceded in death by his beloved dog, Jersey, his parents, grandparents, and aunts and uncles.

Arrangements for a celebration of Eric's life will be made at a later date.

Memorial donations be made in Eric's name to the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation or the Minnesota Public Radio Endowment.

Tribute Wall

TG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Todd Gilding - May 07, 2021 at 09:57 AM

TG

“ I am shocked and saddened to her of the death of my old friend. The moment we met we were fast friends and from 12-18 we were somewhat inseparable. I pulled out my Senior year yearbook and read the note he left me. I am gutted and I will cherish and hold onto all my memories I have with my friend Eric.

Todd Gilding - May 07, 2021 at 09:36 AM

TG

Eric would laugh at all my spelling errors in my comment. Goodbye old friend.

Todd Gilding - May 07, 2021 at 09:38 AM

MG

“ We are shocked and saddened to learn of Eric's death. He was a good friend to our son Todd, and we spent time with him when he worked for Congressman Kind. He will be missed by all who had the joy to know him. Our hearts go out to his sweet sister Amy.

Mary Gilding - May 07, 2021 at 09:32 AM

MG

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Mary Gilding - May 07, 2021 at 09:30 AM



“ We had the pleasure to get to know Eric because he was our backyard neighbor. For ten years we shared a love of dogs and traveling and playing catch up over the fence. He was a great conversationalist and his infectious laugh and quick wit will be deeply missed. He always had a cheerful hello to our kids whenever they snuck over to say hi to Holland and Piper. We knew what an incredible man Eric was, but reading about the impact he had in his professional life makes him that much more special. We were shocked and devastated to learn of his passing. And even today, feel like we will still catch a glimpse of him and the dogs around the neighborhood.

Brian and Michelle Jacobson

Michelle Jacobson - February 05, 2021 at 11:44 PM

DL

“ I will never forget Eric's smile and witty sense of humor around the halls of the Capitol. Even during the longest most grueling committee hearings or floor sessions, I could always count on Eric for a laugh. During my own time of grief, he was always there for support and truly was one of the kindest most generous colleagues I have ever know. He will be truly missed.

Daniel Lightfoot - February 04, 2021 at 01:05 PM

JM

“ Eric was one of the kindest people I ever met. Always helpful, always generous, and always, in every situation, kind. So sorry that he is gone. We will miss him.

John Marty - February 03, 2021 at 07:33 PM

CA

“ I was so shocked and saddened to hear about Erik's passing. He was an absolutely lovely guy who I enjoyed so much as a work colleague and friend. He was so well-liked at the State Capitol and in political circles, and was known for being an honest, straight shooter in his work style - serious and determined but amiable. We will really miss his presence at the Capitol. Im also so sorry because I know how much he loved his dogs - we shared that in common. If I can be of any assistance on that front, please know I am willing to help. My best to his family.

Cristine Almeida

Cristine Almeida - January 31, 2021 at 09:58 PM

MP

“ Eric always had a kind word and made you feel welcome in the conversation. He brightened my day every time we had a conversation. He was so passionate about legislative advocacy and was able to inspire others to be effective advocates and to have confidence in their voice. Eric's work on preserving Minnesota's Newborn Screening Program at the Legislature will have beneficial effects for our children for many years to come. I will miss him.

Marilyn Peitso - January 26, 2021 at 04:39 PM

BW

“ *What a sad loss for all of us. I got to know Eric through work at the MMA and AMA. We worked together on a task force. He inspired us to be inclusive, open-minded and collegial. He was kind and gracious, smart, knowledgeable and articulate. We all knew he was superb at his profession.*

Any day that I saw or talked with Eric was a better day.

Benjamin Whitten - January 23, 2021 at 04:34 PM

FJ

“ *I was deeply saddened to hear of Eric's passing. He was such a kind and genuine person, and it was a pleasure to get to know him through lobbying work at the capitol. Gone too soon, I know that myself and many others will truly miss him.*

Frankie Johnson - January 22, 2021 at 12:45 PM

JS

“ *I'm profoundly saddened by the loss of Eric. I had the pleasure of working with Eric for 10 1/2 years. He generously shared his political insight, his quick-wit, and acerbic observations. More than anything he warmly welcomed people into his orbit by asking questions, asking about and sharing interests, and readily offering a big smile and his hearty laugh (and clap). Before remote work scattered us across the state, Eric's energy and friendliness permeated the office - from his lively (and loud) phone calls to his hearty "toodles" at the end of the day. He was a real cheerleader of others - first to compliment and recognize others before seeking recognition of himself. I will hold on dearly to my memories of Eric and all that he shared with me.*

Janet Silversmith - January 21, 2021 at 03:49 PM

BB

“ I was so saddened by the untimely passing of Eric. We had worked together at MMA and MAAP. He was knowledgeable always about the issue at hand. He was a people person both in dealing with others and advocating for others. His passion for children all having an opportunity to grow and learn was so clear. He was also my friend.

