



Howard Ryan Brown

December 10, 1956 - November 8, 2025

Howard Ryan Brown had a full, meaningful and honorable life that ended November 8, 2025.

Born to Ralph and Beatrice Brown in Los Angeles on December 10, 1956, he was raised in Los Angeles and Emmaus, Pennsylvania.

He graduated from Admiral Farragut Academy in Tom's River, NJ in 1975. Enlisting in the Navy Reserve, serving eight years, he at one point was the youngest lieutenant commander in Navy Reserve history. He later joined the US Coast Guard Reserves for twelve years of service as a port security specialist. He was called up for active service multiple times, including after 9/11. Between the reserves service and after, he was active in the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Having resided in California, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Nevada, Mississippi, Louisiana, Michigan and Arizona, he had friends everywhere.

Ryan loved boating, flying planes and helicopters, music, motorcycles, participating in Renaissance festivals, officiating weddings, and a good conversation.

His career path always revolved around law enforcement. For over thirty years he wore badges...at the local, state or federal levels. Protecting his family and community was paramount in his nature.

He had multiple advanced degrees in theology and Christian counseling.

Community involvement included memberships in American Legion, the Navy Sea Cadet Corps, volunteer fire fighters, Fraternal Order of Police, the International Police Association, VFW auxiliary, and others.

Ryan was preceded in death by his parents, and his younger son H.R. II (Robert Carlisle.)

He is survived by his wife of twenty six years, Barbara; his beloved daughter, Alison Geyer of Idaho and her significant other, Carlos Martinez; son, Christopher Carlisle of New York

State; and grandson, Franklin Richardson, Jr. in Arizona. He also leaves behind cousin, Jackie Schuster; in-laws Jody and Joe Thomas; and Jeanne Drew, in Michigan.

His life was so much bigger than a few paragraphs. Anyone wishing to honor him is invited to leave a story, memory or picture. In lieu of any flowers, please consider a donation to a police or veteran support organization.

He will be laid to rest in a military cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Private Cremation

Tribute Wall

RB

“ *On Behalf of USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 31-05 Great Lakes District - Western Region, I would like to express our sincere condolences to the family of Howard Ryan Brown.*

Roland Bunton, FC 31-05 GLDWR, USCG Aux.

Roland Bunton - January 02 at 02:01 PM

BA

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Barb - December 18, 2025 at 10:37 AM

BA

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Barb - December 18, 2025 at 10:36 AM

AG

“ *I will never forget the day that I received an email from Ancestry DNA telling me that I had a match that was a parent. I was adopted at birth and Ryan never even knew that I existed. The match was Ryan, my dad!!!! At 37 years old, I finally found out where I had come from. Growing up I had always believed that in the age old debate of nature vs nurture, nurture won.....until the day I met my dad! I am such a “mini me” of him in every way. From our walk to our beliefs and everything in between. And I couldn’t be prouder! Ryan was an amazing human being! And I am so very blessed to have the time I did with him.*

Dad, I miss you everyday. And even though there is a huge gaping hole in my heart from losing you, I know that you would want me to live everyday with a smile on my face and celebrating the time I had for you instead of being sad. I love you so much and I will see you one day when it’s my time to join you.

Alison Geyer - December 17, 2025 at 01:35 PM

GS

My husband Joe and I served with Ryan and Barb in the Coast Guard Auxiliary before they moved to Arizona; and we kept in touch by phone on a pretty regular basis after they relocated. In one of our conversations, Ryan told me he had received some very surprising, and wonderful, news; he was thrilled to discover that he had a daughter he never knew existed. How wonderful it must have been to have had the opportunity to have a relationship with your biological dad. God bless you and comfort you as you navigate these difficult times, and cherish the special memories that were created with your dad.

Gayle Sedlock - January 05 at 09:46 AM



“ 21 files added to the album Memories Album



Sutton Memorial Funeral Home - December 16, 2025 at 06:53 PM