



Dana Morris Ryder Jr.

January 24, 1976 - October 16, 2021

Dana Morris Ryder, Jr. 45 of Ona, WV passed away Saturday, October 16, 2021 in St. Mary's Medical Center, Huntington, WV. He was born January 24, 1976 in Huntington, WV the son of Dana Morris and Kathy Wilson Ryder. He was preceded in death by his maternal grandmother, Beulah and Fred Gossett and paternal grandfather, Thomas Ryder. Dana was a Cabell County School Bus Driver, owner of Ryder's Knives, member of the Milton Volunteer Fire Department and member of Christ Temple Church. Dana was also a graduate of Milton High School and a graduate of the Cabell County Vo-Tech Center as a machinist. He was most recently featured on The History Channel's "Forged In Fire" Season eight and episode twenty-four doing what he loved. He is survived by his loving wife of twenty-three years, Amy Dawn Thompson Ryder; two daughters, Mackenzie Ryder Keaton (Jarrett) and Emily Ryder all of Ona, WV; sisters, Melissa Shull (Kevin) of Milton, WV and Ann Henry (Charlie) of Ona, WV; paternal grandmother, Delores Ryder; father and mother in law, Don and Sharon Macri of Huntington, WV and Sam and Pam Thompson of Proctorville, OH; nieces and nephews, Cole Shull (Lindsey), Caleb Shull, Abby Henry, Andrew Shull, Elijah Henry and Seth Henry; great-nephew, Brigham Grey Shull; two special individuals, Drew Hatfield whom Dana loved like a brother, and Cody Brown whom he also loved like a son. Funeral services will be conducted at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at Christ Temple Church, Huntington with Pastor Kevin Shull, Brother, Charlie Henry and Pastor Chuck Lawrence

officiating. Burial with Fireman Honors will follow in Forest Memorial Park, Milton, WV. The family will receive friends from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM service time on Wednesday at Christ Temple Church. The family requests those in attendance to please follow social distancing guidelines and to wear a mask. Services will be LIVE-STREAMED on the Henson and Kitchen Mortuary Website, Facebook and YouTube pages. The family would like to thank Dr. Moses and the entire medical staff and the St. Mary's Medical Center CVICU for all of their amazing care for both Dana and his family. Dana's friends at Henson and Kitchen Mortuary, 6357 E. Pea Ridge Rd. Huntington, WV near Barboursville is caring for the family. Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family by visiting www.hensonandkitchen.com.

Cemetery Details

Forest Memorial Park

2240 US-60
Milton, WV 25541

Previous Events

Visitation - Following COVID-19 Guidelines

OCT **20**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Christ Temple Church
2400 Johnstown Road
Huntington, WV 25701
<http://www.ctcwv.net>

***** VIEW LIVE STREAM *** VIEW AT HENSON & KITCHEN MORTUARY - Website, Facebook and YouTube Pages**

OCT **20**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Christ Temple Church
2400 Johnstown Road
Huntington, WV 25701
<http://www.ctcwv.net>

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Tribute Wall



“ *Henson & Kitchen Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Dana Morris Ryder Jr.*



Henson and Kitchen Mortuary and Cremation Services - October 18, 2021 at 12:58 PM

TR

Touching tribute God bless Dana Jr's family and friends

Tamala Ryder - October 18, 2021 at 05:15 PM

TN

Beautiful tribute prayers and love for the family

Tina norris - October 20, 2021 at 11:00 AM

DS

*Sending our Love and Prayers ! Love you all.
Dave I'd & Deb Stanley*

Debra Stanley - October 20, 2021 at 12:54 PM



“ *I didn't know Mr Ryder, but when I was looking for the forge of fire show I came across the obituary for Mr Ryder. It really touches me because I lost my son October 6,2021 due to Covid he was 37. So sorry for your loss and I know how hard this is. Love you and all family and friends.*

Sandy Allen - June 21, 2025 at 01:34 AM



“ *Dana Morris Ryder Jr.*

October 23, 2023 at 01:49 AM



“ *So very saddened by Dana’s passing. He worked with my husband in the bus ministry at CTC several years ago, and was a great helper and friend. Our prayers are with the family for God’s comfort and strength in this sad and difficult time.*

Deb and Ron Hackworth - October 22, 2021 at 11:07 AM



“ *Nina L Nowlin lit a candle in memory of Dana Morris Ryder Jr.*



Nina L Nowlin - October 20, 2021 at 06:13 PM



RIP Dana

Bev Bailey - October 30, 2021 at 10:20 AM



“ *Deb & Dave Stanley lit a candle in memory of Dana Morris Ryder Jr.*



Deb & Dave Stanley - October 20, 2021 at 12:38 PM

TD

“ I am so glad I was able to see Dana jr when I was W.Va in July. This is one of my favorite memories. His thoughtfulness. We were at a gathering at his parents (my sister) house and my relatives were their and our cousin Chetty was there and Dana jr had walked up to him and handed Chetty a knife and Chetty told Dana it was beautiful and Dana told him thats your knife. I was so proud of Dana, he made Chetty so happy and I know Chetty will alway cherish that knife. I loved what he did but I love him more. Aunt Tina

Tina Dailey - October 20, 2021 at 12:16 PM

NN

“ Our heartfelt condolences to Kathy, Dana, Amy, Delores and the Family. I heard a lot of good things about Dana, Jr. from my brother Jeff. As kids, we grew up with his late Uncle Bruce and was very close with his late Grandpa Junior. My ❤️ is sad for all today and may God keep you wrapped in his arms. Love all.
Nina L. Nowlin



Nina L Nowlin - October 20, 2021 at 11:21 AM

MS

“ Many prayer for all of you! My heart goes out to the entire family. I also want to send condolences to the fire dept family and first responders who loved him
As well. As a daughter of a Milton fire fighter I know many of you and I know how the heart hurts when one of the family is lost.
Prayers for his entire family and friends. 🙏
Rest In Peace Dana.

