



Randy Wittig

October 17, 1957 - March 21, 2026

Randy Dale Wittig (68) passed away unexpectedly March 21, 2026 near Togwotee Pass, WY, doing what he loved the most: snowmobiling, or “sledding,” as it is known to “sledheads” like himself.

Randy was born on Oct. 17, 1957, in Hoisington, KS to Dale & Yvonne Peterson Wittig. Eventually the family settled in Southern California, where he graduated high school in Riverside. He attended Cal Poly Pomona and received his degree in Business Administration. In 1980, he met his loving wife Anita Rizk Verrett, whom he eventually married on December 26, 1997.

Randy purchased Redding Auto Center in 1981, an auto recycling firm in Redding, CA, and built it into a successful business. He eventually sold it to LKQ, a global provider of alternative auto parts, and stayed to manage its auto parts plant until 2007, when he was promoted to District Manager, overseeing all LKQ’s facilities in Northern California and Nevada. In 2010, he was promoted to Regional Vice President, overseeing all operations west of the Rockies, before moving to special projects in 2015, until his retirement in 2020. During his long career, he served on the boards of California Automotive Wholesalers Association (CAWA), Collision Industry Conference (CIC), and National Auto Body Council (NABC).

Randy was a road warrior who never met a motorized vehicle he didn’t like,

whether it was a side-by-side, bike, jeep, dually, sled, boat, or Coach. He was an avid motorcyclist, who loved taking epic rides cross-country, once riding his BMW adventure bike over 10,000 miles to see the Arctic Ocean in Alaska. Randy's true passion was sledding in the powder of Mt. Shasta, CA and chasing snow across Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, and Montana.

During the pandemic in 2020, he met Carol Boers Romero and they quickly fell in love. They shared a spirit for adventure and squeezed everything they could out of the time they had together, traveling extensively in Europe and across the U.S. and Canada. In the summers, they attended Sturgis with friends on their Harley, went camping with family across British Columbia and Alberta, and attended numerous concerts and music festivals from Stage Coach to Aftershock. After all, Randy was a legendary metalhead. They lived in Lake Havasu City, AZ after renovating a house there, and spent winters in Mt. Shasta. He recently joined Mt. Shasta Elks Club, where he and Carol helped organize member nights and charity events.

Randy is preceded in death by his parents, a brother Ricky Dale Wittig, a sister Rhonda Gayle Wittig, and his wife Anita. He is survived by daughter Leisa Verrett Zachry and Toby Zachry of Carlsbad, CA, and their children Kendall & Ava, as well as several nephews and nieces: Ambur Wittig Pitts & Bjay Pitts of Tuscon, AZ; Cristy Wittig Leslie & Ryan Leslie of Tucson, AZ; Michael & Stacie Wittig of Broken Arrow, OK; Angie Howell of Cedar City, UT; Christopher & Amber Tays Wittig of Derby, KS; Jessica Wittig Baugh & Jonathan Baugh of Wynnewood, OK; and numerous grand-nieces and grand-nephews. His family loves him and misses him deeply.

He also leaves behind his loving partner, Carol, her daughter Melanie Boers Buchta of Grand Prairie, AB, and sons Scott Boers of Vancouver, BC and Kyle Boers & Kory Schaff of Los Angeles, CA. Randy's multitude of friends will miss his everlasting smile, generous spirit, and love of adventure. Ask

everyone who knew him: Randy was "legit", to use one of his favorite words. He never said an ill word about anybody, and led from the front, never asking anyone to do anything he would not do himself. Randy will be remembered as an unfailingly kind dude who was always there to lend a hand. He will be missed forever in our hearts, but lives on in the epic stories and memories we shared with him and each other.

Ride on, Randy!

A Catholic mass service and epic memorial will be held at Mt. Shasta Ski Park, 4500 Ski Park Hwy, McCloud, CA 96057 on Thursday, April 2 at 11:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, Randy has asked that donations be made in his honor to the Alzheimer's Association: <https://www.alz.org/>.

Previous Events

Burial

MAR **30**. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (Pst)

Olivewood Memorial Park
3300 Central Ave
Riverside, CA 92506

Tribute Wall

“Part 1: Randy was a man whose life was defined by love, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to the people and passions that mattered most to him.

I met Randy in 1980 when Randy was dating my sister, his future wife, Anita Ann Wittig. Anita and her daughter, Leisa, had the incredible honor and privilege of having Randy in their lives for over 40 years. He wasn't just a stepfather to my niece, Leisa—he was someone who helped shape who Leisa is. He raised Leisa, taught her how to drive—and walked Leisa down the aisle on her wedding day. Those are gifts Leisa will carry with her forever.

At the center of Randy's life was his love story with my sister, Anita—the love of his life. They met in 1980 while working together at the Los Angeles Times in Riverside, California, under the guidance of an early mentor who helped shape their entrepreneurial spirit and path. From the very beginning, they were inseparable—partners in life, in love, and in ambition. Though they did not formally marry until 1997—having spent those years selflessly devoted to helping family members through health challenges beyond their control—they were, in every way that mattered, husband and wife from the start—hand in hand through every chapter of life.

