



# Erik Nolan Johnson

MAR 30, 1980 - AUG 10, 2020



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## **Erik Nolan Johnson**

MAR 30, 1980 - AUG 10, 2020

**E**rik Nolan Johnson, born 1980, passed away after a courageous battle with a rare brain cancer, glioblastoma multiforme.

He was the celebrated first child of Deborah and Mitchell Johnson, best big brother to Jessica Marie Johnson, and beloved husband and best friend of wife Melanie Johnson.

Erik was an extremely intelligent, funny, kind, loving and loyal man. As a boy his intelligence was apparent at an early age, reading first grade level books at age 4 ½, and loved telling everyone he beat his mom playing chess at 5. He was involved with Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and he won the pinewood derby. When he got his first Nintendo system at age 7 it would become a lifelong passion for him as he grew into a retro gaming hobbyist. As he grew, he enjoyed playing guitar, chess, and loved playing video, card, dice, and board games with his friends and family.

Erik had a beautiful voice and was in numerous choirs throughout junior high and high school. He got his first guitar for Christmas his senior year and began writing his own music. He loved playing guitar! He especially loved jamming out with friends when the opportunity arose.

As he got older he became interested in computers and became quite skilled. He graduated from John R Rogers high school in 1998, attended Washington State University for two years, and graduated from Bates Technical College in Tacoma from their Information Technology program.

He then started his successful career as an intern with MultiCare Health Systems. He was hired upon graduation and continued to work his entire 16 year career for Multicare until his passing. Colleagues and customers always said he gave superb support at MultiCare, always patient and kind with glowing performance reviews. Erik took great pride in his supportive role in an industry he believed to be critical to keeping his community healthy and safe.



## Obituary

**Erik Nolan Johnson**

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In May 2019, Erik married the love of his life, soulmate, and player 2 for all games, Melanie Sparks. They knew of his diagnosis around this time. Knowing his time would be limited they made the best of it, enjoying each other's company and living a beautiful life together.

Erik had a strong faith in God's plan for him, and passed away peacefully at home. He was surrounded until the end by daily visits from his cherished friends and family. He was never alone and said he was at peace.


Erik we love you, you will be missed.

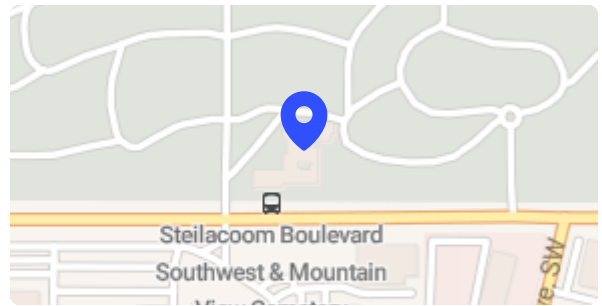


# Events

**Erik Nolan Johnson**  
MAR 30, 1980 - AUG 10, 2020

## Cemetery Details

 **Mountain View Memorial Park**  
4100 Steilacoom Blvd. SW, Lakewood WA 98499





## Tribute Wall

**Erik Nolan Johnson**

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CG

**Chad Giffin** posted:

I was lucky enough to call Erik a friend. In your life time you will be lucky to have 2 or 3 friends like Erik. A person who puts others before themselves. Out of all my friends here was the one that was always there for you no matter what. I just wish I spent more time with him there last 5 years or so. The world really did lose a very special person who loved and cherished life.

August 13 at 9:45 PM

TF

**The Steve Williams Family** posted:

We met Erik when he was 5 years old and we had just moved to WA. Our son Scott and he became best buddies, as did their sisters, and Deb and I enjoyed our kids playing together for years. Erik and Scott were fun loving and full of mischief yet great little guys. They were on the same soccer team, played outdoor adventures, and indoor video games. We moved to FL when they were mid teens- we will never forget-Erik and Jessica stood on the driveway as we left. A few months later, they flew to Florida to visit! Over the years, distance did not deter the wonderful bond formed between Erik and Scott. We were honored to be able to attend Erik's and Melanie's wedding reception lat year. Erik was a man of great character and we cherish all the memories we share. Our deepest sympathy to all, and our prayers that God will heal your hearts.

