



Erik Foster Holder-O'Connell

June 16, 1966 - July 6, 2021

Ernest (Erik) Foster Holder-O'Connell, resident of Clinton Township, Michigan, passed away on Tuesday, July 6th, 2021 surrounded by loved ones. He was born June 16th, 1966 in Oroville, California to Opal Janeice Amos and Lloyd Holder. Erik is survived by his husband, William Holder-O'Connell and his children Alexia, Heather, Bridget, and Katherine, as well as his grandchildren Thomas and Connor. He is also survived by his loving former wife and best friend Rene Nebeker. He is also survived by his sister, Laura Foster, brother Jacques Foster, sister in law Colleen Borstelmann, brother in law Phillip O'Connell, brother in law Kio Nebeker and mother in law Marsha Scott as well as several nieces and nephews.

Erik was a Navy veteran and avid writer and artist. He lived all across the world while serving on the U.S.S. Nimitz and later earned his B.S. in Computer Science. He enjoyed traveling, computers and being with those he loved the most. He never met a dragon he didn't like.

Previous Events

No Visitation or Funeral

JUL 12 (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Tribute Wall

WH

“ 2 files added to the album *Memories Album*



William Holder-O'Connell - August 23, 2021 at 09:41 PM

WH

“You Are My Happiness”

*Once I held you in my arms
And we laughed and loved together*

*Now my arms hold only emptiness
And the laughter and love is gone*

*Our hearts once flew on silver wings
Through blue skies and over rainbows*

*Now my heart with all it's cracks
Is buried deep beneath the sand of sadness*

*In every person I look at I see you
Every love song I hear makes me think of you*

*All these thoughts and memories bring
one question to my mind*

*Will I every find happiness again?
and I know the answer.*

*You are my happiness
And when I find you again, then
I will find happiness*

Save a place for me on the sand my love!

William Holder-O'Connell - August 23, 2021 at 09:39 PM

KS

“ Erik was such a special friend to me and I will forever miss the unique bond we had for the last 13 years. It has been hard for me to write this because I didn't want to accept that you're gone - but now, after the signs you sent me, I know you're not gone at all. You're most definitely with me, Bill, and all of your loved ones at all times. I will never ever forget all of the wonderful times we have had together over the years and will always cherish them. From the Census to the lunches, the game nights, the brunches, teaching you Spanish, wandering the zoo, the sand castles, downing coffee together and talking together for ages and so much more. What I will miss the most is your big bear hugs and the stimulating and thought-provoking conversations we would have - I could talk to you for hours and never want to stop. Around you I could always be my genuine self at all times and it was refreshing to be around another who could do the exact same with me. Those conversations will always stay with me - but now I know that our communication is not over, it's simply shifted to another form and you will always be in my life. You and Bill were like family to me and that will NEVER ever change. I will forever miss you and forever love you. We will meet again my dear friend. May you Rest In Peace ❤️

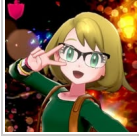
Kristen Swartz - July 24, 2021 at 04:09 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Erik Foster Holder-O'Connell.



July 18, 2021 at 12:09 AM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Alexia Holder - July 13, 2021 at 12:06 AM



“ I can still remember watching all the sailors come off the Nimitz and trying to figure out which one was Dad, and how he would always carry me around the base (mom says so that he didn't have to salute anyone!). I remember when a little older and he was stationed in Mountain View, how I would go to work on base with him, and one night we sat and watched Buffy the Vampire Slayer (the original movie, not the show) while working on my homework. I remember helping (mostly watching) him decorate a cake that looked just like a runway with a plane taking off. I also remember how he got me hooked on croissants and how we would joke that the ones from Costco looked like elephant butts. Stepping off the plane in Boston and seeing him with long hair for the first time, and joking that he was Qui Gon Jinn from Star Wars. Getting lost in Boston with him and finding a small art store where we bought way too many art supplies. When we played Magic the Gathering and he bought a few packs of gorgeous cards, but they were written entirely in German, so we had no idea how to put them in play. I remember how he cried when he held Thomas the first time, how absolutely thrilled he was to have a grandson and to know that the Holder name would continue into a new generation. I remember how Dad was always so full of love and light. I have a treasure trove of memories with him, but I still wish I had more.

Alexia Holder - July 13, 2021 at 12:05 AM

LF

I remember when we were kids, I was staying with Eric and family. I started a new school, principle and teachers boasted about how smart Eric was. I didn't think I could follow in his footsteps. But it also didn't help that Eric and I stayed up all night the night before my first day of school playing defender lol. Good times. Will miss my cousin dearly. He was a great person.

Laura Fipps - July 21, 2021 at 06:42 AM