



Ryan W. Hill

April 6, 1985 - August 19, 2024

Ryan William Hill passed away on August 19, 2024, at the age of 39. Born on April 6, 1985, to Roger and Carla Hill, he was a beloved father, son, brother, and friend who left a lasting impact on all who knew him.

Ryan grew up in Dixon, where he attended St. Anne School and Newman Central Catholic High School. He had a deep sense of patriotism, which led him to join the Army. Ryan served his country with honor as a Sergeant First Class Combat Medic, specializing in operations planning for the 330th Medical Brigade, Headquarters and Headquarters Company. He was twice deployed, serving combat tours as a part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. His bravery and dedication to his nation were unwavering, and those who served alongside him remember his loyalty, leadership, compassion, and camaraderie.

To describe Ryan as funny, thoughtful, and friendly would be an understatement. He had the rare ability to light up a room with his humor, to listen with an open heart, and to extend a hand of friendship to anyone in need. He was also a skilled craftsman who loved tools and woodworking, often creating beautiful pieces for his family and friends or generously lending exactly the right tool from his collection. He found great joy in building Lego creations with his kids, turning simple blocks into cherished memories. He was a die-hard fan who loved the Bears and the Cubs even when they made it painfully clear they didn't love him back, enduring every miserable season with stubborn loyalty and a good sense of humor.

Ryan's memory lives on through his three beautiful children, Ayla, Colette, and Samuel Hill, who were the pride and joy of his life. He is survived by his loving parents; sisters, Nichol (Joshua) Hooker and Courtney (Kevin) Moench; and many nieces and nephews, in whom Ryan took great joy as their funcler.

When someone passes from this life, we often look at the "born" and "died" dates when, in reality, the joy, sorrow, happiness, pain, love, and laughter all happen in the dash—the space between those two days. To honor Ryan's dash, a visitation will be held on Friday, August 23rd, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Jones Funeral Home in Dixon, concluding with the Rosary. A Mass of Christian Burial will be Saturday, August 24th, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Anne Catholic Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributing to a memorial fund for his children's Catholic education, as well as the Dixon American Legion Post 12. Please visit Ryan's memorial website for more pictures and information. <http://everloved.com/life-of/sergeant-first-class-ryan-hill/>

Cemetery Details

Rock Island National Cemetery

Bldg 118
Rock Island Arsenal
Rock Island, IL 61299
<http://www.cem.va.gov/CEMs/nchp/rockisland.asp>

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 23. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Jones Funeral Home, Dixon
204 South Ottawa
Dixon, IL 61021
Ph: 815-288-2241
info@thejonesfh.com
<https://www.thejonesfh.com>

Service

AUG 24. 11:00 AM (CT)

St Anne's Catholic Church
1104 N Brinton Ave
Dixon, IL 61021-1297
(815) 288-3131

Tribute Wall

TK

“ So sorry to hear of Ryan’s passing. I was fortunate to meet him at Footprints. He was an inspiration to me and many others. When I thanked him for his service and dedication, he said ‘Hey...Its what i do’. Truly a humble and modest man. It was an honor to know him
Tom Kelley

Tom Kelley - September 01, 2024 at 11:28 AM

JO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joseph - August 25, 2024 at 08:48 PM

SS

“ To All In the Hill Family,

Please accept my prayers and sympathy on the death of Ryan. I only heard about this on Thursday and I did not see the obituary until late Friday night. While I was unable to come to the services, I did offer my Mass on Saturday Morning at St. Andrew's for Ryan and all of you. I so enjoyed having Ryan at St. Anne's and he will always be in my prayers and those of our Sisters. I pray that God's peace be with you as you know by your Faith that Ryan rests int arms of God.

Sister Marcianne, SSND

Sister Marcianne SSND - August 24, 2024 at 09:42 PM

DB

“ Roger & Carla, so very sorry for the loss of Ryan. So heart wrenching to lose a child and for children to lose a father. My deepest condolences in this very sad time.