September 11 at 10:47 AM

MP

**Mike Petorak** lit a candle in honor of Erik.

I sat across the hallway from Erik for many years in IS&T at MultiCare. We attended rival high schools (RHS vs PHS) and graduated the same year (1998). Many knew Erik as "Special K" because we also had another Eric Johnson in IS&T on the database team which created a lot of fun when sending emails and meeting requests. I must admit I was likely one that misrouted a few emails but benefited from his nickname as a guide to correct this issue. He was extremely dedicated to his craft and will forever be my hands down favorite On Base admins of all time. Erik was a true gentleman and certainly loved by all that were graced with his presence. Rest in peace my friend! You will be forever missed!



August 24 at 12:31 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Erik Nolan Johnson**  
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WZ

**Wes Zvolanek** sent a virtual gift in honor of Erik.

I dont get along with many guys, especially right away, but Erik was chill, intellectual, respectful and all around great guy. You could tell the minute you meet him. Sad that the good ones go early. I wish his family comfort and light in such a dark time.

August 20 at 3:51 PM



CK

**Chris Kaatz** lit a candle in honor of Erik.

I had the honor and privilege to work with Erik at MultiCare. He was one of the smartest people I've ever worked with. He was incredibly productive and I could rely on him to do exactly what he said he would do. His customers adored him and knew they could trust him. He was a bright light for sure. RIP, Erik.

August 18 at 5:31 PM



DB

**Denise Benson** lit a candle in honor of Erik.

Rest in Paradise Erik. Love your Cousins.

August 18 at 1:57 PM



KC

**Ken Cam** lit a candle in honor of Erik.

August 18 at 8:23 AM



GP

**Gary Pietila** posted:

I had the honor of working with Erik over the last 3 years. Erik was always the consummate professional. He will be dearly missed here by his MultiCare family.

August 18 at 7:01 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Erik Nolan Johnson**

MAR 30, 1980 - AUG 10, 2020

TF

**The Yearwood Family** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Johnson family.



August 18 at 6:57 AM

JC

**Jason Clark** lit a candle in honor of Erik.



August 18 at 6:33 AM

AL

**Antonio Labayen** lit a candle in honor of Erik.

Erik was always kind and collaborative. We had worked together on various projects and issues through many years and had many personal conversations at company events. He came to last summer's picnic and on another occasion went around the 124 bldg to say hi to everyone. He will be missed among our teams.



August 18 at 5:34 AM

JD

**Joanne Deuermeyer** lit a candle in honor of Erik.



August 18 at 5:03 AM

SD

**Scott Desart** posted:

I had the honor of sharing an office with Erik for 2 years. His life was a testament to his faith and family. I will miss him.

August 18 at 4:35 AM

DA

**Darwin Anderson** posted:

Erik faced his cancer head on with true warrior spirit choosing to fight. He had a lot to live for, a loving family, his new bride and a job he made a difference in. We will always keep him in our hearts.  
Uncle Darwin and Aunt Patti

August 17 at 5:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Erik Nolan Johnson**

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KL

**Kary Lemon** posted:

I had the pleasure of working with Erik for many years @ MultiCare and I just want to say "Thank you for sharing him with us". We are all better for having know him, as he is a truly Amazing person who will be greatly missed by many. Sending prayers your way.Kary Lemon

August 17 at 12:03 PM

DJ

**Deb Johnson** August 17 at 1:06 PM

Thank you for your kind words Kary!

