



Peter John Rivera

April 17, 1967 - September 1, 2021

Peter John “Pete” Rivera, age 54, of St. Augustine, passed away on September 1, 2021 at Baptist Medical Center South in Jacksonville. Pete was born on April 17, 1967, in Brooklyn, New York, to Petronio “Pete” and Anita Rivera and moved to Mississippi at a young age. Pete discovered his gift for music as a young man and spent countless hours becoming a skilled musician. Specializing in Bass guitar, he toured up and down the East Coast and Southern states in the 80's and 90's with various bands such as Baby X, Thunder Alley, Wallstreet, and the Guns and Roses Tribute band Paradise City, and has opened up for such national acts as Warrant, Dream So Real, Night Ranger, and Sam Kinison who also sat in with his band. For many years he was a member of a band called The Cosmic Gypsies until leaving the band in 2010 to move to New York when he met the love of his life, Chrissy. The two married on June 25, 2013. That same year, Pete founded the band BedRock, and the band performed throughout the NY tri-state area. Pete was the consummate performer. He loved entertaining the crowd and had an awesome stage presence, multiple basses including a pretty cool Gene Simmons axe bass, his signature hats that he would change multiple times throughout a performance, and of course that amazing long hair that was always flying while he played. After recently moving to St. Augustine, he started to play venues with BedRock in Florida. Pete also worked as a heavy equipment operator for Smith Trucking in St. Augustine.

He is survived by his wife, Chrissy Ricotta-Rivera of St. Augustine; daughter, Valerie Ricotta of Connecticut (Sydney); his mother, Anita Attwood (Brian) of Mazatlan, Mexico; his father, Petronio Rivera (Reslyn) of Meridian Miss.; a brother, Dino Rivera (Sandy) of Canton Ga., a ½ brother, Peter and ½ sister, Via; a sister in law, Karen Kardash (Bill); his mother and father in law, Karl and Beverly Kleinschrod; a niece, Deanna Sauls (Tommy), great niece, Davina; and Stepbrothers, Julian (Brigette), Jez (Kate) and Ady (Ali).

Funeral services will be held at 1 pm on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at St. Johns Family Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Craig Memorial Park. A visitation will be held from 6 to 8 Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at St. Johns Family Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations in Pete's memory can be made to: We have your six, <https://why6vet.com/get-involved/>.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 8. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

St. Johns Family Funeral Home
385 State Road 207
St. Augustine, FL

Funeral Service

SEP 9. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Johns Family Funeral Home
385 State Road 207
St. Augustine, FL

Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Peter John Rivera*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - September 07, 2021 at 03:18 PM

PR

Rest In Peace, Peter 🙏❤️ You will be greatly missed! We love you Dad, Reslyn, Pete Angel & Via & Sophia Rivera ❤️❤️❤️

Pete Rivera-Father - September 07, 2021 at 10:15 PM

RS

There are individuals like Pete who figure out how to really live & enjoy life. It is terrible how his life suddenly ended as it did & left loved ones. Rest in peace Pete. Chrissy, family & friends, Pete will be there in your hearts & minds. Live your days as he would want you to. Peace my friends.

Rita Schroeder - September 08, 2021 at 07:43 AM

RT

Rest in peace Pete my dear friend...you are gone way to soon. We will all see you again some day...and we will play the most wonderful music. I missed our talks before you were gone...I will miss them even more now. But I do have them to remember and smile and sometimes laugh. You may be gone...but we will never forget you.

Ray Thackston - September 08, 2021 at 04:30 PM

RP

Rest In Peace, enjoy Rock n Roll heaven. Love the Pajak's

Ray and Judy Pajak - September 08, 2021 at 06:32 PM

DF

I'd known him since about 1996. Pete was an awesome friend and guitarist. He was always nice to me and always had a kind word to say. I missed him when he left the Gypsies and moved away but he'd told me he was finally truly happy, with Chrissy, and was loving life. God bless her and the whole family.

Darlene Jarriel Fernander - September 08, 2021 at 10:50 PM

AA

Rest in Peace PJ. Let the music live on and forever in our hearts. Ady, Ali, Josh & Alfie xxx

Ady Attwood - September 15, 2021 at 03:49 PM

MA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Maggie - April 17, 2025 at 01:00 PM

UW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Uschi Woehl - September 16, 2021 at 12:15 PM

UW

“ *"Although we live many miles away,
in our hearts You'll always stay!"*

*Our memories are full of nice moments, we had so much fun here in
Germany and in U.S.,
specially 1980 in Magic Kingdom / Space Mountain and in 1989
during your grandmas Birthday with whole German relationship.
Pete, You made us every moment fun and enjoyable, we will not
forget your humour, smile and deep voice. In our hearts you shall
remain. - R.I.P.*

