



Riley Alan Behrman

October 20, 2004 - October 11, 2025

Riley Alan Behrman, affectionately known as “Smiley Riley” or “Dizzle” depending on your generation, tragically passed away days before his 21st birthday and “Riloween”. Born on October 20th, 2004 in Ann Arbor and raised in Saline, Michigan, Riley’s constant smile, charisma and stunning soul touched everyone he encountered.

His mom Aimee likes to share that Riley was glued to ESPN as soon as he could lift his head. There isn’t a sports statistic he didn’t know or a Miami Heat or Dolphins game he missed. While other moms were reading children’s books at bedtime, Aimee read Riley uplifting sports stories. He loved to learn from and be inspired by how athletes overcame adversity to pursue their passions.

Riley became a soccer goalie when he was four, a role he was born to play and did so exceptionally. Over the years when coaches were tough on him, he took it in stride and would say “I know they’re just trying to make me better for me and the team”, showing wisdom well beyond most. He was a fierce competitor, accepting nothing but the best from himself and teammates who became brothers to him. As a Saline Hornet, Riley lifted his team to a district championship by blocking critical shots when the game came to overtime PKs and even scored the winning point himself. During the same season he kicked for the football team, an incredible challenge of time and energy that he

embraced with grit and grace. Riley was also so proud to have raised thousands of dollars for pediatric cancer research through Alex's Lemonade Stand by kicking field goals under the Friday Night Lights, just one of the countless examples of his innate desire to make the world better for those with incredibly difficult circumstances.

While Riley preferred to be on the field competing with his teammates, he knew he had to succeed in the classroom first and foremost to accomplish his dreams. Riley was accepted to many top tier colleges, and while the easier option would have been to stay close to home, he rose to the enormous challenge of moving to Bloomington to study at Indiana University's prestigious Kelley School of Business. No surprise to anyone, Riley built a really happy new life and did the "grinding" necessary to excel. He continued to pursue his passion for sports by playing rec soccer and basketball and enthusiastically showed his school pride at every turn. Hoo Hoo Hoo Hoosiers!

When Riley spoke of what he wanted to accomplish in the future, his definition of success transcended the notion of job or money. In his own words, "I would like to be known as a leader in the real estate industry who not only understands how to invest and create value, but also how to bring people together. My goal is to be the kind of person that colleagues are excited to work with, someone who is collaborative, supportive, and willing to help others grow. I want to be recognized for combining financial discipline with a bigger vision, while also being approachable and dependable. To me, success isn't just about building a strong career; it's about leading high-performing teams and building strong relationships along the way." This past summer, Riley's time as a real estate investment intern was marked by extraordinary achievement as he quickly rose to lead in sales, surpassing long-standing employees. With his sharp mind, magnetic personality, and natural insight, Riley was destined to make gargantuan waves in the business world.

Riley's first love and priority was always his family and he embodied the best of them: from Aimee with whom he shared a remarkable mother/son bond, he learned endless kindness and concern for others; an effortless ability to light up the world around him; a desire to see the good in everyone; and to fiercely care for his family, friends and even those with whom he shared only a fleeting moment. Riley was deeply influenced by his dad Jonn's entrepreneurial spirit and drive to do everything it took to achieve goals. Riley had already started his own business and was investing and managing his own portfolio with money earned working several jobs. Jonn and Riley also bonded over their shared love of sports. They loved watching games together, attending them in person, managing fantasy football teams, and cheering on their favorite teams: the Miami Heat, Miami Dolphins, Michigan Wolverines, and Detroit Tigers. Riley particularly admired and respected his dear brother Zach. While pursuing his own passions, Riley strove to emulate Zach's unrivaled commitment to greatness. They also enjoyed connecting over their shared love for video games.

Those who passed before Riley are his maternal grandfather and hero Gary L. Evans (Katie), aunt Maja Fantichiaro (Rob), and pugs Grunt, Gunther, Gidget, and Gracie who was his "baby girl".

Riley's memory lives on and is honored by his very best friend and mom, Aimee, dad Jonn, brother Zachary, grandparents Michael Behrman (Jack), Maria-Elisa Smith (Bill), and Diane Evans, uncles Gary J. Evans (Julie) and John Holkeboer (Kristine), aunts Caroline Roberts (Andy), Rachelle McColette (Dan) and Heather Reed, cousins Alex, Julian, Lilah, Kaes, Levi, Alessandra, Blake, Lucas, Aurora and Moosh, countless friends, and adored pugs, Gabby, Georgie Peach, and Gemma.

