

Matthew Anthony Piazza



Matthew Anthony Piazza was born on February 25th, 1988, in Syracuse NY to Phil and Darlene Piazza. Mathew, better known as Matty attended school in Tully, and from an early age developed a zeal for sports and in particular a distinct love for skiing. Matty and his older brother Mike Piazza started skiing in the "racing rabbits," a youth ski racing Program at Song Mountain in the early 1990's. They both continued ski racing with the Song Mountain Race Team until they graduated from High School in 2007 and 2002 respectively. Matty's passion for skiing was fueled by a very simple, yet critical mindset of just having fun on the Mountain. Having fun was the key ingredient to Matty's success in ski racing. During his Junior and Senior High School years, Matty qualified for the Junior Olympics competing against some of the best racers in the country to include Andrew Weibrecht from Lake Placid, a 2-time Olympic medalist.

Matt was also an American Patriot who had an unparalleled love of Country. Following High School, he went on to attend Virginia Military Institute (VMI) where he played Division I lacrosse. He started for VMI his freshman year as an attackman, facing some of the most notable lacrosse Programs in the country (Johns Hopkins, Maryland, West Point, and the University of Virginia). Though VMI seldom got the "W" against those power-house Universities, Matty developed a grittiness that served him well in the United States Army. Following VMI, Matt was commissioned into the Army as a Logistics Officer. Matt supported Special Forces in Forward Operating Base Shank in Afghanistan in 2014 and led heavy equipment/tank convoys in Eastern Europe during NATO exercises in 2017. Over his 12 years of service in the Army, Matt reached the rank of Major and earned many unit and individual awards to include a Bronze Star for his bravery in Afghanistan.

Matthew Piazza is survived by his wife Megan and his two sons, Bode and Lyle. As a skier, Matty Piazza is remembered for his wild recoveries on the racecourse, his "go for it" mindset, and his contagious smile that embodied the FUN of skiing. Even while in the Army being stationed throughout the United States, Matty skied whenever and wherever possible. Regardless of the results of the day in a ski race, having a blast on the Slopes with friends was the true priority for Matty, as this beautiful sport of skiing ultimately generated countless memories and lifelong relationships.