



Erik Owen Arneberg

October 12, 1966 - August 6, 2022

Erik Owen Arneberg
New Harmony, Indiana

Erik Owen Arneberg, 6th generation resident of New Harmony, Indiana, passed away at his summer home in Newport, Rhode Island, on August 6, 2022 from complications related to cancer.

He lived a full and warm life, filled with joy. Erik was a friend to all. His bear hugs were unforgettable, as was his ability to make people laugh.

Erik was a direct descendent of Robert Owen, who purchased New Harmony, Indiana in 1825 to start a utopian community. Erik strived to be a force for good in New Harmony. He served as Chairman of the Robert Lee Blaffer Foundation, and enjoyed board memberships with New Harmony Artist Guild, Rapp-Owen Granary Foundation, Evansville Museum of Art, and countless other philanthropic endeavors.

Erik was born in New York City and educated at The Buckley School, Eaglebrook School, and graduated from Berkshire School in the class of 1985. He attended the University of Vermont in Burlington, and made Vermont his home for many years before moving to New Harmony where he started a family. Erik was a voracious reader, and his curiosity spanned art, music, history, boats, cars, motorcycles, antiques, and current events. He also enjoyed playing the guitar and basking in sunsets.

Erik's parents, Jane Dale Owen and Per Arneberg, played an important role in his life. Janie was stricken with polio as a child. Erik devoted his life to supporting her independence. Erik was always available to help with anything large or small. Per Arneberg fostered Erik's love of his Norwegian heritage and adventure by spending time with Erik in Oslo and Telemark Norway. Erik was fluent in both Norwegian and French. Erik shared a very special relationship with his maternal grandparents, Jane Blaffer Owen and Kenneth Dale Owen, who cultivated his deep love for the preservation and cultural development of New Harmony. It is also of note that his paternal grandfather, Arnstein Arneberg, was an important architect who designed many important commissions, including the Security Council Room of the United Nations.

Erik loved to travel and explore; among his many trips were Norway, the Arctic Circle,

Greece, Russia and France. He was also an avid cyclist and hiker.

The highlight of his life and most important legacy are his children, Per Erik Owen Arneberg and Ellis Jane Arneberg, whom he loved without limit or end.

He leaves behind his sisters, Ingrid Arneberg, Anna Arneberg; his brother, Per Aleksander Arneberg; and second mother, Akka Arneberg; Aunt Annie Owen; cousins James Coleman, Abigail Owen Pontez; and the mother of his children Lora DeFries Arneberg. He will be deeply missed by his friends and family.

The memorial service will be held at The Granary, New Harmony, Indiana at 9 a.m. on September 11, 2022.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Posey County Humane Society.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

5890 Maple Hill Road
New Harmony, IN 47631

Previous Events

Service

SEP 11. 9:00 AM (CT)

The Granary
413 Granary Street
New Harmony, IN 47631

Tribute Wall



“ *Erik Owen Arneberg*

October 06, 2023 at 09:05 AM

WH

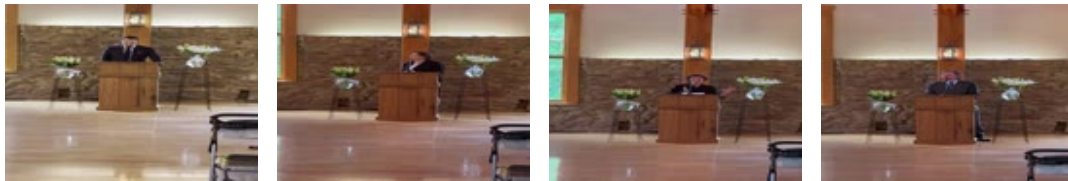
“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Werry Funeral Home - September 11, 2022 at 05:15 PM

WH

“ *4 files added to the tribute wall*



Werry Funeral Home - September 11, 2022 at 03:36 PM

RG

“ *my sympathy and prayers to the family. Erik has certainly left a great legacy not only in his children and family; also, for the town of New Harmony with his compassion for the blessings bestowed on it, through his work. Being a New Harmony native born and raised here, having the honor of knowing Jane Owen and being a classmate of Erik's mother, Jane before she was stricken with polio and left the community. It saddens my heart to hear of Erik's death. Ruth Ann Hames Grebe*

Ruth Ann Hames Grebe - September 10, 2022 at 02:07 PM