A special and enduring tribute is owed to Anita, whose love, strength, and quiet sacrifices were the foundation of so much that Randy built and cherished. She was not only his partner in business, but his equal in determination, resilience, and vision. From the earliest days of Redding Auto Center, Anita worked tirelessly alongside Randy, helping transform a small operation into a thriving and respected business. More importantly, she helped create a life centered on love, family, and shared purpose. Though Anita passed away in 2022, her presence never left Randy—she remained in his heart, in his pride for their family, and in every success and memory they created together. Their story is not just one of partnership, but of a deep and lasting love that continues beyond this life.

Together, Randy and Anita built not only a life but a legacy. In 1981, they took a leap of faith and purchased Redding Auto Center with just seven employees. What followed was years of relentless hard

work, long days, and personal sacrifice. My niece, Leisa, witnessed firsthand the dedication they both poured into that business—late nights, early mornings, and the constant balancing of family and responsibility. Anita worked beside Randy every step of the way, contributing not only her effort but her strength, resilience, and belief in what they were building together. Through their shared vision and determination, they grew Redding Auto Center into a thriving operation with more than 50 employees over 18 years. Their success was not just measured in growth, but in the lives they touched—employees they mentored, families they supported, and relationships they built that lasted a lifetime.

Randy carried that same passion forward throughout his career. After Randy and Anita sold Redding Auto Center in 1999, he continued to lead, grow, and mentor within LKQ, eventually overseeing large operations and serving as a Regional Vice President across the western United States. He was deeply respected not only for his leadership, but for the way he invested in people—always encouraging, always teaching, always believing in others.

But beyond business, Randy's greatest joy was his family. One of the brightest lights in his life was watching his granddaughters, Kendall and Ava, grow into the intelligent, kind, and remarkable young women they are today. He was endlessly proud of them and saw in them a future full of promise. While my sister, Anita, did not have the chance to witness this herself, Randy carried that pride for both of them, holding her love and spirit close in every milestone. (See Part 2) Yvonne W.

Yvonne W - April 03 at 02:43 PM

YW

“Part 2: Randy and Anita shared a love of life and adventure that filled their years together with unforgettable memories. They traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe, often alongside close friends. They found joy in motorcycle riding, boating, snowmobiling, camping, attending concerts, and exploring new places together. Whether it was time at the cabin in Mount Shasta, houseboating trips at Lake Powell, or vacations in Hawaii, they embraced every opportunity to experience life fully—and to bring others along with them.

Randy also had a gift for bringing people together. Their lives were filled with years of joyful family celebrations—holidays, birthdays, summer gatherings—where laughter was abundant and everyone felt welcome. He loved to host, took pride in his BBQ (especially on his Big Green Egg), and made sure no one ever left his home hungry. His generosity and warmth extended far beyond those gatherings—it was simply who he was.

He was a mentor in every sense of the word—not only in business, but in life. He believed in people, invested in them, and led by example. Through his involvement in industry organizations and his commitment to mentoring others, he left a lasting mark on countless lives.

Randy will be remembered not only for his accomplishments, but for how he made people feel—valued, supported, and deeply loved. He is now reunited with those who went before him—his parents, Yvonne and Dale; his siblings, Rick and Rhonda; and most importantly, Anita, his partner in everything, with whom he has been laid to rest. Their love story, spanning more than four decades, remains a testament to devotion, perseverance, and enduring love. As we say goodbye, we hold onto the memories, the laughter, and the lessons he gave us—and we find comfort in knowing Randy and Anita are together again.

Yvonne W.

Yvonne W - April 03 at 02:42 PM

DR

“ On behalf of the National Auto Body Council, we were honored to have Randy as a colleague and board member. He was a great leader in the industry and a champion for many causes. We’re proud to support the Alzheimer’s Foundation in his memory.

Deborah Robinson - March 31 at 06:37 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Randy Wittig.

March 30 at 10:53 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Randy Wittig.



March 30 at 10:53 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Randy Wittig.

March 29 at 06:26 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Randy Wittig.



March 29 at 06:26 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Randy Wittig.

March 29 at 11:31 AM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Randy Wittig.



March 29 at 11:31 AM



“ A grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Randy Wittig.

March 29 at 10:27 AM



“ You could not ask for a better neighbor and friend. Randy was always looking to help when we needed it. Always plowing our driveway during bad snowfall. Looking after Lou after he had a heart attack last year. We will miss him tremendously. I look across the way at his home and it breaks my heart to know he won't be looking back and waving. We loved to hear his great stories of his recent adventures and the next one he had planned. A very adventurous guy and a heart of gold. We will always remember him. Ginny & Lou Wandro

Ginny - March 28 at 02:48 PM

HC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



HARRY en CAROLINE - March 26 at 01:22 PM

HC

Op bezoek bij Caroline je nichtje, Brouwersdam NL..was een mooi moment om jullie te ontmoeten en te zien...blijft vreemd dat Randy ons is ontvallen.....mooi persoon.

Harry en Caroline - March 26 at 01:37 PM

MY

Randy and I were best of friends. We rode motorcycles, snowmobiles, we both simply enjoyed life after operating businesses for along time in life. He was the dearest fella I ever knew I love him dearly

Mike Yochum - March 27 at 02:04 PM

RP

“ Rob Harlan and Beth Preston purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Randy Wittig.



Rob Harlan and Beth Preston - March 26 at 06:28 AM

YS

“ Randy’s last words to me on text “Bad Assness!”
That’s what he was and how I always saw him.
He helped generations of families be better, and led by being an
example and a pillar of strength. Just...what a great person!! We will
miss you RDW!

YS - March 25 at 09:30 PM