



Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Scan to Visit

YURCH
Funeral Home

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6
Media	Page 18



Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021

Jeffrey Brock Riley, 71, passed at home on October 15, 2021. Born in West Virginia on August 21, 1950, Mr. Riley was a world traveler, a humble legend in his profession, and a genuinely kind human being.

Jeffrey B. Riley MHPE, LP, CCT, CCP Emeritus was an internationally renowned cardiovascular educator, expert clinician, perfusionist, consultant, and editor. Jeff managed clinical teams and directed perfusion technology education programs at several major academic healthcare centers and in the private sector. Jeff was an award-winning author with over 100 peer-reviewed publications focusing on quality management, perfusion education, simulation, and original research topics in clinical extracorporeal technology. Mr. Riley graduated from the first formal perfusion education program in the United States and gave back to the perfusion profession through his leadership roles in national professional organizations and the education of hundreds of perfusionists, representatives from industry, nurses, and physicians. Jeff donated his time and knowledge to medical professionals from all over the world, including those in Nepal and Kenya (Riley, 2021, "Brief Bio" para. 1) .

Jeff Riley was significantly more than his profession. He was more than a teacher, mentor, innovator, writer, editor, consultant, practicing perfusionist, and leader. Jeff was foremost the beloved husband of 41 years to Christine Riley, a nurse, who he fittingly met in an Operating Room. He was a devoted father to second-generation teacher, Corey Riley, second-generation writer Caitlin Riley, and his late son and namesake, Brock Riley. Jeff was the adored Opa of Fiona Riley, and a loving granddad to a pride of exceptional cats. He was the cherished brother of Christopher (Terry) Riley, Kerry Riley-Nuss (Carlo Nuss), and Brendan (Patt) Riley. Jeff was preceded in death by his parents Raymond Dale and Doris Riley.

Jeff is survived by family, friends, coworkers, and students.

Memorial Visitation to be held on Sunday, October 24, 2021 from 2:00pm- 5:00pm at Yurch Funeral Home, 5618 Broadview Road Parma Ohio 44134 with a Memorial Service at 3:30pm. The



Obituary

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021

service will be livestreamed and available to view later. Please look for link on the Funeral Home website. In lieu of flowers, memorial Contributions may be made to the Cleveland Food Bank.

Click on the link below and leave a memory!

<https://bit.ly/JeffRileyMemorial>

Live Stream Link!

<https://youtu.be/e7BN2qHJClQ>






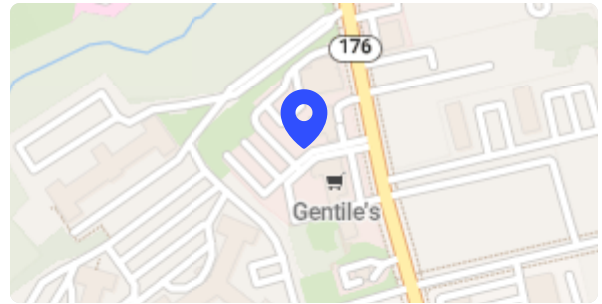
Events

Jeffrey Riley




AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021

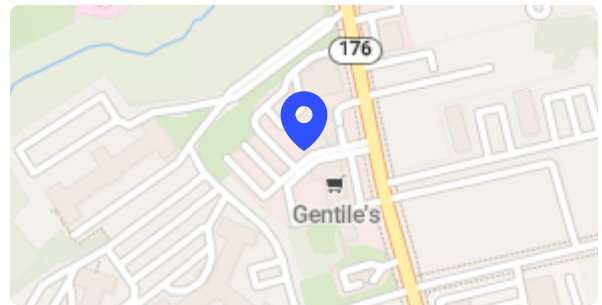
Memorial Visitation

-  **Sunday**, October 24, 2021
-  2:00 PM - 5:00 PM ET
-  **Yurch Funeral Home**
5618 Broadview Rd., Parma OH 44134



Memorial Service

-  **Sunday**, October 24, 2021
-  3:30 PM ET
-  **Yurch Funeral Home**
5618 Broadview Rd., Parma OH 44134





Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Yurch Funeral Home shared a **Video**.



October 23 at 5:45 AM



Yurch Funeral Home shared a **Webcast Video**.



