



Erich Hunn

April 26, 1929 - January 12, 2016

Obituary

Erich Adam Ludwig Hunn

April 26, 1929 - January 12, 2016

Erich Hunn of Surfside Beach, S.C. passed away at home on January 12, 2016 at the age of 86. Born on April 26, 1929 in Mannheim, Germany, Erich was the son of Anna Maria Wolf Hunn and Karl Hunn. Erich was known well in the community as a talented musician, performing jazz and classical music since a very early age. While he was trained in classical violin as a child, he began performing jazz saxophone, flute and clarinet in his early 20s in Germany. Later, he signed on with the USO to support the troops, performing in North Africa, Morocco, Tangiers and Tripoli. He also led his own bands and performed with some of the top musicians in Europe. In 1964, he immigrated to the United States to Orangeburg, S.C. where he was hired to direct the high school band. His desire to perform live music and become a real estate broker led Erich to Myrtle Beach and Sunset Beach, N.C. He owned and operated several restaurants in South and North Carolina.

Music was his true passion, and he continued to play baritone and tenor sax with the Myrtle Beach Big Band, Thrift Shop Jack and his own group the Erich Hunn Quintet. He also performed at the Gatlin Brothers Theatre, The Carolina

Opry and The Palace Theatre. Most recently, he performed with fellow musicians at retirement homes and on New Years Eve in Murrells Inlet.

Erich became a citizen of the United States in 1976. He graduated from the University of South Carolina - Coastal Carolina University earning a Bachelor of Arts in political science in 1993. He also studied in Oxford, England. One of his most memorable experiences was winning the showcase in the TV game show "The Price is Right" in 1996. Erich was known for his optimism, and when asked how he maintained such a great outlook on life, he always responded, "Just have a positive mental attitude and everything will be okay."

Erich is survived by his soul mate of 32 years, Lee Nichols; two sons, Ralph (wife, Martha) and Jarrett; two daughters, Daphne Lance and Karla Gunter (husband, Langdon III); stepdaughters, Renee McGinley (husband, Joseph) and DeLane McQuinn; and his brother, Ernst Fuchs (wife, Brigitte and nephew, Stefan) of Mannheim, Germany. Erich had eight grandchildren - Brigitte, Langdon IV, Madeline, Jordan, Jennifer, Maria, Jessica and Nicholas; and five great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at Goldfinch Funeral Home Beach Chapel located on U.S. 17 Bypass in Murrells Inlet. Visitation is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. and a celebration of Erich's life will take place on Sunday, Jan. 17 at 2 p.m. He will be entombed at Hillcrest Cemetery in Conway.

Sign an online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com/obituaries

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Erich Hunn



Goldfinch Funeral Home - January 15, 2016 at 10:11 AM

KG

Love this slideshow. Very nice.

Karla Hunn Gunter - January 15, 2016 at 07:40 PM



Great pictures and tribute to Mr. Hunn! He will be greatly missed!

Crucilla Koon - January 15, 2016 at 08:57 PM

CF

Very nice.

clara Formoso - January 16, 2016 at 03:36 AM

PC

"Heaven has another great angel" Lee, Renee. Joseph & Delane, I am so very sorry for your loss. You are all in my thoughts and praying for peace and comfort in the days ahead. Love to you all ! Erich had a great smile. Always remember his warm smile!

Pattie (Cercone)Corbitt

Patricia Corbitt - January 16, 2016 at 02:23 PM

SH

Very nice celebration of Erich. He will be sorely missed!

Sherry - January 16, 2016 at 02:42 PM

PP

Beautiful slideshow! Erich would have loved it. He would have explained every photo while remembering the event. He will be missed.

Patty Poszywak

Patty Poszywak - January 16, 2016 at 11:07 PM

RE

You are so right Patty! Every photo and lots of details! That was our Erich...

Renee - January 18, 2016 at 10:35 PM

DD

Enjoyed many good times in the 60's with Erich at the Bowery when it was The Place for musicians to gather and jam! Fantastic musician. RIP.

Dave Daniel - January 20, 2016 at 04:12 PM

MO

“ *Molly lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn*



Molly - May 09, 2016 at 11:13 PM

RE

“ Several years ago I started calling Erich "Guten tag". I don't know why, it just fit him. I wasn't even really quite sure what it meant. And he started calling me "guten morgen". I later learned I was calling him "good day" and he was calling me "good morning". It was silly but it usually made us chuckle. I don't guess I realized why I had chosen to call him this until he was gone. He was the start to a good day- with his positive mental attitude (ALWAYS), his one of a kind wit, and his precious German accent! Even if the day started off in a negative way, when I'd talk to "guten tag" he'd somehow always make me feel better. He'd make things not seem so bad and he genuinely cared, about everyone. I loved all of these traits in him as did many others. He is missed but I know he's in good hands and he's got to be a headliner entertainer in Heaven!
Rest in peace "gutenTag",
Love, Renee- your "guten Morgen"

Renee - January 29, 2016 at 01:12 AM

LO

“ Erich,
I was looking at your name this evening and it occurred to me that your name spells out everything that your were in life. E=earnest, R=reasonable, I=intelligent, C=caring, H=helpful. You meant so much to our family and I will miss you.
Love, Lou

Lou - January 20, 2016 at 10:47 PM

CM

“ We will miss you Erich. We loved being around you and loved listening to your wonderful stories. Hugs and kisses to Aunt Lee.

