



Jack Aaron Rittenhouse

February 20, 1971 - February 8, 2009

Jack Aaron Rittenhouse was born on February 20, 1971 in Omaha, Nebraska to Gary and Suzanne (Stenglein) Rittenhouse. He grew up in Waterloo, Nebraska, attending District #15 Country School and graduated from Waterloo High School in 1989. As a young boy, Jack was involved in sports, especially basketball, student council and drama club. He was a good student and enjoyed the one act play and other school activities. But mostly he was a farm boy. Following “grandpa” Jack around like a hired hand and much to his mother’s dismay had a keen interest in the equipment and machinery. This proved to be vital on a day when grandpa got his leg caught in the running machinery and a very young Jack knew where to shut off the equipment and save the family from a terrible tragedy. Jack went on to attend college at Kansas University and the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Jack married Angila Embrey on August 31, 1996 at Peace Presbyterian Church in Elkhorn, Nebraska and to this union two children were born: Graci and Garret. Jack and Angie have made their home on the family farm southwest of Waterloo.

Jack has been the sales manager for the same company (Hewlett Packard) for the last 18 years although the name has changed four times. He enjoyed hunting, boating, planting sweet corn, riding his John Deere tractor, mowing and kicking back with a Miller Lite. Jack is remembered as a caring, helpful

man who treasured his little girl who he called "Bugaboo". Jack's most known quote was "It's All Good". Jack had the most electric personality and he made friends wherever he turned, I do believe he has friends from coast to coast. Jack was actively involved on the Waterloo Fire Department for 12 years. While on the fire department Jack was instrumental in the formation of the Waterloo Water Rescue Team and he also single handedly convinced the Rural Fire Board to build the new Fire Station, this was his pride and joy. Many people will remember Jack for his star performance at the annual fire banquets held each year.

Jack passed away on Sunday, February 8, 2009 at his home on the family farm with his family and friends by his side at the age of 37 years, 11 months and 19 days. He was preceded in death by his son Garret, grandfather Jack Stenglein and grandmother Doris Rittenhouse. Jack is survived by his wife Angie and daughter Graci both of Waterloo; Parents Gary and Suzanne of Waterloo; sister Brooke (husband John) of Thornton, CO; In Laws Tom Embrey (wife Patti) of Waterloo and Pat Raver (husband Larry) of Mead, NE; grandmothers Catherine Stenglein of Elkhorn and Shirley Embrey Krejci of Waterloo;

Tribute Wall



“ *Jack Aaron Rittenhouse*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *I knew Jack from working with him at Direct Response. He was always a positive and great guy from the time he walked in the door every morning. My heart goes out to you.*

February 15, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *My family & I are deeply saddened by Jack's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

*In God's Love,
Shawn Suhr-Dockerty*

Shawn Suhr-Dockerty - February 13, 2009 at 01:07 PM



“ *Angie, Graci and family,
I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. I worked with Jack for many years at Valcom, Inacom etc the company of many names. He was always so helpful and friendly and helped me solve many problems. Always with a cheerfulness and smile. I'm sure God has a special place for him in heaven. May God Bless You and your family. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Virginia Franksman - February 12, 2009 at 09:40 AM

KP

“ I have never in my life felt compelled to write to someone I do not know until this very moment. I was returning home from the store when I witnessed a sight I had never seen. From a half mile away I saw flashing emergency lights from many many firetrucks and quickly realized it was a funeral procession. I wish I had taken a picture because from my viewpoint it was the most heartwrenching beautiful memorial. I did not know Jack but he obviously had many many friends. All traffic from both directions stopped to pay our respects for this fallen hero, there is no doubt that many looked at him in that manner. I will not soon forget the tribute I witnessed of your Jack being taken to his final resting place. As he did in life he is still touching many in death.

God Blesss you

Karen Popken - February 12, 2009 at 05:25 AM

FM

“ Angie, Graci, Gary and Suzanne,

Carolyn and I were devastated by the news of Jack's passing. What started out as a business relationship between Gary and I has over the years become a close personal relationship between our families. I feel that Jack lived next door to me after hearing all of the Jack stories from Gary over the years as Jack found his way through life. I don't know of a prouder Papa (or Mama) than Gary and Suzanne for all that Jack accomplished in his now too short life. We never know why things happen the way they do, but there is always something that can be learned, some strength that can be drawn from tragedies like this. Graci will always know how brave her father was while dealing with the most awful of illnesses. His complaining was so minimal, his faith so strong, both truly wonderful examples for us all. I know I will always remember Jack for his love of family, his strength in dealing with the loss of his son, and his bravery in dealing with his bad fortune. I never heard "why me," I only heard "I'm going to beat this thing." Jack is with Garret now, and we have the love, examples and memories he left behind. I hope you do celebrate Jack's life tomorrow, as there is a lot to celebrate. I'm just sorry we can't be there in person with you, but we will be there in spirit. God bless all of you. Love, Fred and Carolyn Miller

Fred and Carolyn Miller - February 11, 2009 at 04:17 AM

KS

“ Angie, we've never met. I knew Jack from his time at Direct Response. He was a great guy and an excellent manager, well respected and liked by all. My heart went out to you and Jack when you lost your son, and it goes out to you again today. I wish for you and Graci to find some comfort in the arms of family and friends and eventually some peace.

Karen Sparks - February 10, 2009 at 11:03 AM

GH

“ Gary, I am so deeply sorry for your family's loss.

Gus Hoogensen, Omaha

Gus Hoogensen - February 10, 2009 at 10:29 AM

MB

“ Dear Suzanne and Gary and Family,

I remember Jack when he was little. I remember him as a little redheaded boy. I am terribly sorry about your loss.

Love,

Marilyn Berg

Marilyn Berg - February 10, 2009 at 06:40 AM