October 23 at 5:44 AM



Keith A Samolyk October 24 at 11:48 AM

3:45pm, The Youtube streaming is not working unfortunately... I think there are 25+ people trying to watch... -KS



Bonnie Beal October 23 at 12:52 PM

My heart is broken 😭❤️ Had it not been for Mr. Riley, I would not be in the position that I am today - I am, and shall be, eternally grateful for him. We became close when I was in school at The Ohio State University where I realized what a special man - a kind, compassionate, and generous man - he was. I owe everything to Jeff. Whenever I saw him at conferences later, I was always greeted with a handshake with his bear-paw hand and given a hug. I always made sure to thank him for his commitment to me and to our profession. Perfusionists are waking up to a new world without Mr. Riley. I am sorry for new graduates who will never have the honor and pleasure to learn from him and understand his passion for teaching and learning from a true pioneer in our field. I am sorry for his family and friends that are grieving such a heavy loss and pray that they can find peace. Thank you for everything Jeff - Rest In Peace. You will be missed 😭❤️



Melanie Thompson posted:

Though I never knew Jeff well, I did have a great friendship with Chris many years ago at Broward General in Ft Lauderdale and at Egleston Hospital in Atlanta. I am so very sorry for your and your family's loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you all. Melanie Thompson

October 23 at 2:13 PM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Victor Carcioppolo posted:

I just learned about Jeff's passing. We all stood on his mighty shoulders in our profession. He might be one of two or three individuals responsible for perfusionists being called professionals and the handsome salaries we were afforded. I knew Jeff as a brilliant and humble man with true integrity and character but most important and impressive, a God fearing man. We lost a Giant in our profession. My sincerest condolences to the entire Riley family. To Chris and the entire Riley, May God bless and keep you. Victor Carcioppolo

March 3 at 2:37 AM



Colette Calame posted:

Jeff has touched the lives of so many. We will all miss him greatly. A brilliant mind, kind hearted, and selfless soul. My heart goes out to his family and for all who have known Jeff Riley. What a beautiful legacy he has left in so many. He taught us all so much in such a kind and passionate way. He will be missed beyond measure. My heart goes out to you and your family. Sending comforting thoughts and prayers. 🙏

October 24 at 12:21 PM



Anonymous sent a Basket of Memories to the Riley family.



October 24 at 12:01 PM



Al Stammers posted:

Jeff personified the word 'icon' not only as a preeminent leader in our field, but as a caring and devoted individual who touched the lives of so many. I will miss our spirited debates and friendly jousting. Irreplaceable is he on so many levels and we are all better by knowing him. Chris, Corey, Caitlin and Fiona, you are all in our thoughts and prayers. Al and Barb Stammers

October 24 at 11:56 AM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021

IS

Ian Shearer posted:

RIP my friend. You meant so much to so many of us. Challenging us to be our best, encouraging us to help others and make the field of Perfusion better. I will treasure our convention dinners and breakfasts where we discussed trends in Perfusion and family. You will be missed but never forgotten. Ian Shearer, CCP, LP

October 24 at 11:49 AM

JE

Jim Macdonald Cpc (R) Ccp (Emeritus) posted:

We will miss Jeff Riley's professional input and steady guidance. He has given much, of himself, to our profession - he leaves behind an indelible fingerprint....Rest In Peace and thank you, Jim MacDonald CPC (R). CCP (Emeritus)

October 24 at 6:58 AM

IC

Isaac Chinnappan posted:

Dear Jeff, You will be missed! But you will be remembered as a legend in perfusion, as a true human being, as a dedicated professional, as an excellent mentor and as a loyal friend. The global perfusion community will certainly remember your dedications and contributions to this noble profession for a longer time. The "Essence and Dynamism" of perfusion that instilled on us by You will remain forever. While we are proudly celebrating Jeff's life, I am also committed to keep the family in my thoughts and sending my tearful prayers to comfort them at this difficult time. May his soul Rest In Peace!! With Prayers, Isaac Chinnappan, CCP

October 24 at 6:15 AM

ED

Ed Darling shared an album called **Memories Album**.



October 16 at 5:47 PM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Laura Lemesurier posted:

My sincere condolences to Jeff's family. I met Jeff at Psicor back in 1989 when I moved to California from Toronto. He was always there over the years to chat about life and perfusion. His never ending drive to evaluate and improve had a tremendous impact on me as a perfusionist. I cannot believe you are gone my friend - I will never forget you ❤️

October 23 at 8:50 AM



Anonymous sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Riley family.