Cindy and Mark Muraski



Cynthia Muraski - January 20, 2016 at 11:03 AM

KA

“ Karen D Ambrose lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn



Karen D Ambrose - January 19, 2016 at 11:12 AM

KA

I Love You Aunt Lee!!!

Karen D Ambrose - January 19, 2016 at 11:13 AM

US

“ Uschi lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn



Uschi - January 18, 2016 at 10:55 PM

BA

“ It was not long ago I was sharing conversation with Erich about ladies, love, life, and being happy. During our family reunion I was quickly reminded how much life was in this man! Not the breathing healthy version of life but the kind of life that has been LIVED. Erich did not simply exist, he experienced life worth living.. I could always tell he was living by that smirk letting me know he was loading up for a punch line sending all of my relatives into a laughter. I will miss seeing you during the times our paths crossed.

With love.

Blake R Anderson - January 18, 2016 at 05:22 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Paul Fogel - January 18, 2016 at 03:41 PM

NM

“ Opa was an incredible person and a great man. He was wise, open and with a ready laugh. Every time I saw him, he always had a big smile and a positive outlook. Hard work and determination characterized him. He cherished his independence and had a very active and fulfilling life. His lifetime of dedication and self-sacrifice serve as a monument to the exemplary man he was. His humility, integrity, and hard work continue to inspire those who knew him. The last time I saw him he welcomed me with his usual tight hug. You will surely be missed but always remembered. You will live on in every tight hug, every warm smile, and every genuine greeting we will all share. Let us remember the calm rock he was in the rapid currents of life and realize that rock is not gone, but exists in everything he has done, every lesson he taught us and every example he set. We all love you very much and will miss you dearly.

Nicholas M - January 18, 2016 at 08:45 AM

CS

“ Erich was an awesome guy. I wish I knew him better. I am sure the funeral was a beautiful tribute to him.

Clif Stubbs - January 17, 2016 at 10:46 PM

PP

“ Patty Poszywak lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn



Patty Poszywak - January 16, 2016 at 11:08 PM

SK

“ To Lee and the rest of his family, may you find comfort and peace. I am so sorry for your loss. Everyone who knew Erich, knew how much you all meant to him.

Ah, Erich. Every time I would see him, he made me feel like a long lost friend. I expect he made everyone feel that way. We played together on many gigs and I was always amazed at his great, natural sound. Music kept him young, yet he had a very old soul. My condolences also go out to the many musicians and music-lovers who will miss him.

Steve Kirkman - January 16, 2016 at 04:02 PM

SH

“ Sherry lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn



Sherry - January 16, 2016 at 02:30 PM

SF

“ Stefan Fuchs lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn



Stefan Fuchs - January 16, 2016 at 07:56 AM

LD

“ *Linda Dellinger lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn*



linda dellinger - January 15, 2016 at 10:55 PM

GP

“ *Erich I will surely miss you. You were a great inspiration to me. Your attitude on life was amazing. When things looked bleak at times, you would say "you got to keep a positive attitude, think young, and enjoy life." We shared some special times. Thanks again my friend. Your friend, Gary Pait.*

Gary Pait - January 15, 2016 at 09:09 PM

PE

“ *Good bye my friend. God and Gene are waiting to hear that big alto sax in heaven. Play it loud and clear so that we who are left on earth can also hear. The memories we created on our travels here, there and everywhere are wonderful and meaningful. They will always be remembered. We have always been blessed to have Lee in our family and considered you an extra bonus. We love you dearly and will miss your wonderful smile and positive attitude. Your niece and friend,
Peggy Floyd*

Peggy - January 15, 2016 at 08:25 PM

KG

“ January 12, 2016

Dad, you got your angel wings today. It was unexpected but I'm glad you are at peace. No more aches and pains, no more worrying about anything. Your life has been full. Filled with challenges, endurance , surprises and adventures. You were loved and adored by so many people. Your musical talent was off the chart and I'm sure heaven has the best trumpet or horn ready for you to play. I will miss hearing your voice, smelling your cologne, and holding your hand. I will try not to be sad. I will force myself to remember the good times we shared even when my eyes well up with grief. You would want it that way. I will miss you terribly, love you always....