CM

**Cynthia Miller** lit a candle in honor of Erik.



August 17 at 9:37 AM

JV

**Jed Vanhorn** lit a candle in honor of Erik.



August 17 at 9:20 AM

DB

**Dean Bradshaw** posted:

I worked with Erik at MultiCare. We had about three employees named "Eric/Erik Johnson" at the time, and so we always referred to Erik as "Special K" and he was. He was a great person to work with, and he will be missed. Hugs and prayers to all of his family.Dean Bradshaw

August 17 at 8:48 AM

DJ

**Deb Johnson** August 17 at 1:09 PM

Dean, I remember Erik telling me that there were several other Erik Johnson's at MultiCare, and the fact that you called him "special K" really touches my heart ❤️ thank you for putting a smile on my face 😊



# Tribute Wall

**Erik Nolan Johnson**  
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**Terry Jordan** lit a candle in honor of Erik.



August 17 at 8:04 AM



**Terry Jordan** August 17 at 8:12 AM

Condolences to Melanie and the rest of Erik's family on their loss. Erik touched so many lives in a special way in his work and travels. He will be so missed by his MultiCare family. He left us better people by having known him. His kindness, his passion, his humor will never be forgotten.



**Multicare It Asset Management Team** sent a Serene Reflections Bouquet to the Johnson family.



August 17 at 7:37 AM



**Dana Cummins** posted:

I first met Erik as an intern at MultiCare when he first started. It was apparent immediately, that he was special. I'm so blessed to have known Erik and worked with him for so many years. He truly was a caring, loving person that really did care about people. He will be greatly missed. Praying for his wife, family and friends. It's not goodbye, it is see you soon. Rest in peace my friend! Dana Cummins

August 17 at 7:28 AM



**Deb Johnson** August 17 at 1:19 PM

Thank you Dana for sharing your memories of Erik. He truly cared about the people he worked with and supported, and we appreciate your kind words.



**Joan Sheppard** sent a Serene Retreat to the Johnson family.



August 17 at 7:24 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Erik Nolan Johnson**  
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**From Lucia Lancey & Family** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Johnson family.

August 16 at 4:37 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Johnson family.

August 16 at 11:23 AM





## Tribute Wall

**Erik Nolan Johnson**

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**Brian Skitch** posted:

I met Erik when I was just becoming a teenager in 1996 through my brother's dial-up BBS. It was a random event in the universe where I happened to be at my brother's computer when Erik was dialed in that we sparked a conversation. This interaction turned into a friendship that I will never forget. He was a few years older than me, incredibly intelligent, a crackup jokester, and had a shared passion for games; destiny set it's course for lots of fun to be had. It was a very positive experience of both him being a friend and a mentor with what life was like just ahead. We would play video games dialing into each other's computers playing games like DOOM2 or Red Alert late at night into the wee hours. There was the classic GT (get together) events too where we'd all meet up at someone's house with at least 4 computers and dedicate a night or weekend to some intense video gaming fun. Over the many years of knowing Erik, he welcomed me into his family meeting his wonderful parent's Deb & Mitch along with his awesome sister Jessica. So many fond memories of sleepovers and the much fun we had. Erik was also a very giving person going out of his way for me and many other friends, for many years I didn't have a license to drive yet but he never showed hesitation to pick me up or take me home. When he came back from WSU in the year 2000 I believe, there was this amazing opportunity that struck where we (Erik, his close friend Eric, my brother, and myself) were able to surf the dot com bubble just before it burst all working together for a dial-up internet company, Onfree.com in Tacoma. Even though it was short lived it was still a magical time we had considering our collective history. Erik definitely enjoyed the change of pace from the college life. At some point we started jamming a bit playing music and I rented a room from him for a couple years. Living with Erik was also an adventure in good times, lots of fun continuing many shared interests. After I moved out the time warp of life set in and we sort of lost touch for almost a decade, however as I reflect I know all these many vivid memories are held firmly close to my heart. Last year I had the pleasure of meeting his wife Melanie, I immediately recognized their chemistry and that she was without a doubt the love of Erik's life. It is hard to find peace within knowing that this amazing human being has passed away, but seeing that Melanie stayed so strong and so close to him till the very end brings great comfort. Love truly does last forever. Whether at Vans Arcade, Tetris on the Super Nintendo, or playing multiple-player on the computer, Erik will be ready for us to play another game in Heaven. My love and condolences to the family and friends of Erik Nolan Johnson. Brian Skitch