*Our heartfelt condolences go to Chrissy and Valerie, to my sister
Anita and Brian, to my nephew Dino and Sandy and all the ones
being sad like us.*

*Uschi and Rainer
Goettingen/ Germany*

Uschi Woehl - September 16, 2021 at 11:23 AM

JG

“ *Joanne G. purchased a sympathy card for the family
of Peter John Rivera.*



Joanne G. - September 14, 2021 at 11:24 AM

JG

“ *Continuing to send love and comfort to Chrissy and the rest of
Pete's loved ones.*

Joanne Greco - September 14, 2021 at 11:05 AM



Jules
Attwood

“ Good times in Meridian, MS with PJ.....
Senior Frogs, Cosmic Gypsies, Jagermeister and bananas in the
folks exhaust pipe. Missed by all who's lives you touched.
Part of Your English family Julian & Bridgette

Jules Attwood - September 13, 2021 at 03:13 PM



LE

“ This news hurt me deeply. Pete was a true friend. I will miss his
quick wit and his crooked grin. I'll miss karaoke and the kiddie pool,
our crazy shopping adventures and singing at the computer till
dawn. My heart goes out to his family. His mom Anita, his brother
Dino and his one true love Chrissy. You were my friend and my big
brother Fly high big brother. Natrovia! Leann

Leann - September 10, 2021 at 10:11 PM

SC

“ Our condolences to Chrissy and all of Pete's family and friends. This is a difficult time but Pete has given us all so many great memories of him to reflect on, he made all of our lives better just by knowing him. We were fortunate to meet Pete and Chrissy 11 years ago and it has been a great friendship since the first day. Pete was such a kind hearted man and always looked at the positive side of life, always appreciated the simple things in life. It was exciting to see his admiration of people and how it made him happy to bring joy to others. Watching him play on stage and interact with the audience, the numerous hat changes etc. all amounted to him being selfless and wanting people to have a good time. We always had a good time when in the company of Pete & Chrissy. Just talking with Pete his stories were always filled with excitement, whether he was talking about Disney, or Kiss an old cartoon or even food. I remember he recently told me how he had found a place that served the best Sheppard's Pie down here in Florida! Well Pete now I know after the heavenly concerts you will perform you can have the best Sheppard's Pie or Prime Rib every night! and of course chased down with God's own IPA. Well this isn't good bye my friend we will meet again! Godspeed and find comfort that we are all here for Chrissy, Valerie, Luna, Spooky & Ernie!
With Love and Admiration,
Scott, Meghan & Abigail



scott craig - September 08, 2021 at 03:39 PM



“ *A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Peter John Rivera.*



September 08, 2021 at 03:13 PM



“ *Ive known pete most of my life, I met him in Atlanta when he was in another band Cosmic Gypsies..we all use to laugh have fun...he's always been a wonderful friend I'll never forget that, and I met Chrissy, she's the best...they were the best together...they were amazing together... when I seen that Pete passed away I just couldn't believe what I was reading, I thought for sure it was a mistake...Im so sorry your going through this Chrissy, I love you, and so many thoughts and prayers for you and your family, and I wish there was something else I could do or say...but I'm always here as a friend...*



Cynthia Montgomery - September 08, 2021 at 09:39 AM

PM

“ Peter John's cousin, Darleen McGill purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Peter John Rivera.



Peter John's cousin, Darleen McGill - September 08, 2021 at 09:12 AM

DF

“ Darleen McGill & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Peter John Rivera.



Darleen McGill & Family - September 08, 2021 at 09:07 AM

CC

“ I remember meeting Peter in meridian ms when he played with the band Vexx. They'd practiced in this little low ceiling building Barely big enough for the band to fit, and we all piled in and rocked it out! Later we worked together at Northside. I met his brother Dino at northside as well. We'd all get off work and go party at his moms apartment where she'd take our keys and feed us and let us party safely! Peter you will be truly missed!! Please rock it out up there in heaven, and look down on all us from time to time.



You friend,

Carrie Clay

carrie clay - September 07, 2021 at 11:07 PM

JG

“ *The video was a beautiful tribute. My deepest condolences to Chrissy and the rest of Peter’s family.* ”



Joanne Greco - September 07, 2021 at 11:00 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Peter John Rivera.* ”



September 07, 2021 at 10:50 PM

BJ

“ *Pete will be missed by many. My Birthday is April 16th, we celebrated many Birthdays together when we go watch him with the Cosmic Gypsies. Rock on my Friend! Chrissy, you are in my thoughts, and prayers!* ”



Brenda Jarriel - September 07, 2021 at 10:47 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Peter John Rivera.* ”



September 07, 2021 at 10:15 PM



“ *Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Peter John Rivera.*



September 07, 2021 at 07:10 PM