Karla Hunn Gunter - January 15, 2016 at 07:39 PM

RE

“ Renee lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn



Renee - January 15, 2016 at 05:55 PM

LM

“ Lou May lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn



Lou May - January 15, 2016 at 05:54 PM

LE

“ *My heart is broken. I will miss my Erich forever. My survival kit will include past memories, your love and compassion for me through the years, and two souls that only death could separate. See you in the stars-
I love you,
Your Lee Lee*

Lee - January 15, 2016 at 05:53 PM

KG

Love you Lee ❤️❤️❤️

Karla Hunn Gunter - January 16, 2016 at 09:22 AM

LE

“ *Lee lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn*



Lee - January 15, 2016 at 05:33 PM

L&

“ *Love, De Lane & Gary purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Erich Hunn.*



Love, De Lane & Gary - January 15, 2016 at 03:25 PM

DL

“ To the best stepfather that someone could ask for. Erich you were not only my stepfather, but a friend and someone who believed in me. We shared many special talks. Even on my worst days, you somehow could make me realize that life wasn't all that bad. You will always hold a special place in my heart and I will never forget your famous quote "you have to have a positive mental attitude about everything." God bless you Erich! Your stepdaughter always,
Love De Lane

De Lane - January 15, 2016 at 03:03 PM

DL

“ De Lane lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn



De Lane - January 15, 2016 at 02:52 PM

SH

“ We are so sorry to hear of Erich's passing. He was a lovely person who brought music, optimism, caring, love for us, new experiences and a song in his heart to our family. We will cherish the memories of his spirit and song and will miss his cheerful and happy life moments. Mom and Dad found him and Aunt Lee excellent company on their excursions out to the wild wild west and were special buds to share trips and life experiences.

We love you and will miss you Erich! Heaven has now a wonderful musician that we can hear in our dreams.

*Bob and Sherry Stubbs
Wake Forest, NC*

Sherry - January 15, 2016 at 07:49 AM

RE

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Renee - January 14, 2016 at 10:41 PM

SH

Excellent Pic Renee!

Sherry - January 15, 2016 at 07:51 AM

RE

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Renee - January 14, 2016 at 10:38 PM

TA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Terry Anderson - January 14, 2016 at 07:21 PM

TA

“ *Eric was such a ray of sunshine !!! I still can see him with that huge smile of his and my Aunt Lee patting his hair down as it flew around in the beach wind He was a wonderful musician and he seemed to play his life like his instruments , in tune and very clear !!!! He seemed to know and understand the important things and loved my family dearly. I remember having a conversation with him when my father died(his traveling companion along with mom and Aunt Lee) about my Dad and I honestly could feel his heart hurt !!! We will miss you Eric and say Hey to my Dad when you see him and we will see you again !!!!!*

Love you

Terry and Ronnie Anderson

Terry Anderson - January 14, 2016 at 07:17 PM

 Dawn
Grubb

“ Jarrett & Karla,
*I am so sorry to hear that your dad, my Uncle Erich, has died.
Please know that even though I cannot attend his memorial service,
I will be thinking and praying for you all. I always liked him. He made
me laugh!*
Dawn

Dawn Grubb - January 14, 2016 at 06:11 PM

KE

Thank you Dawn, hope you all are doing well. ❤️

Karla Gunter (daughter of Erich) - January 14, 2016 at 07:04 PM

KC

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Kenny Carter - January 14, 2016 at 04:15 PM

KE

Thank you for sharing these pictures!

Karla Gunter (daughter of Erich) - January 14, 2016 at 07:05 PM

WW

“ *My sincere condolences to the Hunn family. The death of a loved
one can be extremely painful but have comfort in God's words found
at Psalms 34:18. My deepest sympathy to you all.*

Winsome Williams - January 14, 2016 at 04:13 PM

CB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Chris Corcoran Beasley - January 14, 2016 at 04:04 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Erich Hunn.



January 14, 2016 at 03:59 PM

VW

“ *I played with Eric for many years in the Myrtle Beach Big Band (Swingtime). He was always fun to be around...always positive, and uplifting. I shared many laughs with Eric. He surely will be missed. My condolences to Lee and the rest of the family.*

Vince Winnies (Trombone)



Vince Winnies - January 14, 2016 at 08:55 AM

BW

“ *Brenda Washell lit a candle in memory of Erich Hunn*



Brenda Washell - January 13, 2016 at 06:03 PM

BW

I met Erich the first time playing in the Swingtime Big Band at 2001. An old friend of his took me up there Corky Corcoran the piano man. I was so impressed by him and the band! I had the good fortune to play with him when he would join Simply Music Ensemble trading leads with Tony Capolingua on clarinet volunteering at local long term care facilities. We recently teamed up again and played every Saturday at Eaglecrest where Corky resides now. I had so much fun picking him up and laughing all the way up there and back just spending time with him and getting to know him better. New Years Eve at Dave's Dockside was when Erich's horn really soared hot and he played like a champ. It will be the highlight of my 2016 memories and I will never forget what a great giant of a man and musician he was. Sadly missed by all who knew him already. Hope the journey over the rainbow was graceful for you my friend. My heart goes out to his loving Lee and family.

Brenda Washell - January 13, 2016 at 06:17 PM

BW

If you would like to see Erich in his last performance last Saturday log into Youtube. Simply Music Ensemble MB SC

Brenda Washell - January 13, 2016 at 07:18 PM

RH

“ I met Erich when I first moved to Myrtle Beach in 1998. He was playing with Swingtime Big Band at Fast Eddies. He played great Bari Sax and he was always fun to be around. He always made me laugh. He most certainly will be missed from the local music scene. My utmost sympathy to Lee and the family.



Ray Hutcherson (Alto Sax)

Ray Hutcherson - January 13, 2016 at 05:42 PM