August 11 at 4:38 AM



**Deb Johnson** August 17 at 1:34 PM

Brian, what can I say to thank you for being Erik's friend all these years? I remember him packing up his computer many times to play games at the get togethers. That was his favorite pastime in high school 😊. When he got older, he would have parties at his house and you would play drums - good memories (Except for me singing the Star Spangled Banner at Midnight 😊). He loved hosting a barbecue each year on his birthday Sad that he wasn't able to celebrate this past March on his 40th with his traditional barbecue due to Covid-19 restrictions 😞 I just want to me thank you, Brian, for all your love and support 😊



# Tribute Wall

**Erik Nolan Johnson**

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**Elaine Tice** posted:

I worked with Erik at MultiCare - he was the primary support for our department (AP). I know I told his supervisors at least 10 times that we needed to clone Erik - his attention to detail and friendly personality made him our favorite IT person. Having Erik assigned to one of our tickets meant we could relax and know it would be resolved quickly and accurately. I remember one time he was working an issue for me and checked in to see if it was fixed because he wanted to leave work to drive to Olympia with chicken noodle soup for "his girl who wasn't feeling well". Erik was always professional and didn't tell us a lot about his personal life but it was obvious that he had met someone special in Melanie! He leaves a giant hole on his team at work and we will greatly miss him! Elaine Tice

August 15 at 1:47 PM



**Deb Johnson** August 17 at 1:43 PM

Thank you, Elaine! It was important to Erik to do a good job in a timely manner, and we couldn't have been more proud of him! I love your comment about cloning him ❤️ He would be so flattered!



**Deb Johnson** lit a candle in honor of Erik.



August 15 at 10:48 AM



**336Th Training Group, Fairchild Air Force Base** sent an Arrive in Style to the Johnson family.



August 15 at 7:52 AM



**Melanie Johnson** lit a candle in honor of Erik.



August 15 at 6:50 AM



# Tribute Wall

**Erik Nolan Johnson**  
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**Jennifer Wu** posted:

Erik helping me decorate for Scott's birthday. September 2016 He always helped and was a great friend ♥

August 11 at 6:45 AM



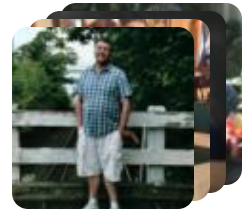
**Deb Johnson** August 17 at 1:37 PM

Thank you for sharing Jennifer. Erik always spoke highly of you ♥



**Deb Johnson** shared 9 photos to the **Memories Album** album.

August 11 at 4:38 AM





# Media

**Erik Nolan Johnson**  
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**Deb Johnson** shared 9 photos to the **Memories Album** album.

