



## Erin Elizabeth Loughran

March 12, 1986 - April 21, 2025

Erin Loughran

03/12/1986 - 04/21/2025

It was important to Erin to write her own obituary, owning and filling it with her wit and humor.

"Greetings loved ones and friends. I'm sorry to say that I am no longer Earthside. In my short time here, I was able to do some pretty awesome s\*^t, like, global jet-hopping to- Japan, Thailand, Ecuador (mi segundo hogar), Peru, a bunch of places in the US, and of course Canad...eh?-teaching things to cool people, driving around in my Subaru or riding around in my Wheelie Wagon (wheelchair van) to up-north-lands- trying to get in touch with my outdoorsy side- and finally, being that funny and kind friend to everyone I met. I experienced life as a young, professional, single lady, with the absolute best job of teaching ESL to adult immigrants and refugees from all over the world; teenagers to grandparents. And ALSO as a disabled lady that had a lot of brain issues. Such a profound life change that was, not to mention humbling, awakening, and an unexpected adventure! Thank you to the disabled community I found on social media (and to those that found me), from across the globe, and in real life. I'm proud to say that my brain will live on in a neuroscience research lab for the NIH, hopefully shedding some light on all the rare neurological diseases I lived with, or as I called them: my invisible

BFF.

I am survived by mom Beth and dad Steve (my original roomies), my brother Danny (Taylor), sister Ali Peña (Carlos), and nephews Carlitos and Camilo. I am bursting with gratitude for my life and all the people in it. Thanks for the wild ride y'all!

By the way, humans are complex, right? For example, in addition to being fat and disabled, I identified as Queer (umbrella term) AND Ace (not sexually attracted to anyone) and Panromantic (attracted to characteristics, not gender. There are many flavors, I don't just prefer one kind)...Google it to learn more. If you're wondering why you're just learning this now, it's because my life was complicated enough learning to navigate my invisible and dynamic disability, especially when it progressed. I'm just grateful to be a part of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community after I came out to immediate family and close friends at 37, and even now just in spirit.

That's it; I love you all. Be kind, and stay woke."

Erin died from her complex rare brain stem disease(s) at home on 4/21/2025.

She was

supported by family, friends and the wonderful folks at Grace Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, Memorials preferred to: Hypertrophic Olivary Degeneration Association

<https://hodassoc.org> Alliance to Cure Cavernous Malformation, Cavernoma, Cavernous Angioma <https://www.alliancetocure.org/>

Friends and family of Erin, please join us at:

La Doña Cervecería

Minneapolis, MN

Friday May 30th 12-3 PM

A brief service to start at 12:30

We will celebrate Erin's life how she lived it- with joy and full of color.

# Tribute Wall

KF

“ Erin was a warrior. Life dealt her a tough blow, but she always kept her wit and humor. I enjoyed talking with her when I would visit her parents and she would laugh at our crazy college stories. Condolences to the Loughran family, with love.

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**Kathleen Giorgio Fuell** - August 02, 2025 at 02:51 PM

MW

“ Beth, Steve and family/ friends. I am so sorry for your loss as Erin is/was a wonderful human being. Her light will continue to shine through her words, work, loved ones, and actions. I am sorry to have missed the service but know she is missed her at the Center. I am blessed to have known her. - take care, and peace, Monica Wainio

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**Monica Wainio** - June 05, 2025 at 11:11 AM

LK

“ Erin's artwork and her welcoming spirit are memories I will hold dear and treasure. My thoughts and prayers are with her family and the community around her.

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**Lisa Korslund** - April 24, 2025 at 03:01 PM

LP

“ Erin filled the world around her with compassion and beauty. Although I knew her for only a few years, her wit and wisdom had a profound impact on my life. I will always miss her.

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**Leah Pennywark** - April 23, 2025 at 09:59 PM

MY

“ So sorry to hear about Erin, we never met, but she seemed like an awesome person. My prayers and thoughts are with you all

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**michaela young** - April 23, 2025 at 04:50 PM

PI

“ I’m so honored to share my Birthday with Erin’s death day as she had always been such and inspirational spirit, always helping all of us be better people. Thank you Erin for all of your gifts and laughter!  
Much Love - Phil

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**Phil Inslee** - April 23, 2025 at 04:02 PM

SI

“ Erin’s engaging and genuine compassion drew you in and her insights, wit and caring nature infectiously always kept you close. She never failed to lift those around her or let anyone go unnoticed. Love and will miss you so very much dear Erin. ❤️  
Also, way to nail the obit! Shine on Erin 🥹

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**Sue Inslee** - April 23, 2025 at 01:19 AM



“ Erin and I met on Instagram. She and I used to talk about art a lot. We were both part of the disabled community. She was so kind and caring and generous with her time. I will greatly miss her. She was a bright spark in my day. She always knew how to make me smile. I will never forget her.

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**Millie Wong** - April 23, 2025 at 01:18 AM

MB

“ I worked with Erin in the wonderful world of Adult ESL. We were her second/night job and even though she had already taught all day she showed up for night classes cheerful and energetic. I appreciated her FB posts and I learned more about disabilities because of her. I loved her honesty and humor.

Miriam Bosveld - April 22, 2025 at 08:53 PM

HC

I first encountered Erin on Facebook on the way home from Mayo about 10 years ago. I was told I had HOD. It must be over 10 years. I will miss hearing and reading her posts. We can thank Erin for her replacement, and putting HOD on the map. It's up to us keep it there. It needs to be gone forever.



Heidi Ripke - Curcio - April 23, 2025 at 11:21 AM

CC

“ I knew Erin by way of two shared rare brain diseases. She became one of my closest friends. She held me up, gave me hope and kept me giggling. Towards the end, we would check in with each other to see how the other's drugs were working. She is a beautiful light in my life, and really helped me to see the beauty in all of this. I will always love Erin. She truly taught me to live with grace and wonder. Rest in power, my beautiful friend.

Christina Coates - April 22, 2025 at 06:12 PM

JC

“ I am so sorry to hear this news. Erin was the epitome of courage and grace and humor . She gave of herself in every way. Deepest sympathy to all of her loving family. May she rest in heavenly peace. Aunt Janet  

Janet Cassady - April 22, 2025 at 05:43 PM

AK

“ I am so sorry to hear this news. Erin was the life of the soccer team back in the day and her energy was always contagious. My deepest sympathy goes out to all of you. ❤️

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**Ann Kleve** - April 22, 2025 at 04:58 PM