

CHRIS ANTHONY PELUSO, JR.



Chris Anthony Peluso, Jr. was born in Pittsburgh, PA and died August 14, 2023, in Auckland, New Zealand. He was truly beloved by all who knew him and he left us far too soon.

Chris was a vibrant spirit and natural entertainer from an early age. This ultimately led him to pursue a career in musical theater. Over a 20-year span, Chris performed on Broadway, West End, and national tours

across the US and the UK. He captivated audiences and cast mates alike with his unforgettable performances, warm smile, and kindness to all. He will be deeply missed by his theater family and fans around the world.

Chris was so much more than a brilliant performer. He was a thoughtful and generous friend who never hesitated to let people know how much he cared about them. Those who knew him best appreciated his very down-to-earth, funny, original, humble and full-of-heart spirit. Chris was very perceptive, honest and full of compassion.

Chris graduated from North Allegheny High School. He went on to the University of Michigan Musical Theater and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree with high honors. His tremendous empathy and curiosity eventually led him to work towards a master's degree in psychology. Chris very much wanted to be a therapist and help people as much as he could. He was still in the process of obtaining his certification. His family is so proud of his courage, commitment, and desire to help others despite his struggles with mental health.

Chris loved his loyal pup, Peety, a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel who was his constant companion for 17 years. They hiked and explored the world until Peety passed away in 2022. His most cherished and important role in his life was being a father. Chris' love, pride, and joy was his daughter, Aria. He loved being her dad and treasured every minute spent with her. Although he only knew his infant son, Caio for a short time, he loved him very much and said seeing him smile at him for the first time meant the world to him.

Chris once stated about a character he portrayed: "Love is stronger than death; the love will still be there even when people die."

He is survived by his wife, Jessica Gomes-Ng; daughter, Aria Li (2 1/2 years); and son, Caio Lian (5 months), in New Zealand; loving parents, Chris and Susan Peluso; brother, Derek (Marisa) Peluso; aunts, uncles, cousins and close friends who were his adopted family. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Emil and Jean Peluso, William and Alice Rushmore; and nephew, Colton Peluso.

The funeral will be a private gathering of close family members at **SCHELLHAAS FUNERAL HOME**, Bakerstown. In lieu of flowers, we invite donations for the care of Chris' children to the "Chris Peluso Memorial, c/o Susan Peluso", Mail: PO Box 63, Gibsonia, PA 15044, contact info: SusanPeluso@outlook.com.

Send condolences [post-gazette.com/gb](https://www.post-gazette.com/gb)