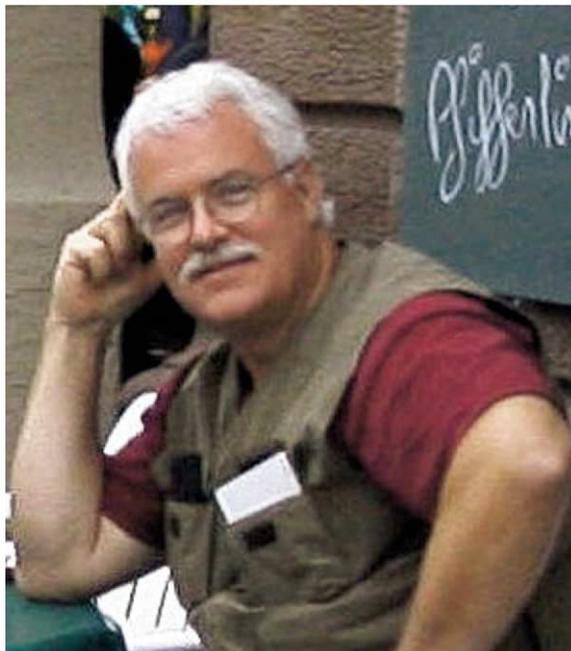


Richard A. Schaeffer: 1951–2004



On October 2, 2004, Rick Schaeffer, President and Chief Operating Officer, Extrel CMS, was killed in an automobile accident on his way home to Pittsburgh after vacationing in South Carolina. He is survived by his wife Alice, who was also injured in the accident, and his three sons, Jason, Brian, and Colby.

Rick spent the last thirty years of his life working at Extrel, developing mass spectrometry equipment and techniques and supporting and promoting scientific research and education. His death has been felt very deeply, not only by his family, friends, and coworkers, but also by researchers and students around the world. He loved to teach and he was generous with his time to anyone who asked for help. He thoroughly enjoyed sitting down in front of a researcher's instrument to solve a problem or to show new graduate students how to get the most out of their system. By doing so over the last thirty years, Rick touched many lives and got many careers off to a good start.

Rick gave generously of himself outside of work too. He was active in a number of scientific societies and volunteered his time and talents to his church and community activities such as the Boy Scouts.

Rick also cared deeply about "his company." He had been with Extrel for almost thirty years. He started as an electrical technician and worked his way up through the organization to a management position. He was one of four partners who, in April of 2004, purchased the assets of the mass spectrometry business and reestablished Extrel as an independent company. Rick's commitment to the health and welfare of the people of Extrel has made it an exceptionally good place to work; his commitment to the support of Extrel's customers made it an exceptionally good company to work with.

A memorial fund has been set up to honor Rick's memory and to continue his work for scientific education. Contributions to this fund will be used to help promising graduate students to attend scientific conferences such as the American Society of Mass Spectrometry Conference and other scientific symposia. Contributions to the fund should be sent to:

Richard A. Schaeffer Memorial Fund
c/o Extrel CMS
575 Epsilon Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15238, USA.

Dave Kimmell

Extrel CMS Marketing, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Published online March 17, 2005

Address reprint requests to Dr. Dave Kimmell, Extrel CMS Marketing, 575 Epsilon Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15238-2838, USA. E-mail: dave.kimmell@extrel.com