



Richard C. Diefenderfer Jr.

April 5, 1967 - March 3, 2021

Richard C. Diefenderfer, Jr., 53, of Cheyenne passed away on March 3, 2021 in Cheyenne. He was born on April 5, 1967 in Powell, Wyoming.

Rich was a Communication Specialist and Supervisor for the Wyoming Highway Patrol since 1998. He was a member of the Wyoming Highway Patrol Association. He was a coach for his son's teams in the Cheyenne Junior League and most recently the Cheyenne Youth League.

Rich attended Cheyenne Schools and was a 1985 graduate of Cheyenne Central High School where he was an all-around athlete in football, basketball and track and a member of two championship teams. Rich also played Senior Babe Ruth and Cheyenne Legion Baseball. After graduation, he attended Northern Arizona University at Flagstaff, University of Wyoming, Laramie County Community College and Video Technical Institute of California at Los Angeles. Rich played the guitar and had a keen interest in photography and video technology. He loved to film concerts of blues, rock and heavy metal musicians, many of whom were friends. Rich loved sports, went to as many games as he could and could quote statistics on players and tell you the latest news for the Avs, Rockies, Broncos and Nuggets on any given day.

Rich is survived by son, Max and former wife, Amy of Cheyenne; parents, Richard and Lynette Diefenderfer of Eaton, CO; sister, Andrea Diefenderfer Rusch and husband Karl; nieces Hannah Gustafson, Laurel Gustafson and Shelby Rusch, all of Greeley, CO, as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Rich was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Sheldon and Jean Diefenderfer of Bethlehem, PA and his maternal grandparents, Edward and Elizabeth Bogacz of Riverton, WY.

A Celebration of Life will be held at The Office, Wine Country Room, 1600 E. Pershing Blvd., Cheyenne, WY on Saturday, April 3, 2021 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The Richard C. Diefenderfer, Jr. Memorial Fund, c/o FirstTier Bank, Attn. Stacie L. Linger,

Senior Vice President, 1508 Stillwater Avenue, Cheyenne, WY 82009, has been established if friends and family wish to contribute.

Comments



“ My condolences and prayers go out to the Diefenderfer family. I'm so sorry for your loss.

I had the privilege of being coached by Rich's father at at Carey and after graduating from college I had the privilege of coaching Rich at Central, alongside of me dad, Jim McLeod, and Lew Roney, Jim Hounshell, Rich Trautwein, Randy Gallu, and Steve Stow. I think I can speak for all the coaches in saying that we loved Rich. He worked hard, played hard, and played an important role in building two championship teams.

I remember Rich as a very gifted athlete with a tender heart for God.

Patrick McLeod - March 27 at 10:25 AM



“ I was the new kid in town when I showed up after first quarter of 10th grade and Richie was one of the first people to pull me into his circle. From football where he dominated me, to basketball where I had a slight edge to FCA where we enjoyed that fellowship with so many friends, he was always smiling and always open. I'm sorry that we didn't stay in touch after high school but I always have thought highly of Richie and his competitive spirit, constant striving to be better and positive attitude. I want to send his family and friends my deepest condolences. Kelly Perdew

Kelly Perdew - March 24 at 08:03 PM



“ I am very saddened by the loss of Richie. He was always really talented and really nice and an all around good man. My heart is with your family.

Tim Ogden - Class of 85

TIMOTHY J OGDEN - March 24 at 01:47 PM



“ Lynette and Rich,

So sorry for your loss. I'll never forget meeting Rich at FCA back in the day when Central and East student athletes would meet at the Trembly's home for fellowship. It was very cool getting to know someone you competed against in Highschool (Pretty unique). Rich was a year younger, but a guy I always followed since we played the same position in football....And knew each other!

Come full circle 35 years later, my mom and Lynette have become very good friends having moved from Cheyenne to Eaton Colorado. I always asked my mom how Rich and his family were doing, she would always fill me in. I'll always have good memories of Rich, I'm sure we would have eventually got together because of our moms friendship. I'm sorry this won't happen here on earth, but I'll look forward in seeing him in the big house one day. Once again, I am so sorry for your loss.....You raised a good one!

God Bless you guys,

Rusty Huelle

Rusty Huelle - March 14 at 02:46 PM



“ So very sad to hear of Rich's passing. It was wonderful to meet back up with him in 2008 when I started playing in bands with Brian Leneschmidt. Rich remembered me from back in my 80's heavy metal days in Cheyenne. It was always great to talk to Rich at shows and he continued coming to see us even after Brian moved to FLA. Rich always dug the music and was good for a nice conversation and a hug. Such a big heart and big sense of humor. We will dearly miss seeing him. Niki & I send our condolences to Rich's family & friends

Gary & Niki Hoem - March 12 at 01:01 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Wendy Volk - March 10 at 09:46 PM



“ Thank you for posting.

Lynette - March 12 at 02:02 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Wendy Volk & Todd Dereemer - March 10 at 09:44 PM



“ Lynette and Richard, I am so sad to hear about your tremendous loss. I wish I had known your son better; he was very young when I met him and your daughter, but felt I knew him through our conversations about him. Please convey my sincere condolence to your family. Rosita

Rosita - March 10 at 05:55 PM



“ I'm am truly saddened to hear of Rich's passing! He was a wonderful friend and quality man! You are all in my thoughts and prayers! May his memory be eternal !

Marti Contos-Porreco - March 09 at 09:13 PM



“ Lynette

We were saddened to hear about the passing of your son.
We will remember you & your beautiful family in our prayers.
Love & Hugs
Marilyn & Ron Kisicki

Marilyn Kisicki - March 09 at 04:33 PM



“ Dief kept me sane through my years at the WHP communications center and was always a comforting and calming presence there, setting a sterling example of grace under pressure every day. His sly sense of humor had a way of sneaking up on me and he was full of surprises. His memory is a blessing and I am honored to have known him.

Kate Sherrod - March 09 at 04:21 PM



“ I was shocked and saddened to hear of Rich's passing. I've known Richie for over 40 years and I was delighted to know he worked at WYDOT when I first began my career there almost 17 years ago. To the family, my prayers of God's strength, comfort and love are with you!

Timothy Tyler - March 08 at 05:50 PM



“ I was confused over how a vibrant man could pass away. I have known him since we both were in 8th grade. We " went out together" He was such a great guy. I was glad to reconnect over FB. Prayers to his son and the rest of his family and friends..

Misty - March 09 at 09:39 AM



“ My deepest condolences to Rich's family...
I've known Rich for 15 years. He was a really Cool Guy. Honest and Trustworthy as the day is long. He was kind, and able to help others in times of stress and trouble. Kept his head when others had trouble doing that. I considered him to be a Friend. Rich will be missed.
Doug Wolfe

Doug Wolfe - March 08 at 05:47 PM



“ I am so saddened to hear of Richie passing. We have know each other since Jr. High school his dad was one of my favorite teachers. My thoughts and prayers are with all of your family. He will be missed by so many.

Sincerely,
Rhonda (Reid) Tanner

Rhonda (Reid) Tanner - March 08 at 12:13 PM



“ This is a sad day to know my childhood friend has left this world...,way to early. My deepest sympathies to the Dief family.... sincerely Sherry (Lacy) Nickles

Sherry Nickles - March 09 at 01:35 PM



“ I remember Rich fondly as a student of mine who had a good heart! I hope memories of happy times with him will bring his family and friends comfort.
Jan (Trout) Felton

Jan Felton - March 07 at 11:39 AM