You will be missed, Eric,
Blanton Bessinger, MD

Blanton Bessinger - January 20, 2021 at 03:13 PM

KS

“ I so enjoyed any time I spent with Eric. He was very respectful and professional in his interactions and I was energized by his enthusiasm for legislative advocacy. Obviously he was very gifted in his profession, but more importantly when I asked sometimes silly questions about legislative actions, he had a way of explaining things and making me feel like I knew what I was talking about all along, which I sometimes DID NOT. A great loss for Minnesota.

Keith Stelter - January 20, 2021 at 01:40 PM

TM

“ I was devastated to hear of Eric's passing. He was an incredible person who had a way of making you feel special and important no matter how long he had known you. He was a good friend, and a wonderful advocate. We are all worse off for having lost him so soon, but we anyone who knew him is better for having done so.

Love you Eric, miss you already my friend.

Tom Melton - January 20, 2021 at 12:39 PM

DR

“ As has been said by so many, Eric will be missed for his passion, his humor, and his large personality. I had the honor of hiring Eric ten years ago at the MMA and have had the pleasure of working with him as a colleague and partner. He cared deeply about the work he did and the role he had in working to make the world better for patients, especially children in the work he did with pediatricians. Eric had a great skill of accepting people who were new to the legislative process and making them feel welcome and important. When he was talking with you he was fully engaged and wanted to hear what you had to offer. He will be missed for his passion, his strong sense of humor, and his love of animals, especially dogs. He was a great colleague for the last 10 years, but even more so he was a great friend who will be dearly missed.

Dave Renner - January 19, 2021 at 11:30 AM

AR

“ It was an honor to work with Eric at the MMA. Effective, knowledgeable and caring, He was a great asset and will be missed.

Abigail Ring - January 18, 2021 at 02:12 PM

KW

“ I had the honor of working alongside Eric at the Capitol for the past several years. We shared many laughs, political frustrations and small victories together. We would meet over lunch or coffee and devise our strategy to make the world better for kids. In the process, we talked about all the Phish concerts we attended and shared stories of our babies (mine human, his fur). Eric was truly a bright spot in any day I saw him. He was the person I sought out at committee hearings, fundraisers, and anywhere else where I needed a friend and a laugh. He made such an impact on everyone he interacted with. I am so lucky to have known him. My heart is with his family and with everyone who admired him as much as I did. He will be so missed!

Kelly Wolfe - January 18, 2021 at 12:44 PM

LF

“ Running into Eric in the hallways of the Capitol was always a welcome highlight to long days. His infectious smile and laugh made everyone smile and laugh. I will miss talking to him about his dogs and sharing our dog tales.

Lisa Frenette - January 17, 2021 at 09:26 PM

KC

“ I've worked with Eric for the past 10 years...he was our lobbyist. He usually "smiled with his voice" and when he didn't you knew there was a serious topic to be discussed. We always started our calls/emails (as a fellow Wisconsinite), with a Packer tidbit or travel update. He will be greatly missed. I am certain that he is cheering for the Green Bay Packers to go all the way and win the Super Bowl in 2021...and working his magic behind the scenes to make that happen. Your memories are a blessing. Thank you and condolences to his family and friends.

katherine cairns - January 17, 2021 at 12:55 PM

AF

“ I met Eric just two years ago through the legislature, but his generous spirit has left a lasting impact on me. I am heartbroken by his passing and hope to pay forward the kindness he showed to me and so many others.

Alyssa Fritz - January 16, 2021 at 10:36 AM

DW

“ I was lucky to have know Eric.

Dan Wiersgalla - January 15, 2021 at 11:29 PM

TG

This is so sad and I am regretting allowing distance dissolve my friendships.

Todd Gilding - May 07, 2021 at 09:40 AM

GR

“ I remember Eric as such a welcoming, intelligent, collaborative and good natured colleague from the two years we worked together. Someone you would be pleasantly surprised to stumble on at the dog park and certainly cannot forget. My thoughts are with his family and loved ones.

Grace - January 15, 2021 at 07:22 PM

KB

“ I met Eric while volunteering with Ron Kind's first campaign in the late 90s. I was a dorky high school kid and so admired him. He was full of life --- with a razor-sharp wit, unfailing kindness, and a sense of humor that was unparalleled. The world's a darker place without him in it. My heart goes out to his family, friends, and co-workers, and to all of the fortunate souls that his life touched. I count myself blessed, indeed, to have known such a man.

Katie Blackbourn-Brown - January 15, 2021 at 06:56 PM

PM

“ I was fortunate to first meet Eric at UW-La Crosse and we reconnected a few years ago when our paths crossed here in St. Paul, now both in the healthcare industry. Eric's intelligence, passion, sincerity and kindness really made him unique. He was one of the best conversationalists I've had the pleasure to talk with, regardless of the topic. He was able to be present when interacting with you in a way that few people are these days. I can see him sitting legs crossed, hands clasped around his knee, throwing this head back and laughing. The world is a darker place without him in it. My sympathy to his family, friends, colleagues, and those beloved pups.

Paula Montgomery - January 15, 2021 at 05:56 PM

WU

“ Eric's smile brought me great joy no matter what was happening around us at the time. I will miss him dearly.