If you knew Riley, you experienced magic in human form and were changed by the happiest guy in the room. It isn't enough to say that Riley will be missed beyond measure by everyone whose lives he touched. It's so clear from the hundreds of incredibly thoughtful and beautiful messages that have poured in that his reach was far and wide. As we grieve our dear Riley, let's do our best to honor him by smiling more often, doing things that scare us but fuel growth, performing a heartfelt gesture for a stranger, checking on each other, and always keeping kindness and empathy as our north star.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date which the family will update here. The family asks in lieu of flowers that you please consider contributing in Riley's honor to Alex's Lemonade Stand and Foundation for Childhood Cancer research. <https://www.alexlemonade.org/memorial/riley-behrman>

To leave a memory you have of Riley, to sign his online guestbook or for directions please visit www.rbfhsaline.com Arrangements entrusted to the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline.

Tribute Wall

MP

“ No words can express how deeply Adrian and I feel for you, John, and your family right now.

I know we only met on the Celebrity cruise. We spoke about our kids, their accomplishments, and the joy they bring, and reading your post left me completely in shock.

There truly are no words that can make this better. Please know we're both thinking of you and your family with heavy hearts.

*With deepest sympathy,
Marlies and Adrian*

Marlies perry - October 19, 2025 at 05:07 AM

AL

“ Riley fully appreciated how blessed he was, from such a young age, and in that way was able to shine and share so many smiles with everybody.

I am so sorry, Aimee and Jonn.

Allan - October 18, 2025 at 12:37 PM

CD

“ I never knew Riley well but after reading this I see how much of a loss our world now has without Riley. Riley has touched so many lives and his legacy will live forever. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends and loved ones in the unimaginable loss of Riley.

Corey Dean - October 18, 2025 at 10:41 AM

PB

“ Aimee I am so sorry to hear about your loss. Although I never met him it was quite evident how wonderful he was when you posted pictures of the trips you had take. Yes he had an infectious smile. You have so much to be proud of for all that he accomplished and was truly a loving and caring person. Love and care that must in the family genes fr as long as I have known your family. He will be missed and again as I always say," keep smiling and laughing". Love all of you.

Paul Blackford - October 17, 2025 at 10:36 AM

KA

“ Riley, the cute curly haired kid with the big smile that flourished into a handsome young man, is how I will remember him. He was striving to be perfect in this imperfect world. Stressful, right? I find peace in knowing that he traveled to beautiful places and that he accomplished so much in a short amount of time. He lived, he loved people and he wanted to be the best! I'm praying for his family and for all who love him. Prayers up for all his close buddies, stay encouraged and pray for peace. Be safe, follow your dreams and know that Riley is ok. His light will shine forever. God will grant us all peace and strength to get through this time of sorrow. Peace and love, ❤️☐ Kara (Justin's mom)



Kara - October 16, 2025 at 07:17 PM

SS

“ My heart breaks for you. I can only imagine the depth of your pain in losing your beloved son, Riley. Though I never had the chance to know him, I know how deeply he was loved and how proud you were of him. That love was always so clear, and it speaks volumes about the kind of person he was.

Please know that I am holding you in my thoughts and keeping you close in my heart. I hope you can feel surrounded by care, love, and gentle support as you move through this unimaginable loss.

*With deepest sympathy and love,
Stephanie Sellenraad and family*

stephanie sellenraad - October 16, 2025 at 04:36 PM



“ I remember your bright eyes from when you were just a little boy. You truly had a light in you always. You were an incredible mix of your parents.



Through your parents I got to watch you grow up- I only wish I had a chance to get to know you more. I can't even image the size of your loss so I just pray everyone who reads this finds some support.

Your memory will live on in so many of us.

Brittany Zalkin - October 16, 2025 at 03:54 PM

CA

“ I did not have the honor of knowing Riley but his Grandfather Mike is a beloved member of my family of friends. I share the grief of his family. The loss of a child or grandchild is an unimaginable grief. Sending prayers for all the family and friends

cheryl Arena - October 16, 2025 at 08:35 AM

MB

Dearest John and Aimee, Marielisa communicated this heart breaking news to me early this evening. I send you both my love and condolences and will be praying for God to grant you the Fortitude to bear this unspeakable grief. Riley is now living in the very heart of God enjoying what we cannot even begin to fathom. My love to all your family so dear to me. I cannot be with you personally, but be assured that I am with you in spirit, lifting you all in prayer. Con mucho, mucho amor, Madeline Bello

Madeline Bello - October 18, 2025 at 01:41 AM

PS

“ *I was never fortunate enough to meet Riley but I did hundreds of 9 am gym classes with Aimee. Her deep love for her boys and family was obvious through the years. My heart is breaking for her and Jonn and Zach. I pray they find peace with this great loss, and that their memories carry them through every day.*

