



## Mr. Erik Rosenbaum

September 13, 1935 - December 3, 2018

Erik Rosenbaum, founder and president of Sun Nurseries, died December 3, 2018 at his home. Born September 13, 1935 in Copenhagen, Denmark, he was the son of the late Fritz and Inga (Pederson) Rosenbaum. He was the husband of the late Minna (Bruun) Rosenbaum who died May 2, 1994. He was the husband of 21 years to Mary Rosenbaum.

One of his earliest childhood memories was when his father was arrested by German gestapo. His mother managed to gain his father's freedom and the family escaped to Sweden until the end of the war. At age 11, Erik attended a boarding school and lived with a teacher who loved plants and this is where his love of plants began. Erik served time in the military and after his mandatory basic training, he remained in the Danish Air Force where he taught electronics. Electronics became his first passion. This passion led him to the USA because he wanted to be where the new discoveries in electronics were happening. He married his first wife, Minna and immigrated to the USA in 1959. Upon first arriving in Baltimore, he worked as a clerk at a electronic components shop. After some months of searching for better employment, he acquired a job as an electrician with Bendix Corporation. Four years later, he and his family moved to Randallstown and he attended Johns Hopkins University night school. He earned his Electrical Engineering degree, with honors, in 1967. At the time of his graduation he had 4 children and was promoted to an Engineer with the Bendix Corporation where he remained for 20 years.

In 1974, he and his family moved to Bushy Park Rd in Woodbine, where together they built the homestead, had a farmette, and began working toward making his second passion, plants, his livelihood. By 1981, he had retired from Bendix Corporation, opened Sun Nurseries full-timed, and started his second career as a nurseryman. Today, the family-owned business grows most of the plants it sells on 110 acres, and is noted for locally grown nursery stock, professional landscaping and knowledgable staff. Erik's engineering skills and stewardship for the environment combined to have a facility that was one of the first to utilize techniques aimed at being environmentally responsible. He installed a system to recycle the runoff from the daily watering of plants and utilized a pest control system (IPM) that minimized the use of pesticides. Recently he became interested

in PawPaws and used his passion to spread the word about this great native fruit.

Erik was a force of nature, he was an “all in” kind of guy. He was always there to help and able to be everywhere at the same time in the nursery. His work ethic was inspiring. He also played hard, was a champion ping-pong player and an avid science fiction reader.

Unfortunately, Erik was diagnosed with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), a degenerative disease, that over the past 4 years slowly diminished him. When faced with serious illness, he showed no fear, took the challenges in stride and worked hard. He continually exhibited courage, determination, and love of life. Erik will be remembered as a loving husband and father, brilliant engineer, mentor and entrepreneur who was innovative, creative, meticulous and driven to provide a fair work environment to all employees making customer service a priority. He was a dear friend and mentor to many.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, Mary, are children Alan Rosenbaum and wife Linda, Susanne Shearer and husband Robert, Annette Fentress and husband Keith, Karin Rosenbaum, and Amy Roberts, brother and sister-in-law, Per and Lyn Randers; grandchildren Stephanie Troché, Terri Kimble, Jessica Shearer, Alex Rosenbaum, Bobby Shearer, Zach Fentress and Sierra Fentress.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, December 8, 2018, from 4:30-5:30 pm at the Haight Funeral Home & Chapel, 6416 Sykesville Road, Sykesville, MD 21784 where a memorial service will follow at 5:30 pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to CurePSP (Progressive Supranuclear Palsy); make check payable to CurePSP and mail to 1206 York Road, Suite L-4, Lutherville, MD 21093.

# Events

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**DEC**   **Visitation**                      04:30PM - 05:30PM

**8**

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Haight Funeral Home & Chapel P.A.

6416 Sykesville Road P.O. Box 195, Sykesville, MD, US, 21784

**DEC**   **Service**                              05:30PM

**8**

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Haight Funeral Home & Chapel P.A.

6416 Sykesville Road P.O. Box 195, Sykesville, MD, US, 21784

# Comments

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“ So sorry to hear about Erik's passing . We known each other for 45 years and last saw him a few years ago, when we visited with him at Sun Nurseries. You will be missed Friend , rest easy  
Wayne and Erika Arbogast

**Erika Arbogast** - February 25, 2019 at 05:22 PM

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“ Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Mr. Erik Rosenbaum.



December 08, 2018 at 08:10 AM

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“ I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Erik. He gave me my first job (and many others) and taught us to care for God's great gifts with a friendly smile and demeanor.

To the Rosenbaum family, please find peace in this season knowing that Erik is looking on you now and enjoying the fruits of his lifelong labor of love.

Take care, Jim Petro

**Jim Petro** - December 07, 2018 at 08:49 PM

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“ What can I say? I can say and know that I loved Erik's work ethic! His willingness to share his horticultural knowledge with anyone who would listen. Many times in the nursery he was in the trenches with his employees to make the most perfect nursery available to his customers. To love your family to the fullest and to love what you do in life--I admired you. God Bless you and your family.

**Judy Cavicchio** - December 07, 2018 at 07:52 PM

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“ Brian Akers and Family in DK, Brent & Blake Akers purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Mr. Erik Rosenbaum.



**Brian Akers and Family in DK, Brent & Blake Akers** - December 07, 2018 at 01:01 PM

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“ Mr. Rosenbaum was a very good client. He made the funniest facial expressions and he always tried to help with his care. I will always remember the stories your family told and your memory will live on with me through your life stories. It was nice to have been apart of your memory. I will always miss you.

K.M.

Caregiver

**Kherrie-Ann** - December 07, 2018 at 11:43 AM

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“ FROM: Your LifePoint Bible Study Ladies purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White for the family of Mr. Erik Rosenbaum.



**FROM: Your LifePoint Bible Study Ladies** - December 06, 2018 at 03:26 PM

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“ Erik was a good friend and co-worker. We worked together on a contract with Huntsville, Alabama and traveled together frequently. I always enjoyed my time with Erik.

Palmer Arnold

**Palmer H Arnold** - December 06, 2018 at 07:57 AM

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“ Fields of Europe was purchased for the family of Mr. Erik Rosenbaum.



December 05, 2018 at 08:57 PM

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“ We are sorry for the loss of a great dad, great uncle, and great person. We are grateful for the opportunity to visit him last year. The talk we had with him and the many ping pong games we lost to him are memories that will be with us forever.

**Lars Randers** - December 05, 2018 at 07:23 PM

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“ 13 files added to the album Memories Album



**billie paskoski** - December 05, 2018 at 03:23 PM

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“ Erik gave me the toughest (and only) job interview, I ever had. When I started college, I called him and asked for a weekend job. He replied, "Come this Saturday and see how you like it".

That was 38 years ago, and the beginning of a long relationship with one of the best people, you would ever have the chance to meet. He was my boss, mentor, friend, and a second Dad, to me.

He always looked out for his employees. He had a great sense of humor and was always up for a bad joke, or ready to tell one.

Words cannot possibly express how much he will be missed.

He has moved on to greener landscapes and is free, at last.

I can look at that picture of him with that great smile and know, that's how I remember him.

Be at peace my friend,  
Enjoy the view from up there!

Steve Arrington

Stephen D. Arrington - December 05, 2018 at 02:19 PM

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“ Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Mr. Erik Rosenbaum.



December 05, 2018 at 09:28 AM