August 11 at 4:38 AM

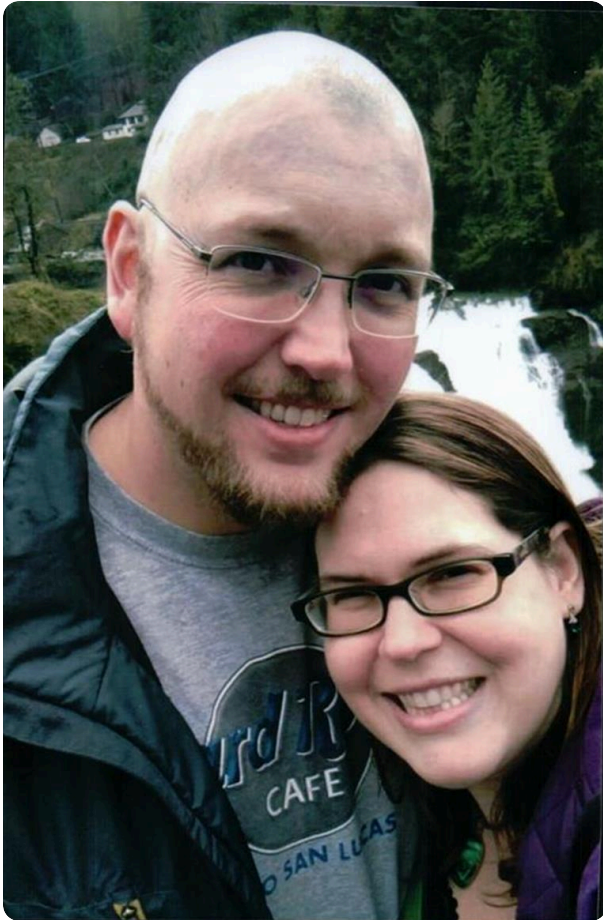




**Media**

**Erik Nolan Johnson**

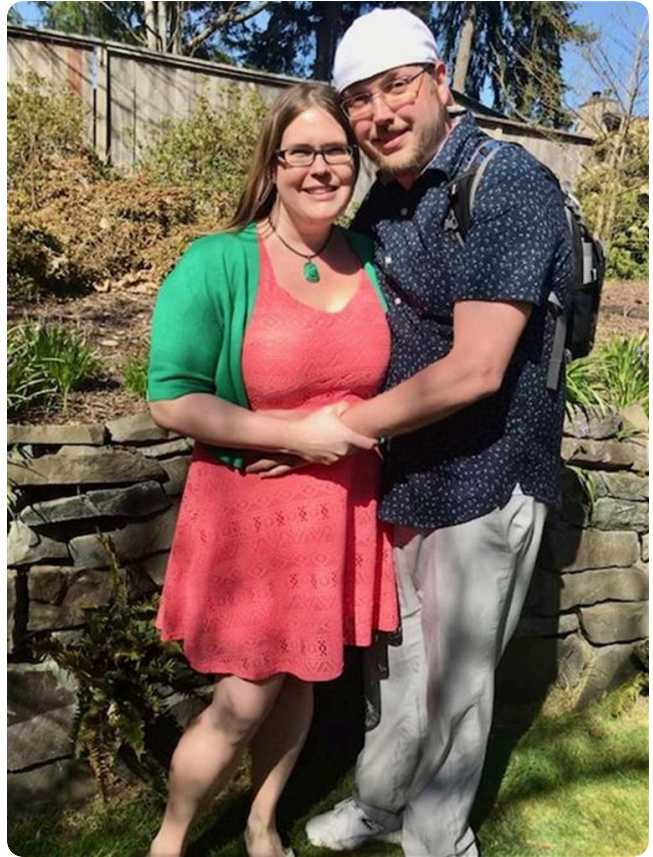
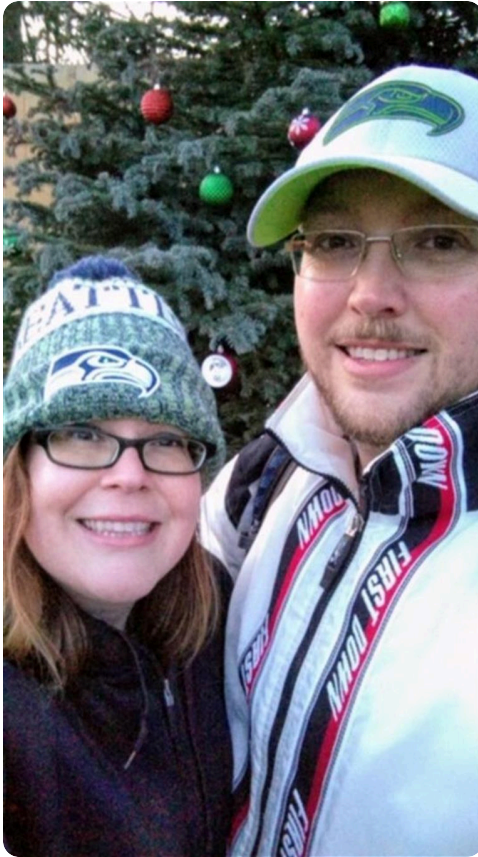
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# Media

**Erik Nolan Johnson**  
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**Media**

**Erik Nolan Johnson**

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# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Erik by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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