



## William "Tye" Pratt Jr.

February 28, 2022

William Tyrone Pratt was born in Brooklyn, New York on June 1, 1948. "Tye," as everyone knew him, was raised by his mother, Macie. As a boy growing up in the big city, Tye used to play in the streets: uncapping fire hydrants to cool off in the summer, pounding the pavements of street basketball courts, and jumping the roofs of buildings, in all the invincibility of adolescence. Tye took his first job at age 11, working in a local paint store. But he remained a mischievous boy and kept his mom very busy.

When the Vietnam War escalated in '66, Tye, then a young man, enlisted along with a cousin in the US Air Force. Tye went to boot camp in Texas and was later deployed to Vietnam to serve his country. He served two years and four months in the Strategic Air Command unit, until he was injured. The Air Force then sent him home, landing him in California for a short time. Tye later transferred to Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming for final recovery, where he discharged at the rank of Senior Airman.

It was at that time that Tye discovered the quaint college town of Fort Collins, Colorado, where he would find happiness and his forever home. While he did go back to New York City for a few months, per his mom's wishes, he found that the city was just no longer in him, and he returned home to Colorado and the mountains that he loved.

In those early days in Colorado, Tye worked at the Charco Broiler restaurant, first as a dishwasher and later as a cook. Wanting more out of life, he then found work at Teledyne WaterPik, learning everything he could about shipping and receiving and warehousing. Tye excelled in this line of work and would later go on to work at Vipont Pharmaceuticals, LSI Logic, and General Electric/Baker Hughes, in Northern Colorado. Tye finally retired on January 14, 2022, after over forty years in logistics.

Tye was an avid sports fan and loved all the professional Colorado sports teams. He never missed a game for the Denver Broncos or the Denver Nuggets. He spent many a summer afternoon watching the Colorado Rockies baseball games, too. Besides sports, Tye loved his music. He was known to have the house or car bumping with the bass boosted on his favorite songs—lately, from the Heart and Soul station on Sirius XM Radio. When he had free time, Tye also enjoyed spending time with his closest friends. On a hot summer day, he was happiest just sitting around with his buddies, laughing and joking over a cold beer.

Tye fell ill with covid in December 2020, landing him a long stay in the hospital. He fought the odds and beat covid but developed a heart condition from the illness. As big as his heart was, the fight took too much of a toll in the end, and he left us to be with the Lord on February 28, 2022.

His family is especially thankful for the team of doctors who helped him in this last year as he fought the aftermath of covid: Doctors Nilesh Ahuja, Stace Fritzler, James Hoyt, Miho Scott and Todd Whitsitt. With their attentive and compassionate care, we were fortunate to share another year with Tye.

Tye leaves behind his wife, DeAnna Pratt; daughters, Tyne Pratt and Kira Pratt; and granddaughter, Johnna. He was immensely proud of both of his daughters, and he was absolutely tickled that he had gotten to become a

'grandpa'. Tye was cool; he was a quiet, but warm and charismatic soul. He was a loving father and husband, and he will be missed greatly.

A celebration of Tye's life will be held Sunday, March 13, 2022, from 1:00 - 3:00 pm at Windsong Estate Event Center, 2901 Saddler Blvd., Severance, CO, 80524.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAR 13. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

Windsong Estate Event Center  
2901 Saddler Blvd  
Severance, CO 80524  
(970) 686-9690

# Tribute Wall



“ *William "Tye" Pratt Jr.*

---

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *My first opportunity to work with Tye was in 2003. It was our first wall-to-wall inventory count. We were in an old 1980's computer program so we had information in the system and on spreadsheets. It took two days of counting and searching through both systems to do reconciling but we end up with a 95 % count. Tye was disappointed that it wasn't better. However it was good enough the the auditor wrote us a commendation two weeks later that we were the best he had audited in the last two years. And with Tye instituting cycle counts right after to make sure the inventory met his standard, it was also the last time we had to do a wall-to-wall inventory.*

*In all the following years there was never a time that I had an issue or problem to solve around inventory transactions that Tye either put me on the right path or just came up with the solution..*

*Tye was one of the most intelligent, warm and kind people I have known. I will miss his smile and laugh and straight forward advice. The world is a sadder place without him*

*Tim Kennedy*

---

**Tim Kennedy** - March 13, 2022 at 01:57 PM

LR

“ I met Tye when I was 18 & in high school. I was in a program through school where we learned to do administrative & clerical work in class then companies would agree to let one of us go into their office to get some on the job training. So I got to do my internship at Vipont Pharmaceutical that's where Tye was the warehouse manager. Once my work was done & I still had time Tye would ask if I wanted to work in the warehouse for awhile. That's where our friendship began. He took me under his wing & gave me a new experience working shipping & receiving products as well as taking inventory & learning to set up displays & shipping them all over. He ran a tight ship, but all while listening to music, dancing a little & having nicknames for all of his workers. He made the job fun. We remained friends & spoke on the phone every once in awhile, but we always picked up where we left off. He was such a joy to be around & had a big heart. I was sad to see that he passed. Forever in my heart.

---

**Linda (Flores) Romero** - March 08, 2022 at 02:49 PM

DG

“ I met Tye in 1976 when Water Pik hired him to work in Shipping. We hit it off immediately. Who knew a Black guy from New York and the palest White guy in Fort Collins had so much in common. There were many Bronco games and Ali fights. We actually had similar senses of humor. Tye would come over on a weekend and we would listen to music or the Richard Pryor albums that we both loved. Our work relationship was based mostly on insults as friends will do. Tye worked hard in Shipping becoming the person responsible for preparing all International shipments at which he excelled. Tye was a great friend who was always there if I needed him. Unfortunately we had drifted apart the last few years but I was blessed to get a call from him last December and we had a long lunch at the Charco-Broiler. It was great to re-connect. I had no idea I was seeing him for the last time. I wish Deanna and his daughters peace during their grief period.

---

**Dennis Gardner** - March 08, 2022 at 10:25 AM