



Erik Abel

January 4, 2023

Erik Abel died at his home in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware on Wednesday, January 4, 2023; he was 62. A Lancaster native, Erik was the son of John Edward (Jed) Abel, Jr. and Pauline Whitaker Abel, who preceded him in death.

Erik will be remembered for his calm good sense, his warm heart, and his lifetime of service to others. He began that service at age eleven, by holding a neighborhood carnival to raise money for charity. At thirteen, he started volunteering at the Lancaster County Blind Association (now VisionQuest) radio station as a news reader; soon he was running two programs of his own.

At 16, Erik began training as an emergency medical technician. He was certified as a paramedic and worked at St Joseph Hospital for six years. At the same time, he was a volunteer firefighter and eventually Fire Chief for the Rohrerstown Fire Company, a service he performed for many years.

In 1986 Erik joined the City of Lancaster Bureau of Police as a Patrolman. Five years later he was promoted to Detective, then to Detective Sergeant in 1994. He was known by his colleagues to be an excellent officer, with the innate ability to take control of any situation and handle it in a calm and professional manner. With his compassion for the people he worked with, Erik excelled in every position he held. At his retirement, he was Supervisor of the

Special Investigations Unit (Sex Offenses and Child Abuse), Senior Polygraph Examiner, and Special Deputy, US Marshalls Regional Task Force.

After twenty-one years of service, Erik retired in 2007 to begin his next career. He established a company, Mid-Atlantic Truth Consultants, that provides polygraph services in Delaware, and parts of eastern and central Pennsylvania and New York.

In past years Erik served as President of the Mid-Atlantic Police Polygraph Cooperative (MAPPC), and was President of the National Polygraph Association (NPA). He was currently on the board of the NPA. As an expert in the field, Erik trained others, and spoke at conferences across the country. As the head of the company, Erik was loved and respected by all his colleagues.

Erik loved trains, large and small, and spent many years creating a model train layout in his garage in Rehoboth.

Erik is survived by two brothers and their wives: Michael and Martha Abel, and Patrick and Julie Abel. He also leaves behind two nieces and their husbands: Elspeth and Chris Slater, and Leanne and Mike Stanczak, as well as their children Christopher Stanczak, Jonathan Stanczak and Augustine Slater.

We invite Erik's many friends to join us during an informal gathering that will take place Saturday, January 21, 2023. Casual gathering at 1:00 p.m., service at 2:00 p.m. at Groff Funeral Home, 528 W. Orange Street, Lancaster. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to any of the following: Lancaster Police Foundation (<https://lancasterpolicefoundation.org/>), Lancaster County Children's Alliance—Penn Medicine (<https://www.lancastergeneralhealth.org/services-and-treatments/pediatrics/lancaster-county-children>

s-alliance) and Boys & Girls Club of Lancaster (<https://bgclanc.org>).

Previous Events

Remembrance Gathering

JAN 21. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc
528 W Orange St.
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 394-5300
admin@thegroffs.com
<https://thegroffs.com/>

Service

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Tribute Wall



“ Erik Abel

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ I just learned of Erik's passing and was so sad to hear the news. Erik was such a gentle soul and I greatly enjoyed working with him. My thoughts are with his friends and family. RIP Erik.

Lindsay Fleishman - March 01, 2023 at 09:30 AM



“ Erik...I know you're at the gate with St. Peter. Thanks for being a good gate keeper for us down here. RIP brother.

Jeff Johnson - January 20, 2023 at 09:25 PM



“ Erik, I know Dave was sooo happy to see you enter his world this month. He's gaining the laughter we lost from your passing. Love you! Deb Brown

Deb brown - January 20, 2023 at 07:57 PM



“ I knew Erik primarily as the loving son of Polly Abel. He was often visiting her, helping with some chore or another (even though he lived in DE), when I stopped in for a visit or piano lesson. Erik was always friendly and considerate to me, and I am grateful to know him and his family. Rest in Peace, Harry

Harry Edwards - January 20, 2023 at 06:26 PM

SH

“ I am blessed to have met Erik. He took me under his wings and taught me without anything in return. He was kind, funny, gracious and dedicated to always doing the right thing. He was truly an inspiration and loved by his many friends. I will miss his humor and his constant reassurance that he had faith in me. Peace my dear friend.

