

ANTONIO "TONY" JOHN RIPEPI



Antonio "Tony" John Ripepi, a beloved father, accomplished surgeon, and passionate outdoorsman, passed away on December 6, 2023, at the age of 60. Tony was the cherished oldest son of Dr. and Mrs. Philip and Josephine (nee Macri) Ripepi. Born on February 24, 1963, in Pittsburgh, Tony's life was marked by remarkable achievements and an unwavering love for his family and the pursuits he held dear.

Tony's journey began in Bethel Park, where he excelled in football and wrestling during his high school years. His dedication and talent paved the way for a successful academic and athletic career at John Carroll University. A true sports enthusiast, Tony not only proved his mettle on the field, but also showcased his prowess as a hot dog eating champion and a 4-year rugby player and team captain.

Tony pursued a career in medicine, attending Jefferson Medical College and training in General Surgery at Case Western University. Tony excelled as Chief Resident and re-organized the trauma helicopter flight program in Cleveland. Tony was then chosen by the Cleveland Clinic as a fellow, and subsequently returned to Pittsburgh as the first fellowship trained laparoscopic surgeon in the city. His commitment to his profession was reflected not only in his surgical expertise but also in the compassion and care he extended to his patients. He was proud to practice surgery with his father for 15 years and enjoyed a tremendous 25-year career serving patients at Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh and St. Clair Hospital.

Beyond the operating room, Tony found tremendous joy in two things: his four amazing children and the great outdoors. Above all, Tony's greatest pride came from being a devoted father to Lillie Grace, Natalie Jo, Antonio Philip, and John Ronald. Tony's love and pride in his children was evident in every aspect of his life.

A fly fisherman of notable repute, he left his mark on the angling world by inventing the "Washington Red Ant" fly. His love for hunting knew no bounds, and he shared unforgettable adventures with his father, brothers, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends in the vast landscapes of Africa, Canada, and all over the United States.

Tony's diverse interests also extended to the rink, where he was an avid hockey fan, supporting and cheering for his children as they pursued their own passions on the ice. As a lifelong Pittsburgh sports fan, he absolutely loved enjoying Pens and Pirates games with them.

Tony was not only a loving father but also a cherished brother to Drs. Laurie and Mark Sangimino, Dr. Vince and Jodi, Beth and Rob Quinn, and Phil and Dr. Sarah. Their bond added immeasurable richness to Tony's life. Tony was also the amazing uncle to Julie, Joey (Emilie), Missa (Christian), Meg, Victoria, Vincie, Andrew, Mark, Eric, Robby, Phil, Sam, Nick (Jenni), Claudia, Sophia, and Luke. He was in frequent attendance at all of their activities.

As we remember Antonio Ripepi, we celebrate a life well-lived - a life marked by dedication to family, excellence in his profession, and a zest for adventure. His memory will forever live on in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to know him, leaving behind a legacy of love, laughter, and indomitable spirit.

Funeral arrangements by **BEINHAUERS**. Friends and Family are welcome at 2828 Washington Rd. McMurray 724-941-3211 on Sunday 1-7 PM. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday 10 AM at St. John the XXIII Parish, St. Benedict the Abbot Church. Interment to follow in Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Tony was a tremendous supporter of "Caring for Kids: The Carrie Martin Fund", and "Casting for Recovery." In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to either of these great organizations. carriemartinfund.org, castingforrecovery.org.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb