



## Brian Christopher Rittenhouse

March 30, 1974 - January 9, 2023

Brian C. Rittenhouse was born on March 30, 1974 in Omaha, Nebraska to Bill and Mary Rittenhouse. Brian grew up in numerous towns across Nebraska until he moved to Fort Collins, Colorado in 1989 and graduated from Fort Collins High School in 1992.

Brian married Nicole Tarquinio in 2004 in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. They were blessed with Hannah in 2006.

Brian and Nicole met in Rist Canyon in 2001. They loved their mountain property and spent countless hours on 4 wheelers and at their shooting range. Brian and Nicole moved to the country, enjoying the best of both worlds. Brian loved to spend time in his shop, he was a master craftsman, whether it was the homes he built or many beautiful pieces of furniture he handcrafted for his friends and family. Brian enjoyed raising his own cattle and made the best beef jerky.

Brian and Nicole were blessed with Hannah in 2006. From the moment she was born she was Daddy's girl. Kiddo, as he called her, was his side kick. Sharing his love of trucks, they had plans to restore a 1977 Ford Crew Cab. Brian passed on his love of the outdoors to Hannah; they enjoyed fishing and spending time at the property.

When Brian was a 3rd grader he received the nickname Barn and it stuck. Brian has loved the outdoors since he was little. In his teen years you would see him 4 wheeling in the mountains, mountain biking in the hills and snowboarding. He always had a passion for building things, while in Highschool he started doing framing and construction work. Brian was a hard worker and always kept busy. When he was 21 he started Rittenhouse Construction and built houses all over Colorado and Wyoming. He was a general contractor. In 2001 Brian bought his dream location up Rist Canyon with 46 acres and an A-frame. He spent many years living there, exploring the land and building his own personal gun range. He later decided he needed to move outside of Fort Collins on a little acreage, but always keeping his Risk Canyon property as his own little get-away. Brian could tinker around in his shop for hours. He was always looking for old 4x4 pickups with Cummins engines to rebuild and make his own truck. Brian had many of his own aphorisms and nicknames for all of his family and friends. Brian always enjoyed shooting guns with his family and friends at Rist Canyon.

If you knew Brian then you were touched by his kindness and generosity, he never hesitated for a moment to help a friend or a stranger. Brian had a smile that lit up a room, and we will all miss hearing his contagious booming laugh. Brian was a person that made you feel better every time you saw him or even thought of him.

Brian leaves behind his wife, Nicole and daughter Hannah of Fort Collins and son Erik (Jayde) Montgomery of Stillwater, Oklahoma. Father, Bill Rittenhouse of Bryan, Texas, sister Becky (Bill) Hunt of Oshkosh, Nebraska, niece, Kaitlyn Hunt and nephew, Gavin Hunt of Oshkosh. Father-in-law and Mother-in-law, Nick and Sandy Tarquinio of Wellington, Colorado. Many uncles, aunts and

cousins and countless special friends. He is proceeded in death by his mother, Mary Rittenhouse, grandparents, Doris Rittenhouse, John and Terese Hearity, uncles, aunts and cousins.

Celebration of life for Brian C. Rittenhouse will be held Saturday, April 8th at 1pm at 5704 County Rd 50, Fort Collins (Rittenhouse Residence). Spreading of the ashes will follow the ceremony at Pine Acres for those who wish to join, with a continuation of the celebration of life with a light meal and drinks back at the house.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

APR 8. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (MT)

Rittenhouse Residence  
5704 County Rd. 50  
Fort Collins, CO 80524

# Tribute Wall



“ 10 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Bohlender Funeral Chapel** - March 24, 2023 at 01:05 PM

TS

“ I will miss my friend, neighbor, and colleague more than I can say in words written or spoken.

*The world is dimmer but heaven is brighter, he's framing God's house, he's now at peace with himself and is with his Mom and Rocky.*

*May God grant Brian eternal life and let propetural light shine upon him Amen.*

*Terry & Shawna Schmitz  
Bellvue CO*

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**Terry Schmitz** - January 16, 2023 at 06:56 PM

JH

“Ruth and I are very sad over the passing of Brian, having known him for over 30 years. When the Rittenhouse family moved to Ft. Collins, we met his parents, Bill and Mary, at a Welcome Wagon reception for new residents.

Among many other things discussed when getting acquainted, we discussed the new home we had just finished on the west end of Linden Lake, and the fact that I would be starting landscaping the next morning.

Just like that, Mary said she had a son who needed 'something to do', he was 15 and available right now ! The next morning, Brian showed up nice and early and we proceeded to lay out the trees, shrubs, rose bushes, and irrigation system for the 1 acre lot. I was pleasantly surprised how quickly he learned how to correctly plant trees, as well as how hook up pvc piping, sprinkler heads, drippers and all the connected things...and he was really pleasant to work with.

So, over the next month, on weekends and days in between, we finished the job. I paid him well because he did good work, even though his parents said I didn't have to. Evidently Brian went home and told about the many different things he was doing, because his parents came one Saturday to see what we had accomplished.

We remained in contact over the next years, and he helped me when I needed help, and later, as he matured and acquired home building and other related skills, we hired Brian as the framer and general contractor for building our daughter's home. During that time, Hannah was born.

I always appreciated his candor and honesty when discussing a building project, and he performed several additions and remodeling jobs at our home. We could trust him - that was super important to us.

So now we will miss him, but knowing he is in a place where there is

*no pain or sorrow, just everlasting peace.*  
*Jim Herickhoff*

**James A. Herickhoff** - January 15, 2023 at 07:11 PM



“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



**Bohlender Funeral Chapel** - January 15, 2023 at 01:06 PM

RB

*BRIAN (SON)*

*It has been a year since you left us.  
I think you every day.. This a very sad day but I think of the great man  
that you were and always will be in my heart,  
I see that special grin that you had and loved it.  
You and Mom are together  
I love you Son..*

**Rittenhouse Bill** - January 09, 2024 at 11:27 AM

RB

*Brian -- Barn*

*Happy birthday Son*

*It has been Fifty years since that precious day that you were born.  
Many many happy thoughts go through my heart and mind when I think  
of you. You will always be in my heart forever  
Love Dad.*

**Rittenhouse Bill** - March 29, 2024 at 10:56 PM