October 23 at 2:07 AM



Nationwide Children's Hospital Perfusion sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Riley family.



October 22 at 11:11 AM



Rich And Ashley Walczak sent an Arrive in Style to the Riley family.



October 22 at 11:03 AM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Phil Beckley posted:

I was saddened to hear of the passing of one of my friends and sincerely offer my condolences to Chris and the family at this time. He and I knew each other for 40+ years and, during that time, shared much in the areas of education, family, and friendship. I would say a highlight of my life, and one that I will cherish, would be the few years we spent together at Ohio State teaching and creating new knowledge for the profession and students we loved. I will miss you, Jeff. Phil Beckley

October 22 at 5:56 AM



Jim Macdonald Cpc (R) Ccp (Emeritus) October 22 at 2:48 PM

Jeff was a true leader in our professional field as a fellow Cardiovascular Perfusionists. His educational pursuits were shared freely with his many colleagues to the overall benefit of the cardiac patients we all serve. Your educational influence was very much appreciated and will be sorely missed. Rest in piece!



Department Of Cardiovascular Surgery sent a Serene Retreat to the Riley family.



October 22 at 5:31 AM



Kathy Kevelder Spitzer posted:

Jeff's reputation as a teacher had been established as early as 1982. I was lured to a Fellowship at Emory to be molded by this amazing caregiver. Jeff dedicated himself to honing my skills in perfusion and teaching me to practice with a questioning attitude and striving to do better. He opened his home to me as a young graduate and shared his family and friends to a girl far from home. Jeff continued to offer sage advice, kindness and friendship over the past 39 years. He was truly a gem in the rough and his contributions will always remain. I feel so blessed to have crossed paths with this wonderful man. Praying for dear Chris and her family. Kathy Kevelder Spitzer

October 22 at 3:24 AM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Shawn Mergen posted:

So very sad to hear of Jeff's passing. I first met Jeff when he was developing the Perfusionist Assistant program for PSICOR in 1987. He greatly encouraged me to go to perfusion school and was one of my three professors at the Grossmont College perfusion program in 1988-89. Jeff always had an encouraging listening ear and was a wonderful teach and mentor. When asked, he always found time to come to Wisconsin to speak at our state perfusion society meeting. He always stressed to be a professional you had to teach and share knowledge. All of us taught by him owe him a great debt. We can continue the legacy that he provided to us by continuing to teach and share knowledge in the perfusion and healthcare community. My sincerest condolences to his family. Requiem aeternam, luceat eis. Shawn Mergen Wausau WI

October 21 at 7:19 PM



Richard Tallman sent a With Distinction to the Riley family.



October 21 at 5:07 PM



Anonymous sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Riley family.



October 21 at 5:07 PM



Anonymous sent a Joyful Memory to the Riley family.



October 21 at 5:01 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Riley family.



October 21 at 10:38 AM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021

MS

Mark Schiess posted:

I received notice of Jeff's passing from my perfusionist son and I am sad. I will miss him. Standing on the shoulders of giants. The profession and the vast majority of perfusionists would not be what they today are without dedicated people like Jeff. His accomplishments in all areas of perfusion will not be forgotten. Also not forgotten will be his kindness. Thank you and rest in peace Jeff Riley.

October 21 at 6:26 AM



Anonymous sent an Enduring Grace to the Riley family.



October 21 at 5:33 AM

KH

Kelly Hedlund posted:

I admired Jeff greatly - and we talked often during the past four or five years. He was soft-spoken - but his love for perfusion was so evident. Another giant has left us. Though his shoes can never be filled - the best way to honor legends is to strive to be like them. Rest peacefully my friend! Kelly HedlundHays, Kansas, USA

October 21 at 4:13 AM

BB

Bob Bolen posted:

I meet Jeff as a student in 1980 and then went on to work with Jeff at Emory in 1982. Jeff and Chris were so kind and welcoming to my wife and I upon arriving in Atlanta. They inviting us for meals and various outings. Introduced us to Atlanta and things to see and avoid. Jeff became a good friend and we would meet many mornings to eat breakfast before work. I remember going with Chris and Jeff to flea markets and Jeff pulling me around Lake Lanier on my face trying to teach me to water ski, never got up more than a few seconds. At work Jeff taught me much and helped me tremendously during my first couple of years. Jeff was always there to help and guide me and always more than willing to do so. My thoughts and prayers go out to Chris and family. He will be missed tremendously in the world of perfusion. Bob Bolen

October 20 at 4:46 PM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Riley family.



