

Eric Bergeson



About Eric

Eric Bergeson has been involved in the nursery business all of his life. He owned Bergeson Nursery, a business started by his grandfather Melvin in 1936, for seventeen years. He has spoken to hundreds of groups about gardening, and was host of cable television's *Little Garden on the Prairie*.

Eric Bergeson was raised on the grounds of Bergeson Nursery, a business his grandfather Melvin started in 1936.

He attended Fertile-Beltrami public schools, and graduated with bachelor's and a master's degrees in history from the University of North Dakota.

During college, he studied in Cambridge, England; Wellington, New Zealand; and Warsaw, Poland.

Eric purchased Bergeson Nursery from his parents Paul and Glenda Bergeson in 1997.

For fifteen years, Eric wrote a weekly column for 22 area newspapers.

Eric has published seven books. His fourth book, *Pirates on the Prairie*, was named a "Minnesota historic and cultural treasure" by the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*.

Eric hosted cable television's *Little Garden on the Prairie* for its inaugural season's thirteen episodes. Re-runs continued for several years.

During his years owning the nursery, Eric spoke to hundreds of groups about gardening. He also started entertaining at area nursing homes.

His interest in the elderly led to him being awarded the prestigious Bush Foundation Fellowship in 2011. His project was to help bring an assisted living facility to his hometown of Fertile. The 19-unit building opened in 2014 and is now full.

The Bush Fellowship also allowed him to return to New Zealand to study their eldercare system, and to complete his book about his experiences with the elderly friends he has gained over the years, *A Treasury of Old Souls*.

In 2014, Eric sold the nursery to his brother Joe and wife Kae. He continues to speak and write, publishing *Successful Gardening on the Northern Prairie* in the spring of 2017.

Eric and his partner Lance Thorn split their time between Fertile, MN and Tucson, AZ.