



Eric Lee Ridgeway

July 22, 1963 - July 13, 2025

Eric Lee Ridgeway Sr. of Brooklyn Park, Maryland, passed away on July 13, 2025, just days before his 61st birthday.

He is survived by his sons: Eric Lee Ridgeway Jr., Erik Bowers and his wife Evelyn Bowers, Nikolas Bowers and his wife Kristi Bowers, and Kory Bowers and his wife Kimmy Barclay; his brothers Scott Ridgeway and Edmund Ridgeway Jr.; his former wife and the mother of his children, Kathy Ridgeway; and his lifelong friend Patricia Soika, who was like a sister to him.

He is also survived by 16 grandchildren: Eric Lee Ridgeway III, Amari Ridgeway, Falen Johnson, Mikayla Gonsalves, Olivia Bowers, Jaymee Herron, Erik Bowers Jr., Nikolas Bowers Jr., Julia Bowers, Naython Bowers, Jemma Bowers, Kolton Bowers, Hunter Bowers, Karter Bowers, Karli Bowers, and Kooper Bowers — along with his precious granddaughter, the late Eryn Lia Ridgeway, who he now joins in eternal rest.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Dorothy Ridgeway (Ebbenhause); his father, Edmund Ridgeway Sr.; and his dear friends Jeff Lien and Robbin Capps Blackmon.

Eric was a proud and devoted father who deeply loved his four sons. He found his greatest joy in watching them grow and become men, and he carried a

special pride in their accomplishments and strength. His 16 grandchildren brought light and laughter into his life, and he cherished every moment spent with them. Anyone who ever met Eric remembers his larger-than-life personality — he knew how to light up a room and make everyone laugh.

Details for a celebration of life will be announced at a later date. Family and friends will be invited to gather in his honor.