



## Matthew Clay Frantz

May 31, 1987 - January 14, 2025

Matthew Frantz, born on May 31, 1987, in Bakersfield, California, passed away peacefully on January 14, 2025, in Bakersfield, surrounded by loved ones. His 37 years were marked by a vibrant spirit, deep connections, and unwavering courage.

Matthew graduated from West High School in Bakersfield with the Class of 2005, where he participated in the ROTC program, igniting his passion for military service. Following graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving his country with dedication and pride. Matthew completed two deployments, first to Iraq from 2006 to 2007 and later to Afghanistan from 2011 to 2012. His time in the Army forged lifelong friendships and showcased his bravery and commitment.

In 2009, Matthew married Amber Carlton, and later that year, they welcomed their daughter, Ariaehna, who became the light of his life. Matthew cherished creating lasting memories with her through camping trips, tubing adventures, and travels to new destinations.

Known for his infectious smile and vibrant personality, Matthew brought joy to every room he entered. His playful spirit and love for adventure were evident in moments like staging paintball ambushes with his uncle or cleverly hiding during games of hide-and-seek. He was a beloved friend to many, forming bonds that felt like family.

In 2019, Matthew faced a battle with colorectal cancer with remarkable resilience, achieving remission before an aggressive metastatic cancer

returned in 2023. He fought valiantly until his passing.

Matthew is survived by his daughter Ariaahna; siblings Caleb Frantz, Rebecca Freiberg, and Marcus Freiberg; mother Kimberly Freiberg; grandparents William and Rose Frantz; and numerous extended family members and friends.

A service honoring Matthew's life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, January 31, 2025, at Bakersfield National Cemetery (30338 E Bear Mountain Blvd., Arvin, CA), with a procession departing from Mission Family Mortuary (531 California Ave., Bakersfield) at 1:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Matthew's honor to the American Cancer Society. Rest in peace, soldier—your mission is complete.

# Cemetery Details

## Bakersfield National Cemetery

30338 East Bear Mountain Blvd  
Arvin, CA 93203

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JAN **31**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

Bakersfield National Cemetery  
30338 E Bear Mountain Blvd  
Arvin, CA 93203  
(661) 867-2250

# Tribute Wall

MR

“ *Martha Contreras Reyes lit a candle in memory of Matthew Clay Frantz*



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**Martha Contreras Reyes** - January 24, 2025 at 06:47 PM

MR

*So sorry for your loss. Prayers for your family. Matthew was a kind soul & his smile lit up the room.*

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**Martha Contreras Reyes** - January 24, 2025 at 06:49 PM

GS

“ *GySgt (ret) Carrie Sullivan purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Matthew Clay Frantz.*



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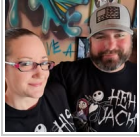
**GySgt (ret) Carrie Sullivan** - January 21, 2025 at 09:36 PM

GS

“ *GySgt (ret) Carrie Sullivan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Matthew Clay Frantz.*

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**GySgt (ret) Carrie Sullivan** - January 21, 2025 at 09:36 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Ashly Pacciorini** - January 21, 2025 at 07:46 PM