October 20 at 3:37 PM



Tina Sue Lindsey posted:

There is no way to measure or express what Jeff meant to the field of perfusion and all of those he influenced by his quest for knowledge and unending care of patients and students . He always picked up the phone or returned a panic email ready to help . He was such a humble person to have given so much for so long to an entire industry. I am sorry for his passing and hope his family will be comforted by our words and gratitude for all he did for all of us .

October 20 at 1:38 PM



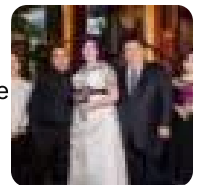
Steve Sutton posted:

Jeff was the quintessential educator, perfusion scientist, and researcher. I always listened and learned from him privately and in sessions. The entire globe has experienced a great loss, however, we honor him by attempting to carry on his commitment to our profession. To the Riley Family, Eve and I express our deepest sorrow and pray that your pain will be lessened as you continue onward. God Bless You All. Steve Sutton

October 20 at 12:59 PM



Alycia Riley shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Jeff came into my life when I met his son Brock. He immediately welcomed me into the family. He was kind, caring, supportive, and loved his family fiercely. Brock always talked so highly of him and wanted to grow up and be just like his dad - successful, loving, smart; the list goes on. I feel so blessed to have had Jeff as a father in law. He was a wonderful man, and he will be so missed. The Riley's have experienced such tremendous loss in the last few years but I hope they take solace in knowing that now Jeff and his son, Brock, are together again

October 20 at 10:22 AM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021

DL

Dennis Long posted:

I am incredibly saddened to hear of Jeff's passing. I was a student of his nearly 20 years ago, but his thirst for asking good questions will live on in all that he contributed to perfusion. We were lucky to have him and I will miss being able to ask Jeff something only to receive a question in return. He was always generous with his time and his knowledge. He always inspired me to be a better perfusionist. My sincerest condolences and prayers to the Riley family during this time of grief.

October 20 at 8:21 AM

RD

Robert Dyga posted:

I will personally miss Jeff. He influenced so many to be better perfusionists and improve perfusion care. We are fortunate that his legacy is forever documented widely allowing generations to learn how to optimize perfusion. In that special way, he will live on and continue to influence others. Thank you Jeff. Bob Dyga -Pittsburgh.

October 20 at 6:30 AM

TW

Timothy Willcox posted:

Jeff's contribution to perfusion worldwide has greatly enhanced the profession and positively impacted patient outcomes. His knowledge extended to the All Blacks rugby team! There is a Maori proverb - 'Kua hinga te tōtara o Te Waonui a Tāne' - A tōtara in the great forest of Tāne has fallen. The tōtara is a giant of the forest. Jeff was a giant of perfusion. Haere ra e hoa. Tim Willcox - New Zealand.

October 19 at 10:35 PM

NA

Nestor Alvar posted:

The MUSC perfusion class of 1995 would express our profound sorrow and extend sincerest condolences to the family of one of the giants of the perfusion profession. His instruction and teaching combined with his extensive experience proved a priceless and unequalled resource for many starting out in extracorporeal circulation technology. His affable nature, singularity of purpose, and generosity of wisdom sets a high standard for all clinicians that would call themselves educators. We, the MUSC perfusion class of 1995, join with the rest of the perfusion community in expressing our undying admiration for and eternal gratitude to Jeff Riley. Respect.

October 19 at 4:10 PM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021

GM

Gerard Myers posted:

I am stunned to hear of Jeff's passing. He was such an icon and gentleman in our profession. I first met Jeff at the end of my first presentation in Florida in 1991, when he stood up and asked me a question at the end ... then quickly sat down waiting for an answer. Since that time I came to know and respect the intelligence and humour of a man who inspired so many others to love and respect the science behind the profession. He will be sadly missed. My condolences and respect go out to his family at this difficult time ... you are his legacy. Gerard Myers

October 19 at 3:40 PM

AC

Adam Clark posted:

Chris & Family, Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday, unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. ~ Unknown. With deepest sympathy, Adam Clark (a perfusion colleague)

October 19 at 2:32 PM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Riley family.



October 19 at 2:23 PM

L2

Love, Suny Class Of 2022 sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Riley family.



