



Mark Ewing Riley

April 1, 1951 - June 5, 2025

Mark Ewing Riley, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 5, 2025, at the age of 74. Born on April 1, 1951 in Brooklyn, NY, he was one of six children born to the late Arthur Ewing Riley and Julia Dorsey Riley. He is survived by his devoted wife of 44 years, Pauletta; his son, Brendan (Cindy); his daughter, Emily (Frank); his cherished grandchildren, Kaydyn and Kael; brother, Christopher; sister, Mary Rafferty; and many beloved sister-in-laws, nieces, and nephews. He was preceded in death by brothers Arthur, Sean, and Liam.

One of Mark's most significant accomplishments was achieving 31 years of sobriety, a journey he often credited to the unwavering support of the Friends of Bill community. Known fondly by many as "Mark the Shark," his sharp wit and profound sense of humor brought joy to everyone around him. He spent much of his life dedicated to service, family, and his passions. A proud alumnus of the University of Maryland College Park, he earned his bachelor's degree in Business and Public Administration and devoted many years to the Prince George's County Department of Social Services as an administrator, where he made a significant impact on countless lives. In addition to his work with the State, Mark was an avid real estate agent for more than 40 years, finding joy in helping others discover their dream homes.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Mark's passion resided in supporting his family. His loved ones will forever remember the way he made time to cheer on his children at every practice, game, and concert (or opera), proudly sitting

in the bleachers as their number one fan. Mark had a great love for sports, and was an avid Baltimore Orioles fan. He enjoyed countless mornings with a cup of 7-11 (more recently Wawa) coffee paired with a donut and the morning newspaper. He was also very proud of his Irish heritage, from the Irish blarney he shared with family and friends to the Irish walking cap he was frequently seen wearing (or misplacing!).

A funeral service will be held in the Community Mausoleum at Fort Lincoln Cemetery, 3401 Bladensburg Road, Brentwood, MD 20722 on Saturday, July 12, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. Friends and family are invited to join Mark's family for a repass from 12:30 - 3:00 pm at Franklin's Restaurant, 5123 Baltimore Ave, Hyattsville, MD 20781.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Mark's favorite Friday night activity, the Parkside High School Rams Football team. Please make checks payable to Parkside High School Rams Football: 1015 Beaglin Park Drive, Salisbury, MD 21804.

Arrangements are in the care of Short Funeral Home in Delmar. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.shortfh.com.

Cemetery Details

Fort Lincoln Cemetery

3401 Bladensburg Road
Brentwood, MD

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUL 12. 11:30 AM (ET)

Fort Lincoln Cemetery
3401 Bladensburg Rd
Brentwood, MD 20722
(301) 864-5090

Tribute Wall

ML

“ Dear Riley Family,

Please accept my deepest condolences. I have so many memories of Mr. Riley growing up. My favorite memory was when he drove myself, my sister, and Emily to the movies. The shenanigans we would put him through on one particular trip still makes me laugh to this day. How could I forget the countless trips when he would take us to the Knights of Columbus and just always remembering how much he loved Emily.

He is in my thoughts and prayers and so are you, Emily, and the rest of the family.

ML - July 12, 2025 at 10:19 PM

CR

“ Remembering Mark with love and fondness. My brother Bruce and I stayed with Mark and his family when we were children. They seemed so big and strong. Mark treated us with nothing but kindness. It's a trip we never forgot. More recently, we reconnected on the phone. He was so proud of his son and daughter. I'll never forget him.

Cary Riley - July 09, 2025 at 10:37 PM

DO

“ Daryl and Denise Ott purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mark Ewing Riley.



Daryl and Denise Ott - July 09, 2025 at 11:33 AM

NM

“ Nancy and Dan Maltese purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Mark Ewing Riley.



Nancy and Dan Maltese - July 08, 2025 at 07:30 PM

LP

“ Love Jennifer and Nathan patton purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mark Ewing Riley.



Love Jennifer and Nathan patton - June 18, 2025 at 06:21 AM

JB

“ Pauletta and family, my deepest sympathy to you all. Mark rest in peace.

Jack Bubis - June 16, 2025 at 07:41 PM

KH

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. I hope your good memories of a loving husband and father will sustain you through times of grief and sadness.

Kathryn Hutchinson - June 16, 2025 at 06:26 PM

TC

“ MARK WAS A WONDERFUL PERSON! MAY HE REST IN PEACE. MANY PRAYERS TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS!



TAMERA N CROYLE - June 16, 2025 at 01:41 PM

HP

“ Mark was as good a buddy as I have. We worked together, went to meetings together, socialized with all of his family, went to Emily's wedding, had regular meet ups for crabs and dining with he and Pauletta. A light that won't be replaced just went out. We will smile when we gather again and talk about him
Howard and Lois Phoebus

Howsrd Phoebus - June 16, 2025 at 12:59 PM