



Eric Daniel Boender

May 5, 1981 - October 16, 2020

Eric Daniel Boender, age 39, of Oskaloosa, passed away on Friday, October 16, 2020 at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa. He was born on May 5, 1981 in Oskaloosa, Iowa, the son of Daniel Boender and Sandy (Vander Meyden) Hughes. He attended the Oskaloosa Christian Grade School and Oskaloosa Junior & Senior High School and graduated with the Class of 2000. On October 1, 2016 he was united in marriage to Michelle (Drahos) Sparks in Oskaloosa.

Following high school, Eric went to work at Pella Plastics. He later went into logistics work for Pella Corp including the SWAT Team, until taking a job at L&L Enterprises and Mahaska. He then worked at Ideal Ready Mix in Oskaloosa. During his seasonal layoff from Ideal, he worked a winter pushing snow for the State of Iowa. Eric enjoyed being outdoors, mowing the lawn, shooting guns, go-cart racing, cooking, grilling, golfing and riding ATV's. Eric loved spending time with family and friends, teasing his nephews and hunting, especially deer hunting. In his younger years he enjoyed playing with his cousins, raising horses and showing them in 4-H. His real joy in life was spending time with his boys.

In March of 2019 Eric was diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic kidney cancer. Eric was such a fighter all the way to the end. Eric went through four immunotherapy treatments, one chemo pill for nine months, a clinical trial, a week of radiation on four different sites and one last chemo pill combination for a month. This past week we learned that his cancer was still progressing and spreading even more than before. We also learned that he had acute pancreatitis likely caused by one or more of his medications. He was in the hospital at the U of I for the last week, he had a small fever off and on and really bad pain in his stomach. He had one last CT scan Thursday morning and we learned that his pancreatitis was severe, so severe that it was infected and parts of his pancreas were already dead and the infection had spread to his spleen. He was given an antibiotic but the infection was just too much for him and he was surrounded by his family as he passed. Eric knew he was loved by so many, such a fighter. He was a loyal friend and will be missed by many.

Eric is survived by his wife, Michelle Boender of Oskaloosa; his sons, Owen McKinney and Peyton Boender both of Oskaloosa, a step-son, Mattix Sparks of Oskaloosa; his father, Daniel (Mindy) Boender of Oskaloosa; his mother, Sandy (Jerry) Hughes of Oskaloosa; a brother, Chad (Tonya) his nephews Zachary, Elliott Boender of Knoxville & baby due in January; a step-brother, Jacob (Gabby) Baugh; a step-sister, Nicole Struss; his maternal grandfather, William A. Vander Meyden of Oskaloosa; his uncles, Dave (Kerri) Boender, Dean Hoksbergen, Bruce (Michelle) Vander Meyden of Oskaloosa and Brian Vander Meyden of New York; two aunts, Diane Boot of Florida and Nancy (John) Graham of Oskaloosa; cousins and their families, Angela, Brad, Matt, Doug, Michelle, Jason, Maggie, Mallory and Jay. He is also survived by his beloved yorkie, Bella.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Lyle and Shirley Boender and Martha Vander Meyden and his aunt, Carol Hoksbergen.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 10:30 at Third Reformed Church in Pella (708 E 13th Street, Pella) with pastor Phil DeBoef officiating. Burial will be in the Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa. Open visitation will be held Wednesday, October 21, starting after 12:00 p.m. at Stillwater Cabin (Boender Cabin 2052 275th Street, Oskaloosa.) The family will be present at the cabin Wednesday from 5:00-8:00 p.m. to greet guests and relatives. The Bates Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements. According to the rules put in place by the Iowa Department of Public Health, proper social distancing and reasonable personal protective equipment is advised for attending a religious public event. The funeral service will be live streamed at the funeral home's YouTube Channel for those wishing to support the family from a distance. Memorials may be made to Mahaska Health Partnership Infusion Center or a charity of the donors choosing.

Special thanks to the medical professionals that had a part in Eric's care though his journey. His oncologist Dr. Rohan Garje at the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Clinic at the University of Iowa. Dr. Kenneth Nepple his Urologist at the University of Iowa Hospitals and finally Dr. Life here in Oskaloosa at Mahaska Health.

Special thanks to Phil DeBoef for walking with Eric during this time. Also to his family and friends who have supported him with thoughts, kind and supportive words, prayers, contributions and many other kind actions. We thank God for letting us love Eric for as

long as he did.

Events

OCT **Visitation - Open** 12:00PM - 05:00PM

21

Stillwater Cabin (Boender Cabin)

2052 275th Street, Oskaloosa, IA, US, 52577

OCT **Visitation - Family Present** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

21

Stillwater Cabin (Boender Cabin)

2052 275th Street, Oskaloosa, IA, US, 52577

OCT **Funeral Service** 10:30AM

22

Third Church

708 East 13th Street, Pella, IA, US, 50219

OCT **Burial** 12:00PM

22

Forest Cemetery

634 North 9th Street, Oskaloosa, IA, US, 52577

Comments



“ My dearest Sandy,
My heart just breaks for you....We are not suppose to bury our babies. There is a part of your heart that went with him and that is ok.....It was always his. May the Angels wrap their loving arms around all of you and bring you some peace and comfort. I am so sorry for your loss.
Patricia Draughn



Patricia Draughn - October 22, 2020 at 11:22 AM



“ Employees Officers and Directors MidWestOne Bank purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Eric Daniel Boender.



Employees Officers and Directors MidWestOne Bank - October 21, 2020 at 01:57 PM



“ Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Eric Daniel Boender.



October 20, 2020 at 02:50 PM



“ 156 files added to the album LifeTributes



Bates Funeral Chapel - October 20, 2020 at 12:55 PM



“ The English Creek Speedway Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Eric Daniel Boender.



The English Creek Speedway Family - October 19, 2020 at 01:59 PM



“ Sandy I am so sorry about Eric. Losing a child is a loss you never get over. They are not supposed to go first.. I remember Eric when he was little. Take care of yourself. Dena.



Dena Roorda - October 19, 2020 at 12:58 PM



“ Didn't know Eric but know his dad my prayers go out to Eric's wife and kids and members of the Boender family

Robert Hubbell - October 18, 2020 at 08:01 PM



“ So sorry to hear this news. Eric was in my third grade class at Oskaloosa Christian School. He will be so missed. My sympathies to Chad, Dan and Sandy.

Lois Landheer - October 18, 2020 at 12:29 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Eric Daniel Boender.



October 17, 2020 at 06:01 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eric Daniel Boender.



October 17, 2020 at 03:56 PM



“ Boender family,
I am so sorry to read of Eric's passing. I know he fought a hard fight against this ugly disease. May our Lord wrap his arms around you during this hard time. Prayers for you during this time of sorrow.

Kathy Larsen - October 17, 2020 at 03:51 PM



“ My fondest memories of Eric is taking a short vacation with his mom Sandy, Eric, Chad, and Jared. We put the 3 boys in the backseat and headed to Kansas City, and another time, to St. Louis. We didn't have a lot of money, so we all stayed in one motel room. We had lots of laughs on the go carts, in the pool, at Worlds of Fun, and at Oceans of fun. Eric loved to have fun. Later, I got to watch as he became a good father, Eric, you will be missed.

Lee Ann Magel

Lee Ann Magel - October 17, 2020 at 03:38 PM