Wendy Underwood - January 15, 2021 at 05:22 PM

KB

“ It's been many years since I last saw Eric but I have such fond memories of him. This is likely very inappropriate but I know he'd love it. We used to joke that we should run for office together - our campaign signs would get us votes just because. Oh and I remember how much he loved Jersey Girl. One of a kind!

Karolyn Bald - January 15, 2021 at 05:18 PM

KL

“ *Very sorry for the lose of a great advocate for health care. You could always count on him to lighten a mood and make me laugh. I'll miss him.*



Kathleen Lonergan - January 15, 2021 at 04:58 PM

MS

“ *I always appreciated running into Eric around the Capitol. He was smart, hardworking and kind. His Capitol friends remember him fondly and he will be truly missed.*

Maureen Shaver - January 15, 2021 at 04:36 PM

LS

“ *I was shocked to learn of Eric's passing. I first met Eric in 2015 while lobbying on public health policies during my 1st session at the MN Legislature. He became a good colleague and mentor, always bringing a friendly smile to work, and we regularly shared our latest dog pictures and dog park stories. I will miss him as a fellow champion for public health and lover of dogs.*

Lorna Schmidt - January 15, 2021 at 04:34 PM

BB

“ *I'm heartbroken over the loss of Eric. The world is a sadder place without his bright light and loving heart. I can still hear his laugh accompanied by a clap and a toss of his head after every funny story. Eric was bigger than life, I will miss him terribly.*

Billie Ball - January 15, 2021 at 04:13 PM

MM

“ Eric was a smart, kind and hilarious friend. He gave the best compliments and was always willing to listen. He will be deeply missed by so many. -Molly Moilanen

Molly Moilanen - January 15, 2021 at 03:54 PM

AD

“ I'm heartbroken over Eric's passing. He was truly a "light" in this world...he exuded a genuine kindness, positivity, and compassion. Every conversation with him had the effect of making you happier. Though I worked with him in the MN Senate, I really got to know him better serving on the MGRC Board the past several years. Along with being a joy to be around, he was incredibly hard-working, detail-oriented, and committed to the lobbying profession and the MGRC organization. I'll miss him very much and offer my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

-Amanda Duerr

Amanda Duerr - January 15, 2021 at 03:37 PM

LM

“ Eric was such a truly lovely person. He always had a smile and was up for a conversation. He will be missed. - Leah Montgomery

Leah Montgomery - January 15, 2021 at 03:32 PM

KM

“ I worked with Eric for over ten years and in that time have many fond memories, whether it was working together on legislative issues as senate staff and later as lobbyists, talking about our dear pets or cracking jokes. He will be greatly missed.

Kristen McHenry - January 15, 2021 at 03:20 PM

LG

“ I am so heartbroken to hear of Eric's passing. He was such a kind, genuine and smart soul and his smile will be greatly missed at the MN capitol. -Lauren Gilchrist

Lauren Gilchrist - January 15, 2021 at 02:50 PM

DH

“ Eric and I bonded over music. Over the years, we went to more than a dozen shows. I loved how he would type in the name of each song as the concert progressed so that he could better remember each show. He introduced me to a lot of great bands. We had tickets to three shows that were postponed because of the pandemic. Not too long ago, we talked about how we couldn't wait to be able to see live music again. Whenever we are able to attend music venues again, there will be an empty spot next to me. And an empty spot in my heart. Miss you dearly, friend. Hope you are enjoying a Jerry Garcia or Jimi Hendrix show up in Heaven.

Dan Hauser - January 15, 2021 at 02:09 PM

EH

“ I am so sad and heartsick about Eric's passing. It's a privilege to share a note of love and gratitude that he was a friend, a genuinely good man, and a light to so many he knew and championed.

His family, pups, colleagues and fellow friends are in my heart.

Erin Huppert - January 15, 2021 at 01:28 PM

KF

“*Kate Feuling lit a candle in memory of Eric Cecil Dick*



Kate Feuling - January 15, 2021 at 01:26 PM

JB

“*My heart is so heavy with this loss. I only knew Eric for a couple of years but he was someone that you couldn't help but love to be around. He was so incredibly kind, compassionate, witty and just overall incredible. He always made you feel heard. Always took your side into consideration. Always made you feel special. I just can't say enough good things about him. This is such a tragic loss and I am sending my love and support to his family, friends, colleagues and all that had the pleasure of knowing this incredible person.*

Jessica Bartram - January 15, 2021 at 08:40 AM

JF

I worked with Eric at the Minnesota Senate. Such a welcoming, congenial, good hearted person. Eric was the kind of person that I felt comfortable contacting him after he left the senate with personal questions about medical provider resources. He did not have to do so but he was as helpful in his role at the MMA as he was as a colleague in the Senate. Very sorry for his passing. His ebullient personality was such a positive force. Remember him well.

John Fuller

John Fuller - January 19, 2021 at 02:43 PM



I feel fortunate to have known and worked with Eric. He was smart, engaging and just a really good guy! A great loss for Minnesota health policy.

LynnBlewett

LynnBlewett - January 24, 2021 at 10:26 AM