October 18 at 6:26 PM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021

JK

Jane Keperling posted:

Jeff and Chris have been my friends since 1975, when we all worked at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta. This was before we had any children, and life in the heart room was exhilarating! Jeff was, even back then, a friendly, personable, kind, fun perfusionist, who loved his job and enjoyed answering our questions. After he and Chris got married, they bought the house next door to me, and we became even closer friends- they were great neighbors! I had two of my boys while they were there, and "Big Jeff" played with them and they squealed with delight when they saw him! He was a great big teddy bear who loved my children. I was a heart nurse also, and I could see that he really had an amazing talent for perfusion and teaching. The man was brilliant. Yet he also had a such a warm personality- a rare combination! When they moved away, I kept in touch. Through every new location, we kept up with each other; lifelong friends. I have had the greatest respect for both Jeff and Chris, through all the moves, and the loss of dear Brock. I loved Jeff Riley, and I will do my best to support Chris through this awful loss of her dear husband. She will need all her friends; please stay in touch with her as you know Jeff would want you to do. God bless the Riley family. 🙏

October 18 at 2:18 PM

KB

Kirk Bingham posted:

Jeff was my mentor and friend. He trained me while I was at Mayo Clinic. We spent many hours working together at work, on research, and school. He cared for everyone around him and strived to build up anyone he was close to. He and I had an inside joke that I owed him 10%. Even until a short while ago when we laughed about this, I now know it means more than just a good laugh. He wanted me to give him 10% more in everything I do. To strive every day to be 10% better. To work, to love, to improve to give 10% more to my life every chance I can get. It's going to take me years and years of giving 10% more to reach the type of person Jeff was. I hope someday I can even be a fraction of the person he was to so many. I sadly send my sincerest condolences to Jeff's family during this time. Rest in piece my dear friend. You will be dearly missed.

October 18 at 11:12 AM



Tribute Wall

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Gary Grist posted:

For the family, I think this poem/hymn/prayer by John White Chadwick has a special meaning for perfusionists. Jeff, you are "off call" and now can rest. But we will miss you.-Gary Grist RN CCP Emeritus, a friend and fellow perfusionist. It singeth low in every heart, We hear it each and all, A song of those who answer not, However we may call; They throng the silence of the breast, We see them as of yore, The kind, the brave, the true, the sweet, Who walk with us no more. 'Tis hard to take the burden up, When these have laid it down; They brightened all the joy of life, They softened every frown; But oh, 'tis good to think of them, When we are troubled sore! Thanks be to God that such have been, Although they are no more! More home-like seems the vast unknown, Since they have entered there; To follow them were not so hard, Wherever they may fare; They cannot be where God is not, On any sea or shore; Whate'er betides, Thy love abides, Our God, for evermore

October 17 at 7:32 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful Dreams to the Riley family.



October 17 at 3:27 AM



Anonymous sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Riley family.



October 16 at 6:47 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Riley family.



October 16 at 6:08 PM



Keith Samolyk posted:

Words can't describe the loss of such a brilliant, gentle, mentor Giant and pillar of the medical and academic fields. Jeff you will be sorely missed by All. My deepest Condolences to Christine and family God Bless. -Keith Samolyk

October 16 at 5:47 PM



Media

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Yurch Funeral Home shared a **Video**.

