



Rick John Hurzeler

August 26, 1963 - December 26, 2021

Rick J. Hurzeler, 58, of Iron Mountain, passed away Sunday, December 26, 2021, at Froedert Hospital in Milwaukee, WI.

Rick was born August 26, 1963, in West Allis, WI, the son of Lynn (Spielvogel) and the late Robert Hurzeler. He graduated from Juneau High School in Milwaukee, WI, class of 1981, and on August 4, 1984, he married the love of his life, Donna Bauer in Milwaukee. They met as teenagers while working on a farm together, and the way he looked at her (throughout his entire life) expressed his love for her better than any explanation possibly could. It was an almost non-existent rarity that he found his soulmate at such a young age.

Rick and Donna moved to Iron Mountain in 1985, where he began a career that spanned decades at CCI Systems. He started as a CAD operator and worked his way up. Also, upon moving to IM, he joined a softball league, a couples volleyball league, and a couples soccer league. He earned his black belt and began teaching Tai Kwon Do at Teck's Martial Arts for several years, including instructing his boys. Professionally, he was often seen as an intimidating person, which was hilarious to anyone who actually knew him because he was the biggest softy in the world and almost exclusively watched the Hallmark Channel. A lifelong Packer fan, Rick shared this hobby with his entire family (although his wife was too nervous to actually watch). He was also an avid hunter and fisherman and loved taking hunting trips with his

brothers, Bo and Jeff.

Most importantly, he loved his family above all else. His passions involved his wife, kids and grandkids, and they became his most important hobbies. He was extremely proud of all of them and dedicated all of his free time to spending time with them. Rick loved to travel and made it a lifelong goal to take as many vacations with his wife and children as possible. He was especially proud to have traveled to Switzerland, but he was especially excited to go anywhere with his kids. Rick also enjoyed playful banter with his family, notably his daughters-in-law, and he became known as "Grandpa-razzi" (as in paparazzi) after taking non-stop pictures of his family (especially his grandchildren). He was a notorious "photo bomber." This year he was excited to have been able to have a house built near his son, Nick, and family in North Carolina. While he hated to leave his other kids and grandson, he couldn't wait to get back to NC.

Rick was the best husband, dad and grandpa, dropping anything he was doing to make any of them happy. He was selfless and spent his entire life giving to others, especially his family, and making them happy, however possible. All of the decisions he made outside of work were based on what would make those around him happy. To his children he was a hero, and in their opinion, possessed every possible amazing trait a father could have.

Along with his wife, Donna, he is survived by his mother, Lynn; children, Nick (Christina), Luke (Naomi), and Eric (Sydnee); sister, Mary (Scott) Hocking; brothers (with whom he was a fierce competitor, which carried over in to every aspect of his life), Robert "Bo" (Carrie) and Jeff (Kimmie); sister-in-law, Sue; grandchildren, Anna, Liam and Rickey; and his good friends, Ken and Jodi, with whom he loved spending time.

Rick was preceded in death by his father, Bob, and a brother, Brian.

Visitation will be held Friday, December 31, 2021, from 9:00 am - 10:30 am at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain. Prayers will be recited Friday at 10:30 am at the funeral home. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated Friday, 11:00 am, at American Martyrs Catholic Church in Kingsford. Fr. Joseph Gouin will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Epilepsy Foundation at <https://donate.epilepsy.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donate.event&eventID=747>

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Rick J. Hurzeler online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **31**. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Avenue
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-7676
nashfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com/>

Prayer

DEC **31**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Avenue
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-7676
nashfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Mass

DEC **31**. 11:00 AM (CT)

American Martyrs Catholic Church
908 W. Sagola Ave.
Kingsford, MI 49802

Tribute Wall

SD

“ Dear Donna...
We are so sorry to hear of the recent passing of your husband. May God's Love and all your Cherished Memories help to comfort you.
Our Sincere Sympathy to You & Your Family...
Sincerely - Sid & Janet Dye and Family

Sid & Janet Dye - January 03, 2022 at 08:26 PM

DN

“ Donna, Eric, Nick, and Luke,

I am lifting you all up in prayers and I am deeply sorry for your loss!
Rick was a fantastic mentor and friend. Rick hired me into CCI 29 years ago and I have a lot of great memories that I will forever cherish.