Diane Beukelman - August 24, 2024 at 03:42 PM

DH

“ Dick and Julie Harden lit a candle in memory of Ryan Hill



Dick and Julie Harden - August 24, 2024 at 01:13 PM

KG

“ Rest easy, friend. ❤️👤💙



Krystle Gascoigne - August 24, 2024 at 10:59 AM

JS

“ With a heavy heart Shelly and I offer our most sincere sympathy and condolences. We were witnesses and fellow travelers of "the dash" so eloquently stated in the stirring and truly beautiful obit. We watched from preschool all the way through Newman. So much done and so much of value left behind to mark his time here. We share your pain and pray for you all and especially for Ryan. May God bless him and welcome him.

Jack and Shelly Schrauth - August 23, 2024 at 03:03 PM

JC

“ My name is SSG (R) Josh Cruz. I served with Ryan in Iraq 07-09. He was such an amazing Soldier. He was such an amazing guy. He was my friend. He was the first Soldier I ever took to the board. It was a Soldier of the Month Board and he volunteered to do it. I was in the room when Ryan entered. The door stuck and knocked his ribbon rack half off and hanging by only 1 pin. He walked up confidently and addressed the Sergeant Major. When the Sergeant Major asked if he wanted to fix the award, Ryan told him no and was ready to get on with it (not in so many words). The First Sergeant kind of gestured for me to do something so I took the pins off of one of mine and fixed it. Ryan won that board because he kept his bearing and answered every question correctly. It was one of the most impressive displays in such an embarrassing situation. I remember Ryan pulling up in his Mini Cooper when we got back from Iraq. It was just too small for him. My condolences to your family. I am so sorry for your loss. Know that Ryan's Army family grieves with you. I have added a picture of Ryan doing push ups at his promotion ceremony. Rest in peace my brother. I will meet you at Fiddler's Green.



Josh Cruz - August 22, 2024 at 04:48 PM

MK

“ So very sorry for the loss. Ryan was such a wonderful young man. I remember how important he was to my kindergarten class. We corresponded with them via Skype when he was deployed and visited the class upon he return. He was welcomed home with cheers, smiles and hugs! Thank you Ryan and may you be welcomed home in the arms Jesus.

Marcella Kitson - August 22, 2024 at 03:53 PM

LF

“ Love,Debbie,Tom,Heather,Jenny & families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ryan W. Hill.

Love,Debbie,Tom,Heather,Jenny & families - August 22, 2024 at 03:45 PM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Ryan W. Hill.



August 22, 2024 at 03:45 PM

FL

“ Footprints Fellows Erica F & Tom L purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Ryan W. Hill.



Footprints Fellows Erica F & Tom L - August 22, 2024 at 02:17 PM

HH

“ Heather, Holly, Larry Robert, and Heidi planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ryan W. Hill.

Heather, Holly, Larry Robert, and Heidi - August 22, 2024 at 10:34 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ryan W. Hill.*



August 22, 2024 at 10:34 AM



“ *Love Pat & Eileen Sullivan and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ryan W. Hill.*

Love Pat & Eileen Sullivan and family - August 22, 2024 at 09:51 AM



“ *Love Pat & Eileen Sullivan and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ryan W. Hill.*



Love Pat & Eileen Sullivan and family - August 22, 2024 at 09:51 AM



“ *Ryan, I can't believe you're gone. You taught me and many other young medics things that still stick with me today. You always believed in me and pushed me to do my absolute best. I remember grilling for Easter dinner together in Hawaii and lighting paper lanterns (floating forest fires) in Minnesota. I will always treasure you as a leader, a mentor, and a friend. I love you, brother. I'll see you on the other side.*

Evan - August 22, 2024 at 09:21 AM

KM

“ Karen and Mike Massa planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ryan W. Hill.

Karen and Mike Massa - August 22, 2024 at 09:02 AM

KM

“ Karen and Mike Massa purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Ryan W. Hill.



Karen and Mike Massa - August 22, 2024 at 09:02 AM

DL

“ Dave and Maureen Lenox purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ryan W. Hill.



Dave and Maureen Lenox - August 21, 2024 at 08:25 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ryan W. Hill.



August 21, 2024 at 05:33 PM