



James Richard "Jimmy" Pronesti

October 8, 1967 - February 9, 2026

James Richard "Jimmy" Pronesti, beloved founder of "Caffe Piccolo" in Pawleys Island and "Costa Coastal Kitchen & Bar" in Murrells Inlet and a pillar of both communities, passed away unexpectedly on February 9, 2026, at the age of 58. Son of John C. Pronesti, Jimmy was born on October 8, 1967, in Beaver Falls, PA. Jimmy graduated from Rochester High School, PA in 1986, the University of Pittsburgh in 1990, and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Jimmy relocated to the Myrtle Beach area in the early 2000's and opened his first restaurant, "Bella Napoli", learning and refining the skills and ingenuity to delight his patrons with his signature Italian cuisine. Later, in 2011, he opened Caffe Piccolo and in 2016, Costa Coastal Kitchen & Bar, making both locations "the talk of the town" and more than just a place to dine ... a place to feel like part of the family. Known for his proud Italian heritage, warmth, generosity, positive attitude, and friendship, Jimmy treated every customer like a long-lost friend ... even non-Pittsburgh Steelers fans.

Jimmy is survived by his fiancée Carrie Phelan, "son" Anthony "T" Milano, brother Jeff Pronesti, Captain, USN (ret), Aunt Carol Pronesti, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his father, John C. Pronesti in 1998 and brother, John "Jay" Pronesti in 2003.

A celebration of life will be held on Monday, February 16th at Costa Coastal Kitchen & Bar from 4 to 7 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association.

Previous Events

A Celebration of Life

FEB **16**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (Est)

Costa Coastal Kitchen & Bar
4606 US-17 BUS
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576
(843) 584-8322

Tribute Wall

KB

“ *Such a great guy! You will always be remembered. God is with you! Rest my friend..*

Karen Browne - February 18 at 08:28 PM

JO

“ *To Jimmy's family: Please accept our deepest condolences from the Kemna family. We'll be praying for you all to find peace and comfort in these difficult times. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul rest in peace. Peace in Christ, John*

John - February 16 at 10:15 AM

MM

“ *Wow this is such sad news. Jimmy and I were good buds when I lived in Myrtle Beach in the early 2000s. Whether it was watching Steeler games, the Sopranos, or just hanging out, he was always the life of the party. Still remember when he opened Bella Napoli-- He was so happy. Haven't seen him in a long time but always thought if I ever got back to the beach I'd find him and buy him a drink for old times sake. RIP Jimmy. Love ya man.*

Mike M - February 15 at 11:24 AM

MC

“ *Mark Cavallucci purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of James Richard "Jimmy" Pronesti.*



Mark Cavallucci - February 14 at 01:07 PM

MC

“ Mark Cavallucci planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Richard "Jimmy" Pronesti.

Mark Cavallucci - February 14 at 01:07 PM

RT

“ Rodney Thompson purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of James Richard "Jimmy" Pronesti.



Rodney Thompson - February 14 at 11:07 AM

RT

“ Rodney Thompson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Richard "Jimmy" Pronesti.

Rodney Thompson - February 14 at 11:07 AM

BB

“ To Jimmy's family,
Please accept our condolences. We are heartbroken by this unexpected loss. May God help you to find peace during this most difficult time.

Boe and Joanne Bednarz - February 13 at 08:16 PM