Sincerely,
Dennis and Shannon Neuens

Dennis Neuens - January 03, 2022 at 11:08 AM

BS

“ I first met Rick as a business relationship almost exactly 20 years ago. In the intervening years, Rick became a friend with whom I shared meals, rounds of golf and great conversations. Rick was a good friend and I will truly miss him!

Bill Scheffler - January 03, 2022 at 10:19 AM

CL

“ Donna, Eric, Nick and Luke,
I'm deeply sorry for your loss and praying for you all during this difficult time! Rick was a terrific man and mentor, and I enjoyed my time working with him and getting to know him on a personal level. May you find strength during this difficult time.
Deepest Condolences,
Chris List

Chris List - January 03, 2022 at 08:36 AM

DR

“ Dear Donna, Eric, Nick and Luke,
Very sad and unexpected loss. I'm praying god gives you strength through this difficult time. My thoughts and prayers will continue for your entire family.

Donna Rahoi - December 31, 2021 at 10:13 AM

DG

“ No words can ease the pain you feel today. I can only offer my sincere condolences and pray for our Lord and Savior to hold you all close as you grieve the loss of your loved one. Rick was my esteemed cousin who talked enthusiastically about his grandchildren the last time I visited him. I will always remember him as a man who loved his family first. ❤️

Deb Gill - December 31, 2021 at 09:45 AM

TC

“ So sad to hear of Rick’s untimely passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with Donna and family.
Some of our happiest memories were being part of the “bleacher butts” watching our kids wrestle especially Luke and our son, Chris.
Peace and strength to Rick’s wonderful family
Toby and Michelle Carlson

Toby Carlson - December 31, 2021 at 08:27 AM

SR

“ Shocking,,,, think of him every day,,,, too many SCTE events we attended producing great everlasting memories,,,, thoughts and prayers for his family

steve and Kat Rice - December 31, 2021 at 12:29 AM

JM

“ I had the privilege of working very closely with Rick for six years at CCI. He always provided valuable leadership and a sense of rationale and calmness to any situation. Under his leadership, the Engineering group grew exponentially and today it is the business at CCI with the most number of employees and a growing revenue base!

I will miss him tremendously! In the last two years, in his role as the Chief Operating Officer, we had many wonderful intellectual discussions and he provided me with great insights on a range of business issues. He cared about our employees and their well-being. His vision, energy and a sense of fairness will continue to light our path as we march forward at CCI. As much as a great business leader he was, I know from our conversations how much he cared about his family and that he was a loving father and husband!

Rest in Peace, Rick! You were an inspiration for me and will remain in my thoughts and prayers!

Jake

Jacob T Mulaikal - December 30, 2021 at 11:03 PM

JG

“ So blessed to work with Rick over the last five years! He was a true leader with vision and made others better by challenging them with his wisdom! I loved our meetings at his cottage and the teamwork and collaboration he cultivated! I will always think of Rick when I barbecue since he showed me the value of mustard on steak, ribs and other meat! Rest In Peace my friend and thank you for your blessings!

Joe Geroux

Joseph Geroux - December 30, 2021 at 08:01 PM

KR

“ Donna, Eric, Nick, Luke & Family,
So sorry to hear about Rick. May God grant you His peace and comfort that only He can give. I will be lifting you up in prayer. My deepest sympathy, Kim Richmond

Kim Richmond - December 30, 2021 at 06:33 PM

KC

“ I knew Rick through my brother Bill. We all went to Juneau, and he and Bill were avid athletes and sports fans. Although I didn't know Rick well, the times that I met him it was easy to see that he was such a kind, respectful soul, and a great friend to my brother. I remember the many times that my Mom and Dad would go the boy's (Rick and Bill's) softball games to cheer them on. Rick was one of their favorite players of the games! He would always take the time to sit with Mom and Dad for a moment during each game to visit, and it put a smile on their faces every time! It also put a smile on our faces! I will never forget those times!

Although words can never ease the pain you are feeling right now, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

Kristin Choinski - December 30, 2021 at 02:57 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.



