



Richard Allen Eicher

September 12, 1952 - July 29, 2025

Dedicated husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, mentor, and friend, Richard (Rick) Allen Eicher I, took his first heavenly breath on July 29, 2025. He passed peacefully at home, surrounded by loved ones, endlessly cared for by his best friend and wife of more than fifty years, Connie Jean Hinson Eicher (and snuggling his shadow, a chihuahua named Beth). Rick and Connie's house, constantly filled with the many sounds of beloved rescue dogs, grew still and quiet at his passing. His time on earth is done; his mark on this world remains.

Rick was born in Roswell, NM on September 12, 1952. He became an educated man of many talents - he spent years in the oil field, farming pecans, and fabricating metal. He loved old cars and fixing up engines, building things and achieving the impossible. Breaking bricks with his fist in Tae Kwon Do was a favorite pastime. His retirement years were spent working with dogs - both at his final entrepreneurial venture, Gardendale Country Kennel, and at his true life's work, The Promised Land Dachshund Sanctuary. Rick could rehab a wild bobcat cub, enthrall an injured fledgling, or tame the wildest critters, but nothing demonstrated his gift with animals quite like his work with dogs. The most traumatized canines - those others gave up on because they were too broken to fix - those were "Rick's dogs." Whether it took hours or weeks, each of them fell under his spell. They'd learn to trust. To love. To live.

He wasn't quiet. He wasn't subtle. His presence was felt, seen, and heard. Rick lived with intensity laced with jest. He spoke his mind, but he also made all those around him laugh. His years were sprinkled with stories of mentoring young men to work hard and never give up. Tell him he couldn't do something, and that was his next action. We grieve because we don't get to tag along on his greatest adventure.

Rick is preceded in heaven by his father and mother, Tharen Howard (Ike) Eicher and Thelma Louise (Tiny) Akin Eicher, as well as his oldest daughter, Monica Eicher, his youngest sister, Kathy Eicher, and more beloved animals than we can count, notably each of his six "Christy" dogs. He is survived by his wife Connie; his son Richard Allen Eicher II, daughter-in-law, Jennifer, and their three children and one grandchild; his daughter Jessica Jean Eicher Smith, her husband William (Billy), and their children: Samuel, Sapphire, Hunter, and Katherine; siblings Mike and wife Sharon, Dana and husband Ronnie, Paula, Monte and wife Suzanne, sister-in-law Nancy, and several generations of beloved nieces and nephews who enjoyed unending laughter alongside their mischievous "Uncle Rick." We are all part of his story, and his story lives on in us. We celebrate this man because it seems ungrateful to do anything less.

The memorial service will take place on Friday, August 1 at 2pm, with Pastor David Newton officiating, at Crossroads Church: 6901 East State Hwy 191, Odessa, TX 79762.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Promised Land Dachshund Sanctuary: P.O. Box 150, Shiro, TX 77876.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG 1. 2:00 PM (CT)

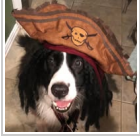
Crossroads
6901 E Highway 191
Odessa, TX 79762

Tribute Wall



“ *I have to agree to everything Daniel Devine said.
When we moved to Kansas I lost touch with the best people I've
ever known.
Taekwon-Do brought the best of us together and gave us
friendships, and experiences sharing family times together, parties
and much more.
Rich had a genuine big heart and an honest easy personality.
My sincere heartfelt condolences to you his family.
Pam Lehman*

Pamela Lehman - August 03, 2025 at 05:58 PM



“ *In Loving Memory of Rick Eicher*

Although it's been years since we last saw each other, the memories of our time together remain vivid and cherished. Rick and I shared over a decade of friendship in Odessa, bound by our Taekwon-Do family and a life full of laughter, training, and unforgettable stories.

From black belt parties at our home to traveling and training side by side, Rick was always at the heart of the action. His stories—whether about Frederico or his beloved dog Bo digging a trap-sized hole—had me crying with laughter every time. He was a master storyteller, and his humor was as legendary as his spirit.

In Taekwon-Do, Rick was the real deal. He never took the easy way out—pushing limits with his son, breaking bricks with their shins, stacking boards higher than anyone thought possible. He embodied indomitable spirit, integrity, and heart.

I remember when he bought his pecan farm and completely revolutionized its output by reengineering all the equipment. Or his Peruvian horse Buckaroo, who he trained to put himself to bed—just classic Rick. Always inventive, always determined.

Rick was a great man. A proud father. A loving husband. And a loyal friend. He was the kind of person who had your back no matter what—someone who would stand beside you when things got tough.

He once told me a hysterical joke about a tenacious little banty rooster who beat all odds. At the end, he said, “That’s me. I am that little banty rooster.” And he was. Fierce, funny, and full of fight.

So today, I raise my glass to Rick Eicher. I’m thankful and blessed to have known you. Rest in peace, old friend. You’ll never be forgotten.

Daniel Devine - August 03, 2025 at 05:11 PM

DJ

“ *My sincere condolences to the family... Rick was a wonderful man who had a heart of gold when it came to our furry friends... with no doubt, he has earned a special spot in heaven. Rest in Peace Rick*

Delma Jurado - August 01, 2025 at 10:13 AM



“ *I am one of your many followers on Facebook, and am heartbroken to hear of Rick's passing. God be with Connie, his children and family. Prayers for all of you. He was one of a kind.*

Tena Macha - August 01, 2025 at 06:08 AM

R(

“ *Rick and Punky (Stamford) purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Richard Allen Eicher.*



Rick and Punky (Stamford) - July 31, 2025 at 05:25 PM

JC

“ *Rick was a real man. Real men don't complain. Real men can laugh at themselves. Real men keep their word. Real men support family. Rick was a real man.*

Jeffrey Cowell - July 31, 2025 at 05:16 PM

PG

“ I am one of the many that follow you on Facebook. My heart broke when I read of Rick’s passing. Sending prayers to Connie, their children and families and friends. Thank you Rick for all you have done for these wonderful babies. RIP

Patti Wirsing Gutierrez - July 31, 2025 at 01:56 PM

JA

“ I follow the rescue on FB and am just so very sorry for your family's loss



jamie - July 31, 2025 at 01:03 PM

KJ

“ My sincere condolences to the family, both two and four legged. Rick made such a difference to so many and his presence on earth will be sorely missed. There are simply not enough humans like Rick Eicher in this world.

Kathy Jordan - July 31, 2025 at 12:58 PM