With sincere sympathy, Pam Spring-Feldeisen

Pam Spring-Feldeisen - October 16, 2025 at 08:27 AM

LM

“ *I was lucky enough to get to know Riley pretty well over the past two years at Indiana University. Riley was one of the nicest guys I knew and an incredible friend. I enjoyed studying for our class exams as well as watching the IU football games together. Riley's presence was a gift and I am grateful for the time we spent together. Rest in peace ☐*

Lance Maugh - October 15, 2025 at 10:47 PM

BB

“ Jonn and Amiee, I never had the chance to meet Riley, but wanted to extend my condolences. My heart is heavy and I am sorry for your loss.

Brian Batts

Brian Batts - October 15, 2025 at 06:48 PM

LE

“ I knew Riley was a special young man when he'd come over to hang out with our son and his buds he would always plop down and talk to my wife Lisa and I to catch up. What a smart, funny and caring person who was lost far too soon. I'll miss his smile and the friendship to my son and our family. May God watch over his family and friends who loved him so much. Keep smiling Riley in heaven and making your mark as always. RIH.

Lawrence Evans - October 15, 2025 at 05:31 PM

LS

“ I was so devastated to hear this news. While I never got to meet Riley, I've known Jonn and Aimee for many years and my heart goes out to all of Riley's friends and family. Sending thoughts and love. May his memory be a blessing to you all.

Lonn Shulkin - October 15, 2025 at 11:38 AM

PS

“ I was lucky enough to grow up knowing Riley and he is one of the greatest guys I’ve ever met. We played soccer together for years and he was the funniest person on the team, was always a great leader, and always knew how to cheer you up when you needed it. Riley is one of those people who would always put you before himself, because that’s just the person that he was. He had the brightest personality and lit up every single room he walked into. I am more than blessed that I can say I knew him and call him a friend and I’m going to miss goofing off on the field with him and making our coach annoyed. Life was always better with Riley in it. Rest in peace, Riley. You will be missed so much ❤️

Peter Sorini - October 15, 2025 at 09:58 AM

MM

“ I was fortunate enough to spend a lot of time growing up with Riley. Even when I moved, he still made sure to see how things were going. Words can’t describe how good a guy he was, and how much he will be missed.

Marco Morrison - October 14, 2025 at 11:00 PM

WS

“ I had the amazing opportunity to play goalkeeper with Riley for 3 years on 2 different club teams and against him during highschool when I was at Dexter. Riley’s positivity and kindness was infectious. The kind of guy that lifted you up no matter the score of the game and whether he was playing or not. He was a fantastic teammate and an even better friend. Rest in peace Riley, you will be missed dearly.

Wiley Smith - October 14, 2025 at 04:47 PM

EC

“ Riley was a phenomenal mentor to me as he was an older guy on the Saline football team when we played together. He always found ways to make me smile even on days it was hard. He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him, including myself. Rest in peace, Riley.

Ethan Cotsonika - October 14, 2025 at 02:19 PM



“ Riley was larger than life during his senior season, Simultaneously helping both the Soccer and Football teams to championship seasons. Every time I saw him he had that million dollar smile. Tragic Loss to his family and friends. Riley you will be missed. Coach Leslie

Al Leslie - October 14, 2025 at 02:10 PM

DG

“ We were devastated to hear of this horrible tragedy. We only met Riley once when he was visiting his Grandfather Mike, and his partner, in South Florida; but that's all it took to know he was a wonderful person with huge potential. May his memory be a blessing to his family and all that were touched by his young life.

Doug Greene and Arturo Castro

Douglas Greene - October 14, 2025 at 11:56 AM

RA

“ So sad to learn about the loss of this young man. My son and he went to the same high school — I even have pictures of him with my son at graduation. May God give resignation and strength to his family and loved ones. Rest in peace.

Rocio Adame - October 14, 2025 at 10:50 AM

AB

“ We were so very sorry and heartbroken when we learned of Riley’s passing. Our son Marcelo went to pre-school with Riley at Tutor Time and then in Saline Schools. I still remember Riley’s Halloween themed birthday parties and when the boys had sleepovers in the summer. Over the years, we have crossed paths with Aimee and Jonn, one of the nicest families we got to know. Both Riley and Zack are such nice young man and we really appreciated getting to know their family. We are truly sorry and have been praying for comfort and thinking of all of you. Sending love, are hearts go out to you.

Ana, Matt, Marcelo and Isabella Barnes

Ana Dora Barnes - October 14, 2025 at 06:46 AM