

**WELL AT HOME
SAFE AT WORK**

OSC | 12
Ohio Safety Congress & Expo

#903 General Session: The Buried Truth Uncovered –

9:30 to 10:30 a.m. – Thursday, March 29

Life for Eric Giguere only looked up. A capable worker with a good job and good pay, he married on Sept. 28, 2002. Within a week, the newlyweds would be on their honeymoon. Six days after the wedding Eric went to work and looked forward to leaving for his honeymoon after his shift. That joy never came to be. Eric had five years experience as a union laborer and was two months into his first trenching project. The crew was installing a 12-inch water main. Eric got down into the 6.5 foot trench to inspect the pipe, and the trench walls collapsed. He was buried under several feet of soil. Eric panicked. He couldn't breath under the crushing weight. His fear began to subside and a feeling of warmth and comfort overcame him. Eric was dying. He regained consciousness in the hospital where he learned of the quick action of his team to dig him out. The doctors told Eric he suffered permanent brain damage from the lack of oxygen. Despite the odds against any life other than one of permanent disability, Eric never stopped fighting to overcome what he was told was now impossible. Eric is an average guy who had the typical attitude toward safety: "Accidents happen, but not to me", until the one that nearly took his life. Now Eric's mission is to make sure the arrogance he had toward safety doesn't become yours. His message, "This can happen to you." You will be able to identify common attitudes toward safety; and describe some personal and professional impacts of a workplace injury.

Credits: 0.1 IACET

Presented by Eric Giguere, Safety Awareness Solutions

Notes:

Action items: