



Anthony James Riesberg

April 1, 1967 - March 15, 2024

Anthony J. Riesberg, age 56 of Houston TX, passed away unexpectedly on Friday March 15, 2024.

Anthony James Riesberg was born on April 1, 1967 to Robert R. Riesberg Jr. and Patricia (née Edmunds). Sister Kathleen followed in 1968 and brother Matthew in 1970, and he was our big brother ever since. Anthony grew up in South Minneapolis, MN, up the hill from little beach, Lake Nokomis. Anthony was the first born and a natural leader. In his youth, his passions were fishing, basketball, baseball, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. In his teen years, he enjoyed playing Dungeons & Dragons, hanging out at Lake Nokomis, and spending time with friends. Anthony had a knack for learning from a young age, and graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1985 with a 4.0 GPA and received a 2 year scholarship to the University of Minnesota in academics. Also, a little known fact Anthony used to be Tony, all of his younger years!

In November 1986 Anthony joined the Navy, went out to see the World, and did just that. He was an Airman on the USS Midway. His squadron was HS 12 - The Spearguns. When he was not out to sea, his naval base was in Atsugi, Japan. He was on the Indian Ocean Cruise 1987-88 which included stops in Australia, the Phillipines, Kenya, and Thailand. He had the honor of being named Carrier Air Wing 5 "Sailor of the Month" for February 1988, and "Petty Officer of the Quarter" for the second quarter of 1988. He had the nickname

"Bird" to his friends and had a lot of fun seeing the World. What an adventure. He faithfully wrote letters home. On the back of his picture of the USS Midway he labeled it "My sweet lady".

Once out of the Navy, Anthony dove back into learning and education. Thru the years, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Minnesota in 1996, and he completed his Masters of Science degree at St. Cloud State University in 2008. He studied Higher Education Administration and Leadership. Other passions throughout the years included rodeo; bull & bronc riding. He was a volunteer fire fighter in Isanti, MN. He loved hockey, was a hockey coach, and enjoyed going to MN Wild hockey games.

Anthony was married in 2003 for 2 years to Summer Hosek, and adored her 2 daughters, Krissy and Autumn Montgomery. He was also a stand up father figure and friend to Nick Judnitch, whom he met thru a friend's son. Anthony was "Talls" to Nick and friends. Anthony was a guiding force in their education, and always made himself available. Anthony taught them about life, made sure they knew that there was a time for everything including Celebrations. Anthony taught them how important family was. Anthony never had children of his own, but was blessed with their presence in his life.

Anthony was a 10 year lung cancer survivor. The cancer never spread. He was so very lucky. Thru that journey, Anthony's life pivoted again. He developed a passion for travel, photography, art, and fashion. He made a conscious decision to travel the World, with 3 multiple country adventures which a few trips were up to 6 weeks away from home. He would set up travels to 7-9 different countries. He loved traveling thru Europe & went to see Morocco. During these travels he went to Lithuania several times to visit Uncle Page Edmunds, wife Edvile, Anders & Valeria. He loved this adventurous time of his life. He often thought about moving overseas, but always kept his home base here in Minnesota.

Anthony really enjoyed being able to help others and steer them in the right direction as well as lead his teams to a positive result for the institutions he worked for. He had found his calling. Anthony was not about one's self, he was about bettering those around him. He worked at the following schools: Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC) in Minneapolis MN, St. Cloud Technical and Community College in St. Cloud MN, South Central Community and Technical College in Mankato MN, and Riverland Community College, with campuses in Albert Lea, Austin, and Owatonna MN. He had many colleagues that remained friends thru the years. In 2022, Anthony accepted a Manager Advising position at Coleman College, part of Houston Community College in Texas. He was "all in". He got a beautiful apartment with the Houston skyline out his window. He loved being in Houston, his job, and his coworkers. He was living his best life. Anthony was recovering from pneumonia, and moving on to physical therapy/rehab when the Lord called him home unexpectedly on March 15, 2024.

Anthony touched many lives. A recent condolence from an HCC colleague stated: "Anthony was an angel. He was intensely private without being standoffish, offering any information asked but not volunteering anything, but his passion and love for students and his job lit up his eyes when we spoke. His positivity, way of always finding the good in everything, support, dedication, and passion was always visible, no matter who he spoke with. I knew I could depend and rely on him, trusted him implicitly, without even knowing him that well. It was his demeanor, soothing tone, body language. He was approachable, easy to trust and open up to. HCC has really lost an amazing soul; Coleman lost a true family member".

Anthony was full of love and light. He liked to make people laugh. He loved Mountain Dew. He was a lefty. He was very intelligent. He was a stand up guy

you could always count on. He always showed up with a smile on his face and a camera in his hands. He had a large but quiet presence and a comforting, loving personality. He was a proud representative for our family. He was an Honorable Airman serving his Country. He was Patriotic. He was Faithful. He was strong. He was a true Cowboy. When he did something, he did it to the fullest. He will be deeply missed.

Anthony was preceded in death by his parents, Robert & Patricia; both sets of grandparents, Robert R. Riesberg Sr. & Lillian (Bill), William & Ruth Edmunds (née Hoaglund); uncles and aunts, Don & Shirl Riesberg, Clyde Peterson, & Page Edmunds.

Anthony is survived by his sister, Katie (Rick) Borka; brother, Matt (Natalie) Riesberg; nephew, Clint Borka; nieces, Kayla Borka, Emma & Sophia Riesberg; two half brothers, Kevin (Linda) Dockter and family, and Mark Riesberg, ex-wife Summer Riesberg, her daughters Autumn Montgomery and Kris Wilson, Nick Judnitch; uncles and aunts, Dick & Beverly Riesberg, Ken & Barbara Riesberg, Barb Peterson, and Ruth Anne Maguire; cousins; and other relatives and friends.

Memorial service will take place on Monday, April 29th at 11 AM at Washburn-McReavy Nokomis Park Chapel. Visitation one hour prior. Interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis. For attending the memorial service, we will be processing to the cemetery as a group. For those who are unable to attend the memorial service but would like to join the family for the committal service at Fort Snelling, please arrive at Assembly Lane #2 at 1:45 PM.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **29**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Nokomis Park Chapel
1838 E. Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55407
(612) 721-1651
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Memorial Service

APR **29**. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

Nokomis Park Chapel
1838 E. Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55407
(612) 721-1651
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Graveside Service

APR **29**. 2:00 PM - 2:15 PM (CT)

Fort Snelling National Cemetery
7601 34th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450

Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Webcast in memory of Anthony James Riesberg



Washburn-McReavy - March 28, 2024 at 02:07 PM

PH

I had the pleasure of working with Anthony from 2019 until he left and moved to Texas. He was always helpful and enjoyable to visit with. No matter what was going on, you could count on Anthony. My sympathies to his friends and family.

Paula Rose Halvorsen

Paula Rose Halvorsen - April 01, 2024 at 11:38 AM

MB

Although my time with Anthony was short, I worked with him at Houston Community college, we had many discussions about students and success and I know he cared deeply for success. He always answered the phone and it seemed like it was all about me and my program. He had that way of making you feel like you were so very important. Man, he made such an impact on me and I learned so much in such a short time. The changes he made to make everyone's life easier is admired so much. We should all drink a Mountain Dew in his memory.

*Sincerely,
Melissa Bruton*

Melissa Bruton - April 18, 2024 at 11:44 AM

KS

Anthony made such a big, powerful and positive impression, that I struggle to accept that he's gone. To Anthony's family: I am so incredibly sorry for your loss. The obituary shows that Anthony was very much loved and accomplished too much to single out all of the big things he did in life. It beautifully touches on everything, and one can sense the unconditional love you have for him. I'm going to miss his quick quirky smile. It was as if he had a secret joke only he knew, I always wanted in on that joke! His relaxed demeanor grounded me, he made it feel as if everything would always be ok, there was no reason to worry so much. I knew I could count on him, talk to him, rely on him. His dedication to the students and helping them, I do not think there are words to adequately describe his passion for helping them. I have so much respect for him. For someone this amazing to have been on earth even a short moment in time, it's a gift and I will always be grateful that such an amazing family resulted in such a wonderful person, and I had the good fortune to know him, if only for a short while. Your family is amazing, and I hope that you can find peace and comfort.

With great sadness, goodbye Anthony. Hope to see you on the other side

Karlien Smith - April 19, 2024 at 06:43 PM

RR

“ Dick Riesberg; I send him before He passed. I wonder if he got it. Hope. Anthony is my nephew. I read the obituaries. I knew it was very good for him.

Richard Riesberg - April 24, 2024 at 06:01 PM

KB

“ I wanted to share a few pictures sent to me from Houston Community College. Anthony was right where he should be in Houston, TX, living his best life. His colleagues have been so gracious, caring, and compassionate. He was truly blessed with that job opportunity, and was allowed to shine. All of his years of education in leadership and college advising along the way led to his passion and purpose. Thank you to all at Houston Community College, especially Patricia for your support to Anthony & our family, during this difficult time. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
Katie Borka & Matt Riesberg



Kathleen Borka - April 23, 2024 at 12:40 PM

KB

“ Anthony and I worked together at HCC, where we partnered as advising managers, constantly exploring ways to improve the student experience. His departure leaves a significant void. Anthony was adept at forging meaningful connections with everyone he met, ensuring each individual felt valued and respected. He consistently made the effort to engage in thoughtful discussions and show appreciation for others. Whenever you reached out to Anthony via email, he promptly followed up with a call or initiated a video conference. Being in Anthony's presence instilled a sense of tranquility, leaving you feeling at ease and appreciated.

Kimberly Bartee

Kimberly Clarissa Bartee - April 22, 2024 at 10:08 AM

DC

“ My time with Anthony was short and significant because I quickly realized how methodical, and thoughtful Anthony was with his work and team. Above all, Anthony was attentive and service oriented; he was a true gentleman. He loved his job at Houston Community college, and deeply cared about students and their success. He was respectful and kind. We are grateful that we had him in our midst because he did make a difference. We will miss him and thank his family for allowing us to post tributes.



Sincerely,
Dr. Diana Castillo, College Operations Officer

Diana Castillo - April 18, 2024 at 12:46 PM

AW

“ Anthony was an extraordinary example in work ethic and customer service both internally and externally here at HCC Coleman College. He personally ensured every student that left messages for assistance were contacted. Not one call went unreturned, including my own. He would return my calls and his greeting would always be "Hi, my friend!"

What a sweet and kind person he was. He will be missed terribly by all who had the pleasure of dealing with him.

Anita Wolf-Graves

Anita Wolf-Graves - April 18, 2024 at 12:09 PM

DR

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Anthony shortly after I began a new role. Anthony was intentional about meeting with me frequently to determine how he could best assist/serve our students, faculty and program. Not only did he look for ways he could assist, he would brainstorm with me and his team until a viable solution was found that would benefit all. He was funny, easy going and always had a smile to offer up. Our school was so blessed to have him even for this short time! Heaven has truly gained a precious gem!

My most sincere condolences to his family and friends for this tragic loss!

Diana Shirdon

Diana Robertson-Shirdon - April 18, 2024 at 11:20 AM

NS

“ Tony gave great hugs and always gave an ear when needed. Having decades with **THE GROUP** means everything and losing him hits hard. Heaven got a good one. Time to rest❤️

Nicci Frazier Schwartz - April 09, 2024 at 09:40 PM

FF

“ From the Borka Family's purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Anthony James Riesberg.



From the Borka Family's - April 09, 2024 at 06:40 PM



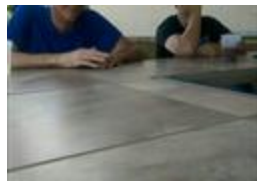
“ *This one’s for you Anthony! Cheers to you!!
XOXOX Your sissy, Katie ❤️*



Katie Rachel - April 07, 2024 at 11:20 PM



“ *I’m gonna miss my brother so much. Until we meet again. You’re a
Rock star. Love you. ❤️ Katie*



Katie Rachel - April 07, 2024 at 11:02 PM

BE

“ To the family of Anthony, I had the pleasure of working with Anthony for several years at both South Central College and Riverland Community College and always admired his caring approach with students and his wisdom to solve problems. He cared deeply and touched many students and co-workers lives. You have my deepest sympathies. Barb Embacher

Barb Embacher - April 05, 2024 at 03:26 PM

LP

“ Anthony was chronically available to help my struggling students at Riverland Community College. He would wait outside my classroom door before and after course meetings to catch students who were underperforming. Anthony was kind, patient. I appreciated his efforts. May peace be upon him. Laurel Panser

Laurel A. Panser - April 03, 2024 at 04:01 PM

SH

“ Anthony was always very helpful with advising our Riverland Theatre students. He was approachable and easy to talk to. He innovated extra advising hours to meet the needs of the students. I am very sorry for your loss.

Susan Hansen - April 02, 2024 at 09:43 AM

TF

“ So sorry to hear of Anthony's passing. I worked with him for a number of years at Riverland and we enjoyed chit chatting about our mutual love for photography.

Taylor Flugge - April 02, 2024 at 09:21 AM