

Savanna's Story



The Ocean, whether working, fishing, scuba diving, or hunting for shells & shark's teeth with her mom, was Savanna's "Happy Place" and where she chose to spend her life. A Coast Guard licensed Master Captain since she was 19, Savanna had already traveled the Caribbean, the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the US East coast extensively, while working aboard a variety of boats.

Savanna's dream was to work as Captain aboard a large yacht, similar to the ones on which she had been serving as a crew member. Until recently she has served as a Captain for the family business, while she checked off the boxes of things that would make her resume stand out above others, in search of that "next step" job. Things like firefighting, survival training, first aid/CPR, engine and systems maintenance, navigation, fire suppression systems, advanced scuba and anything else she could learn.

On October 8th, 2022, Savanna Joyce Palesotti, 24, beloved daughter of Captain Tony and Miss Jennifer Palesotti of St Augustine, FL passed away at Southeast Health Systems, Brunswick, GA after she was Med-Evaced by the Coast Guard, from the yacht on which she was working.

Special thanks to Captain Guy Spear for his mentorship and leadership and to the US Coast Guard for their valiant efforts to save the life of this sweet, energetic soul. Many thanks to all friends and family for your support, phone calls and prayers during this unimaginably difficult time.

As a professional mariner, Savanna was very concerned with safety and very respectful and appreciative of those who serve as first responders. To continue Savanna's support of their efforts, we have established a memorial fund with the St Johns County Sheriff's Marine Division, which will help to purchase and maintain lifesaving equipment aboard their vessels. If you are so inclined, in lieu of flowers, please click the QR Code below and make a donation in support of her effort.

"Fly High Captain Savanna"

