



Merle Allen Eichelberger

November 25, 1940 - December 3, 2016

Colorado Springs, Colorado

In Colorado Springs, on December 3, 2016, Merle Allen Eichelberger died at 76. Born November 25, 1940 in Colorado Springs, carrying Hungarian-American stories that arrived without footnotes. He grew up believing that showing up was the first craft.

He sorted broomcorn until grades agreed and pride could return. A broomcorn grade paddle wiped decided what the shed could sell. Colleagues still mention a broomcorn grade paddle wiped.

He and Nancy married in 1967 and raised two daughters without needing an audience. After Nancy's death in 2009, he held to quiet habits-coffee before dawn, a tended yard, a voice on the phone that still checked in.

Neighbors remember a rake leaned against a shared fence after a storm. Mornings were his favorite shift at home. He died in Colorado Springs, on streets that already knew his pace. The recipe card is still stained in the useful places.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. His life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

A quiet remembrance in Colorado Springs. Those who wish may give to a neighborhood library, food pantry, or workers' aid fund instead of flowers.

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