Monica Stalaker - October 20, 2021 at 09:37 AM

T4

“ Tom Dawson 469 purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of Dana Morris Ryder Jr..



Tom Dawson 469 - October 19, 2021 at 10:46 AM

KC

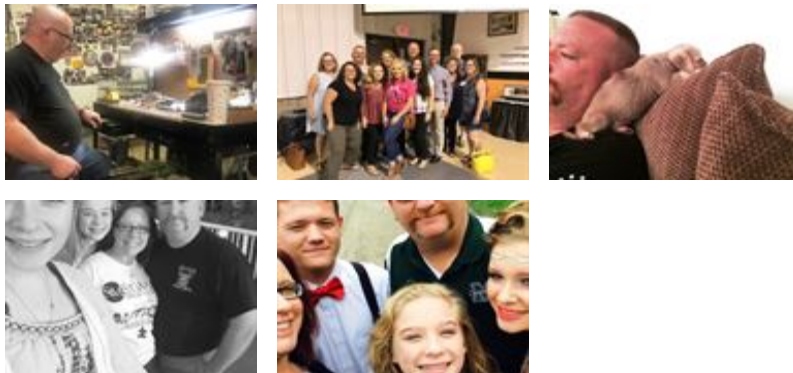
“ Amy, MacKenzie, Emily, This is so hard to find the words to say. He was definitely one of a kind, always so happy and always joking around with his fellow brothers at the FD. Knowing when he entered the station there would be a lot of laughs and his special names he had for some..I know I'll miss “hey Mama” and my bear hugs.Hold on to your memories as we have our special memories as well. We will definitely miss him so much.keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. Love you. Kenney & Marsha Chastain



Kenney & Matsha Chastain - October 18, 2021 at 10:10 PM



“ 150 files added to the album LifeTributes



Henson and Kitchen Mortuary and Cremation Services - October 18, 2021 at 12:51 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Dana Morris Ryder Jr..



October 18, 2021 at 12:27 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Dana Morris Ryder Jr..



October 18, 2021 at 12:21 PM



“ *Bright and Beautiful Spray* was purchased for the family of Dana Morris Ryder Jr..



October 18, 2021 at 07:14 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Dana Morris Ryder Jr..



October 17, 2021 at 09:20 PM

SM

“ So sorry for your loss.



Susie Martin McFann - October 17, 2021 at 08:17 PM

DB

“ Dana, Kathy, Amy and Family, We are so broken hearted for the loss of Son, Husband, Father, Brother.

I remember Dana Jr has a baby, then a toddler and then teenager and then a young man. He was happiest well loved person. Never met a stranger always laughing.

We know in our heart that we will see Dana once again walking the streets of gold just talking and laughing. If you want to see Dana again you have to accept Jesus Christ as you Savior. All our love and prayers for all.



David and Sue Benedict - October 17, 2021 at 07:33 PM

JM

“ Amy, Kathy and Dana Sr., and all the Family. We, John, Joanne, Heather, and Johnny, are so sorry regarding Dana's passing. His presence on this Earth will truly be missed. Our memories as a boy, a teenager, a young man, and a man always on the move with constant new ideas, thoughts, and goals will never be forgotten. Flashes of sleigh riding, trail motorcycle riding, youth football, more road motorcycle riding, meeting Amy in a pick up truck at the house, Dana's phone calls to Joanne to cheer her up, marriage, kids, a trip to Pocahontas County, Army truck restoration, new jobs and fire department, and Ryder's Knives all flash by my memory. I kept telling him, Dana, your going to be a millionaire some day with your own business, well now he is a multi-billionaire now. Dana was a special young man, that left us way to early. At least the suffering is over, and he is in a better place. I'm sure he will be waiting on us, laughing and saying, where have you been? Our only regret, the last time we saw Dana, he was sitting on the front porch obviously very sick. We did not see him until we had nearly passed, and we did not wave. How we regret that! We are waving now my friend. God speed.



John, Joanne, Heather, and Johnny McCallister

John McCallister - October 17, 2021 at 03:31 PM

BC

So sorry for the loss. I went to school with Dana. Dana and his wife bought a house where I grew up at. I was on the hill, he brought the coopers house. He was a good man. He would help you out if he could. I hate it that he is gone. So sorry. Prayers for his family.

Beth clagg - October 17, 2021 at 05:22 PM

DE

Dana, you were a good friend and a special person. I'll miss all our joking and name calling and our visits to each other's shops. We ran many calls together before I retired from the county and there is always that bond between public service workers that will never break. God speed buddy and one day we will see each other again bud!!!

dwight edwards - October 17, 2021 at 07:03 PM

MM

*Dana, Kathy and Family, so sorry for your loss.
Your former neighbor,*

Mike Moore

Michael Moore - October 19, 2021 at 09:44 AM