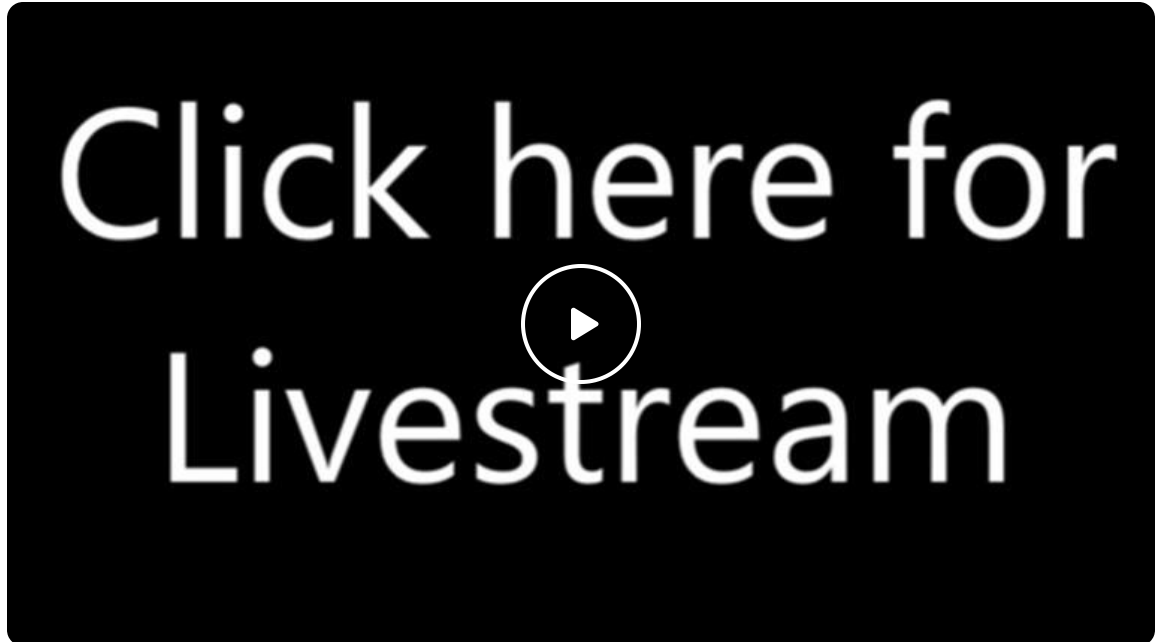
October 23 at 5:45 AM





Yurch Funeral Home shared a **Webcast Video**.

October 23 at 5:44 AM



Keith A Samolyk October 24 at 11:48 AM

3:45pm, The Youtube streaming is not working unfortunately... I think there are 25+ people trying to watch... -KS



Bonnie Beal October 23 at 12:52 PM

My heart is broken 😭❤️ Had it not been for Mr. Riley, I would not be in the position that I am today - I am, and shall be, eternally grateful for him. We became close when I was in school at The Ohio State University where I realized what a special man - a kind, compassionate, and generous man - he was. I owe everything to Jeff. Whenever I saw him at conferences later, I was always greeted with a handshake with his bear-paw hand and given a hug. I always made sure to thank him for his commitment to me and to our profession. Perfusionists are waking up to a new world without Mr. Riley. I am sorry for new graduates who will never have the honor and pleasure to learn from him and understand his passion for teaching and learning from a true pioneer in our field. I am sorry for his family and friends that are grieving such a heavy loss and pray that they can find peace. Thank you for everything Jeff - Rest In Peace. You will be missed 😭❤️



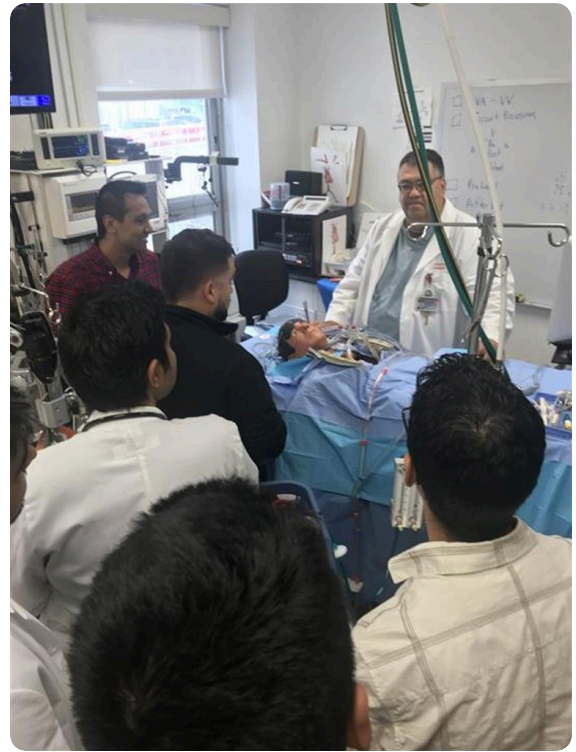
Ed Darling shared 5 photos to the **Memories Album** album.

October 24 at 4:48 AM





Jeff loved the personal interactions of life!



Jeff - always ahead of the curve in perfusion simulation!



Jeff in his element - educating & mentoring students.



The SUNY family will miss Jeff.



Media

Jeffrey Riley

AUG 21, 1950 - OCT 15, 2021



Alycia Riley shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 20 at 10:22 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Jeffrey by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit

YURCH
Funeral Home