December 30, 2021 at 02:17 PM

BL

“ Rick and I played baseball together and we were part of a pretty good Junior Varsity baseball team for our school. Our season was going very well and we now had one team to beat to become champions of our conference; Custer High School. It was a rip-roaring contest, to say the least. I think the game, and the championship, came down to a play that Rick made in left field to preserve our lead. His play was a clever and thoughtful one that saved our game and allowed us to glow with pride as conference champions! He was a gifted athlete and intense competitor that showed up for every contest that he was part of! He never let his teammates down!

Bill Lund - December 30, 2021 at 01:20 PM

BL

“ Rick and I were overjoyed when the Milwaukee Brewers won the American League pennant in 1987. When they won, I think Rick called me to see if I wanted to go down Wisconsin Avenue to celebrate with him and the rest of the city! I took him up on it. I remember he had his old mustang and we moved east into the massive pockets of people in full celebration. I could only describe it as 'positive chaos!' Rick was driving his vehicle, taking me down the street as I was hugging anyone that came close enough. I don't know if Rick was able to share hugs in his position, but I'm guessing that he was able to do some of that! It was quite the evening that I have never experienced since that time with Rick! I don't think I ever expressed my gratitude to Rick about the sheer joy that his adventure provided me. It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and it was shared with Rick!

Bill Lund - December 30, 2021 at 01:13 PM

BL

“ Back in high school, Rick and I were pretty close. On one beautiful day, outside of the high school, we were lounging around by the building, just hanging. It was quiet, and we were just enjoying each others' company. Then we saw a group of five to ten upper classmen. They were walking towards us, just staring, with smiles on all of their faces. In an attempt to break our rising anxiety, Rick tried to greet one of the people that he knew in the approaching group, to maybe see what was about to happen. When there was no response, Rick and I glanced at each other and shared a look that spoke vividly about what our next move should be. The next moment, Rick and I were running away from this band of upper class misfits for our own protection. Due to our respective athletic abilities, we escaped this potentially humbling experience with the mob. I think this is one of the adventures that brought us closer together during our high school years. He was such a straight-shooter and good friend. With Rick, you knew that you were getting a genuine and sincere friend. He was one of the few who helped me get through high school! He's truly 'the guy!'

Bill Lund - December 30, 2021 at 01:04 PM

DM

“ Dave and Patty Mortensen purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.



Dave and Patty Mortensen - December 30, 2021 at 12:02 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.*



December 30, 2021 at 11:02 AM



“ *Rick was always a pleasure to work with. He will be missed.*

David Laxton

David Laxton - December 30, 2021 at 10:33 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.*



December 30, 2021 at 10:28 AM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.*



December 30, 2021 at 10:05 AM

JH

“ Jeff & Amber Haymore purchased the Lovely On e Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.



Jeff & Amber Haymore - December 30, 2021 at 08:41 AM

VC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Your Family and Friends are in my prayers. Rick was a great man and mentor and will be missed so very much.

VICTORIA CHELLEW - December 30, 2021 at 07:11 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.



December 29, 2021 at 11:29 PM



“ Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.



December 29, 2021 at 08:49 PM

SP

“ *i am so sorry for your loss. prayers to you all.* ”



Sparky - December 29, 2021 at 06:24 PM

TM

“ *Tim and Kae McGuire purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.* ”



Tim and Kae McGuire - December 29, 2021 at 06:13 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.* ”



December 29, 2021 at 04:58 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.* ”



December 29, 2021 at 04:18 PM


LB

“ Hurzeler Family,

We at Comcast are saddened to hear of Rick's passing. He was such a great partner to us and enjoyed working with him. Please know you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

- Lacey Broberg, Randy Sanson, and Scott Horne

Lacey Broberg - December 29, 2021 at 04:13 PM

 Darcia Schooler

“ We are so very sorry for you loss. Bill has always talked so very fondly of Rick. You all are in our thoughts and prayers. Bill, Darcia and Lyam Schooler

Darcia Schooler - December 29, 2021 at 04:11 PM

HR

“ Hillari Runsat purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.



Hillari Runsat - December 29, 2021 at 04:00 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.



December 29, 2021 at 03:07 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rick John Hurzeler.*



December 29, 2021 at 01:13 PM



“ *We were totally shocked by Rick's passing our deepest sympathy to all of you. Our thoughts and prayers are with you he was a wonderful man*

Pam Boussum - December 29, 2021 at 12:44 PM