Sherry Harriss - January 15, 2023 at 12:09 PM

BH

“ Erik, I am glad we were friends! You were an amazing man, that I will miss for the rest of my days. Thank you for the many memories that our friendship had created. Fly high and pain free brother!

Bryan Hecksher - January 12, 2023 at 05:26 PM

DE

“ Knew Erik through Hempfield ambulance. Also worked with him at St Joseph ED. Erik was kind and caring. Had a great sense of humor. Erik was also a great police officer/detective. He will be missed.

Deborah Eby - January 12, 2023 at 01:40 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Erik Abel.



January 12, 2023 at 07:59 AM

FP

“ To the Abel Family- The men and women of FOP Lodge#10, Delaware Probation and Parole send our condolences on the loss of your beloved Erik. He was part of our Probation family as a polygraph examiner assisting in the critical task of supervising high-risk probation clients. His superior skill, professional expertise and genuine concern for his law enforcement brothers and sisters were always appreciated and will forever be remembered. During this season of grief, may you find comfort in knowing he made a lasting difference in the lives of others. In sympathy, Delaware Fraternal Order of Police Lodge#10

FOP Lodge#10 Delaware Probation - January 11, 2023 at 03:28 PM

LC

“ We are missing you, but Heaven is so so lucky to have you! Lisa

Lisa Cruz - January 09, 2023 at 09:08 PM

BI

“ As a young boy and a neighbor, I loved going to Erik's carnivals. Also, I enjoy the mini bike rides in the woods. Thank you for the memories Erik!

Bill - January 09, 2023 at 12:49 PM

JR

“ Erik did a lot of good and helped many people in his 62 years. I've always admired his work ethic and professionalism. My deepest condolences to his close friends and family.
Jennifer Rider, President, Lafayette Instrument



Jennifer Rider - January 09, 2023 at 12:27 PM

JK

“ How thankful I am to have had the blessing of finally getting to meet Erik after 62 years! The occasion was remembering the remarkable life of his dear mother, who will always remain one of my very favorite people. I am sending my hugs and love to all of you.

Judy Banzhaf Kruse - January 08, 2023 at 03:39 PM

CK

“ I was lucky to know Erik for about 10 years. He helped me in many ways to settle in this country. An example comes to mind - I needed a car urgently to start a new job, and he drove me all weekend around several car dealerships to look for one. We finally found something suitable, but discovered I could not get a bank loan to pay for it due to my lack of credit history, so it had to be paid by check in full. He wrote me one and let me pay him back in my own time. Being the car lover he was, he also helped me clean out both the exterior and interior of the car, and spruced it up with some products. I am still driving the same car to work and am thankful for his help. He was kind, resourceful and had a dry sense of humor. He will be missed.

Chern Kong - January 08, 2023 at 01:19 PM

JA

“ I had the honor and pleasure of knowing Erik when he was a paramedic and later a Lancaster City police officer. He was always the consummate professional.

Jeffrey Allen - January 08, 2023 at 09:54 AM

KG

“ To Erik’s family - my mom and dad had a friend - Erik Abel.... I read of his passing and I know my parents were in line in heaven to welcome him along with his own parents. What a truly nice guy he was! I recall my mom selling Avon at the time I was a young teen and Erik would be the nice guy he was and he’d purchase something from the book. Mom would ask me to go along for the delivery and Erik would have a nice cold drink waiting for us! Again, what a nice guy! Also, if I remember correctly, he worked with my dad for a bit at Park City and what a smile he had to share with many! To his family who loved and will miss him dearly, my heart goes out to you on his passing and prayers that his memories sustain you in the coming weeks! Fly high Erik with those who went before you, continue to share that smile - we’ll pass it along down here in your memory!

Kasey Gordon - January 08, 2023 at 08:27 AM