

ANTHONY J. LARUSSA, JR.



Anthony J. LaRussa, Jr. of Stanton Heights, died tragically on January 4, 2024. He was 30. Anthony LaRussa was the youngest of four siblings and a brother to everyone who knew him. Anthony was born, raised, and resided in Stanton Heights. He attended St. Raphael Elementary School. He was a proud Eagle Scout of Troop 73. He was a graduate of Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School, class of 2011, where he was involved

in four years of marching band, concert band, chamber choir, and the MASQUE musical theater program. He graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Point Park University, class of 2015. He was an employee of the City of Pittsburgh Department of Permits, Licenses, and Inspections.

He had a love for playing, writing, and listening to music and was a highly skilled bass guitarist in the local band Plasmid. Among his many talents, he was proficient in guitar, keyboard, saxophone, and singing. There wasn't an instrument he couldn't pick up and play with ease. He was a natural entertainer from family gatherings to punk rock shows. He brought the sound of music to life. He had a love for film, literature, travel, cooking, and live entertainment. He enjoyed attending local events from Pirate games to concerts, and stand-up comedy shows, and found joy in sharing these experiences with friends and family. He always sought out a new adventure; whether it be an afternoon hike, bike ride, a weekend camping trip, or to a big city; he loved sharing these explorations with those closest to him. He had deep admiration for his family's traditions and Sicilian heritage and couldn't wait to return to Italy for another epic family vacation.

Anthony is survived by his parents, Tony and Betsy LaRussa; and by the love of his life, fiancée, Hayley Rein; and cat, Stella. He is also survived by siblings, Adriane, wife Mandi, and their two children, Giana and Gabriel; oldest brother, Peter, and partner, Rocky Casale; best friend and brother, Steven, wife Tori, and their soon-to-be daughter. Also surviving are his grandmother, Carolyn Schepis of Sharpsburg; and a number of aunts, uncles, cousins, and many dear friends. He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Stefano and Antonina LaRussa and Peter Schepis. Family and friends will be received at **SLATER FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.**, Sharpsburg, from 1-3 pm and 4-8 pm on Tuesday, January 9, 2024. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Humane Animal Rescue League Pittsburgh, Boy Scouts of America (Pittsburgh Chapter), or the music/theater department at your local school.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb