



## Ryan Charles Laninga

October 1, 1990 - March 13, 2024

Our beloved youngest son Ryan was born on October 1, 1990 in Grand Rapids Michigan.

He passed away unexpectedly on March 13, 2024 at his residence in Tonawanda, New York where he lived for over 11 years. Ryan was 33 years old. Ryan graduated from Kentwood High School in 2008.

Ryan majored in Civil Engineering at Michigan Technology School. Ryan received his bachelor degree and completing 5 years of college into 4 as a Civil Engineer. Within a month of Graduation, Ryan moved to Buffalo NY in 2012, to start his career with Wendel engineering. Ryan worked at Wendel Engineering for 10 plus years. These were the best years of his life. Between his education of civil engineering and the Wendel mentors, educating him more with waste water treatment. The waste water treatment was his dream job he loved. Ryan devoted his whole life into his work.

Ryan had a very special friend Maria and her husband Bob that took Ryan under her wing when he first moved to Buffalo New York. Ryan learned the city of Buffalo with her help and guidance. Ryan had dinner with their family on holidays that he couldn't go home. Maria was considered as his second Mom while he was away from home.

Ryan as a child played many years of baseball and diving which he enjoyed through school.

Ryan enjoyed watching Football and Hockey in his spare time with his fellow co-workers and friends. Ryan had so many mentors, co-workers friends and

family that truly loved him.

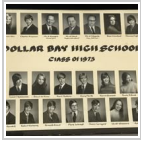
Ryan is survived by his mom, Michele Laninga, dad Charles Laninga, brother Eric (wife Beth) Laninga, 2 nephews Christopher and Cody Laninga. Ryan is with now in the hands of the Lord and enjoying his time with his grand parents, Donald and Linda Stutz and Clarence and Dorothy Laninga. Ryan has many Aunts Uncles, cousins that will truly miss him. Ryan was totally loved and adored by his Mom Michele and Dad Charles Laninga. We as parents were so proud of his life and his accomplishments.

Cremation has already taken place.

# Cemetery Details

**Cremation has already taken place**

# Tribute Wall



“ Ryan was a wonderful person. We would discuss his career on a regular basis. He was so respectful to me. You could not but like him. I will always remember Ryan in my heart, mind, and soul. I pray you rest in Peace, my good friend.

-----  
**Jim Turnquist** - March 28, 2024 at 08:18 PM

MS

“ The world lost an absolutely incredible soul. When I first met Ryan he was so young and away from home and I just wanted to protect him. He was so funny, sweet, polite and very protective of me, which was funny because I thought I was protecting him. Sitting around my table he just meshed with my family he was another of my sons.... I will forever miss those days 🥺 I will forever miss you Ryan.... May you rest in peace and know that you changed lives on this earth ❤️

-----  
**Maria Seekins** - March 26, 2024 at 11:44 AM

EL

“ Ryan was a amazing brother, he is a uncle of my 2 boys. We are saddened by his passing. Till we meet again. Love, Eric beth and cj and cody.

-----  
**Eric Laninga** - March 25, 2024 at 11:47 PM

SB

“ Michele and Charlie, I can't even properly express myself to explain how my heart hurts for you. I know how proud you were of him and all he had accomplished. It's hard to understand. Know we love you and are here for you. Love, Bill and Sandy

-----  
**Sandra Bonfoey** - March 25, 2024 at 06:38 PM

JJ

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories*



---

**Jamie Johnson** - March 25, 2024 at 11:44 AM

JJ

“ I met Ryan on his first day of his first real job in Buffalo. He was young, spunky and a little sassy. I was pregnant, grumpy, and in no mood for his attitude. But he made me laugh and called me out in a way someone younger than me had never done before and I couldn't help but respect him for it. In him I saw so much of myself. The same eagerness and desire for perfection. The same drive to grow and do more and say yes. We came from similar upbringings from blue collar families in Michigan, and it was clear we were cut from a similar mold. We were a match made in heaven and were thick as thieves from that point forward.

Ryan had a kind and generous heart. He was always the one to suggest a celebration for someone whether the accomplishment was big or small. In the workplace, he fought hard to find his footing and make a name for himself, and then turned around and provided a platform for those in his care to have the same opportunity. Wanting to do better for others, than had been done for him. Ryan's best asset and biggest downfall was that he cared an awful lot, putting his literal heart and soul into his work, his Clients, and his friends.

Ryan never went anywhere empty handed. Whether bringing chocolates or coffee for me to keep the “boss” happy, or bringing candy and toys for my kiddos who affectionally called him “Mr. Ryan”, or bringing appetizers and wine to our family's Thanksgiving dinner, he was the life of the party anywhere he went. When he was unable to travel home to visit his family, he often spent time at our house, sharing meals and holidays with our kids and extended family. To know him was to love him, and he will be deeply missed by all of us.

My husband and I had the great privilege of being a safe place for Ryan even during the dark days. A place free from judgement but with plenty of tough love. He knew he could stop over and crash at our house anytime he needed a break. And we often bribed him to come over and just be a fly on the wall. He'd play with the dogs and

*color with the kids, while Clayt and I did house stuff. He'd tag along for kid activities, convinced that all the "soccer moms" were checking him out. He was funny, relentless, thoughtful, and sweet. Bonded by our ties to Michigan, our shared birthday month, and general snarky swearsy demeanor, he was the little brother I never wanted but am eternally grateful for. My life is better because he was a part of it.*

*Rest in peace little buddy. We love you.*

---

**Jamie Johnson** - March 25, 2024 at 11:17 AM

CW

*“ I worked with Ryan when he started as an intern through many more years as he progressed in his engineering career. He was a wonderful young man with an equally wonderful personality that went beyond what he did for a living. I am just one of many people who are better off because of meeting and knowing Ryan. My thoughts and prayers to his Mom, Dad, Brother and family...Ryan was a great kid and will always be remembered for that!*

---

**Carol Wittcop** - March 24, 2024 at 08:01 PM