



Adrian Angus

October 19, 1984 - September 18, 2024

Worcester - Adrian Angus, age 39, of Worcester, MA, passed away on September 18th after a brief illness. He was predeceased by his sister, Nikki, in 1994.

Adrian was a dedicated and passionate public defender with the Worcester Trial Office of the Committee for Public Counsel Services since 2011. His commitment to justice extended beyond the courtroom, as he also served as a Legal Training Attorney in the Criminal Defense Training Unit of the CPCS Training Department, where he mentored and guided aspiring attorneys.

An honors graduate of McGill University and Boston University School of Law, Adrian's expertise and dedication to social justice were widely recognized. In 2022, he was honored with the Massachusetts Bar Association's Access to Justice Defender of the Year Award, a testament to his tireless advocacy for marginalized communities. He was also a member of the inaugural 2016 MBA Leadership Academy Class and received the Worcester County Bar Association's President's Award for Service to the Bar in 2021. At the time of his passing, Adrian was President-Elect of the Worcester County Bar Association for the 2025-2026 term. He was widely recognized for his stellar legal mind and ability to relate to people from all walks of life, and across the spectrum of society.

Adrian's commitment to public service extended beyond the legal field. He was an active member of the Worcester Planning Board and served as a Commissioner on Massachusetts' Access to Justice Commission of the Supreme Judicial Court, working to ensure equal access to the legal system for all citizens.

Adrian had a love for history and was an avid reader. His sharp intellect and deep compassion made him a fierce advocate for his clients in the Worcester area and a beloved colleague and friend. His memory was unparalleled, and his institutional knowledge of CPCS, the Worcester legal community, and Massachusetts history second to none. His personality combined the passion of the truest believer with pragmatic wisdom, a unique sense of humor with genuine empathy, and intellectual talents surpassed only by his emotional intelligence. Always smiling, with a loud, infectious laugh and beaming smile, gregarious and always with good cheer to spare, Adrian was a pleasure to be around.

Adrian was universally loved by his friends and respected by his colleagues. Unanimously acknowledged as one of the nicest people, let alone lawyers, one could ever meet, his loss is felt widely and deeply throughout Worcester, the Commonwealth and among lawyers nationwide. Adrian was truly one of a kind and there will never be another quite like him. Adrian was not just a great person, but he made those around him better people through his example, kindness, compassion and his impact. For those privileged to have had Adrian as a friend, his memory is and forever will be both an inspiration and a blessing.

Adrian is survived by his loving parents, Jonas and Elaine Angus of Harvard, MA, and his sister, Sinead Angus of Framingham, MA. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who knew him.

Calling hours will be held in the Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg Rd., Ayer, on Saturday, September 28, from 12:00 noon to 3:00pm. Remarks of remembrance will be held at the conclusion of the calling hours. A funeral Mass will be held at 11:00am on Monday, September 30, in St. Theresa the Little Flower Church 15 Still River Road, Route 110, Harvard, Massachusetts 01451.

For those that cannot attend Adrian's services in person, we will be live streaming the memorial. Access virtually by clicking the following link (no download necessary): <https://evt.live/funeral-adrian-angus>

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to The BU Law Black Law Students Association, The Black Public Defenders Association, The Massachusetts Bail Fund, or Worcester's Friendly House in honor of Adrian's lifelong commitment to justice and service.

Resources for hotels in the area:

www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/bossd-springhill-suites-devens-common-center

www.hilton.com/en/locations/usa/massachusetts/devens/hilton-garden-inn

<https://thegrotoninn.com>

https://www.guestreservations.com/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-leominster/booking?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjwurS3BhCGARIsADdUH5086C5-gg5btbTBUhQyMbLEVRfVhTb0fkuwyqMKIAE16k1C6BFajBoaAnmTEALw_wcB

Previous Events

Calling Hours

SEP **28.** 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home - Ayer
25 Fitchburg Road ~ Route 2A
Ayer, MA 01432
(978) 772-2355

Funeral Mass

SEP **30.** 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Theresa the Little Flower Church
15 Still River Road
Harvard, MA 01451

Tribute Wall

MP

“ 1 file added to the album Adrian Angus



Matt Penzone - December 10, 2024 at 11:02 AM

SA

“ Still can't believe you are gone. You were such a warm soul and always ready to help. Rest well cousin. You will be missed!

samantha - September 28, 2024 at 09:47 PM

MB

“ I was in the Boy Scouts with Angus (as we called him). We earned Eagle Scout around the same time, he was a year above me. Spent a week backpacking with him in New Mexico too. I STILL think of his jokes and the hilarious, wild things he'd say. He mastered self deprecating humor. He also had this whole bit about working at McDonald's and this running commentary about his boss (who had a "ham addiction" and "sweaty teeth" as he put it). He had us all in stitches constantly!

*I think fondly back on our times together and laughs we shared.
Rest in Peace, Angus.*

Matt B - September 28, 2024 at 04:56 PM

DM

“ *Adrian was an amazing friend and roommate. He always had a huge smile, a story to tell, a speech to make. His idioms never ceased to make us laugh. We remember shared birthday parties for Adrian and David at McGill, and many fun times at 3790 Hotel de Ville. He was the best intellectual conversation partner, on topics from politics to philosophy and more. We were so proud of the lawyer he became, and we will miss him very deeply. With love,
David & Chrissy Munroe*



david munroe - September 28, 2024 at 01:43 PM

MA

“ Adrian, I cannot begin to describe the shock and sadness in losing you. You were only ever extremely kind to me, an instantly warm and genuinely thoughtful presence whenever we were together. Clever, witty, and deeply intelligent, you were a role model to me even when I didn't know it. I remember avidly listening to your podcast and aspiring to be as sharp and well read as you one day! It's bittersweet to read your remembrances– you clearly meant the world to your community and made a beautiful impression on so many, personal and professional.

Your memory will definitely live on, in all the ways you touched and inspired us. I will forever cherish the last memory I had with you and our family, smiling big in sweet vacation mode, jovial as ever. Rest in peace, cousin.

Myron Angus - September 28, 2024 at 04:05 AM

MR

“ Michael R. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Adrian Angus.

Michael R. - September 27, 2024 at 06:05 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Adrian Angus.



September 27, 2024 at 12:36 PM

MC

“ Adrian, you were such a sweet lovely baby when i first met you in Sarnia, 39 years ago. The family will miss you dearly. Rest peacefully in the bosom of the Lord.

Your Auntie Mary

Mary Angus C. - September 27, 2024 at 10:02 AM

DQ

“ My deepest condolence to you Uncle Jonas, Aunt Elaine and Sinead.

Although my encounters with Adrian have been few, it was obvious that Adrian had a good spirit. His free heartened nature was infectious and puts you at ease around him. It's sad to know that the world has lost yet another beautiful soul who has been committed to making humanity better. Adrian you will be deeply missed but you will forever live on in our hearts. Rest well cousin.

Much love,
Debbie Quashie.

Deborah Quashie - September 27, 2024 at 07:34 AM



“ It's difficult to believe that you are no more with us. Even though you have gone to be with the Lord, your love will always be here to stay. Adrian, was a loving person, kind and friendly to all. His intelligence and confidence in all his endeavors was admirable. You will be dearly missed and your memories will live on. Rest in peace cousin!

Matthew Quashie - September 26, 2024 at 03:51 PM

JQ

“ Adrian was such a gentleman. My encounters with him were always pleasurable. His confidence and intelligence were admirable. The world around Adrian has lost a gem - the family and the legal fraternity. Your impact will be severely missed. Rest well my dear Cousin.

Joseph Quashie.

Joseph Quashie - September 26, 2024 at 01:04 PM

AQ

“ It was a shocking news to me. You will forever remain in our memories. I remember your first time visit to Ghana. The warm friendliness you exhibited as cousins. May you rest peacefully in the bosom of the lord. Your cousin, Antoinette Quashie Sovereign.

Antoinette Quashie - September 26, 2024 at 12:47 PM

AH

“ 1 file added to the album Adrian Angus



Anderson funeral home - September 26, 2024 at 12:24 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Adrian Angus.



September 25, 2024 at 07:22 PM

BD

“ *I never met Adrian, but I consider him a great teacher of mine.*

Whenever I would begin a new training video and his face would pop up, I knew this was a training video to pay attention to.

I had looked forward to running into him someday and thanking him personally.

While I will not be able to do so now, I hope his family will take pride in knowing that there are hundreds, and there will eventually be thousands, of folks like me who have learned a lot from Adrian. He will be remembered.

- Byron Doerfer

Byron Doerfer - September 25, 2024 at 02:07 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Adrian Angus.*



September 25, 2024 at 08:27 AM

LF

“ *Love, Jamie Bennett and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Adrian Angus.*

Love, Jamie Bennett and family - September 25, 2024 at 08:27 AM

PO

“ I remember Adrian at McGill. He was a wonderful student to talk to, always enthusiastic and positive, and someone with a relentless desire to make a difference. My deepest condolences.

Paul Olio - September 24, 2024 at 03:18 PM

SR

“ Adrian was my instructor for public defender training in 2023. We immediately clicked upon meeting. He was informative, caring, helpful, and had a great sense of humor. He enjoyed our small group of 4-5 people so much he asked to instruct our final class in order to send us off on a good note. Adrian and the CPCS office taught us cross examination and trial prep - because of this he will forever be apart of my practice.

Scott Redmond - September 24, 2024 at 11:49 AM

DM

“ Adrian was so kind, courteous, and caring. He was a wonderful friend who was incredibly devoted to his family and loved to talk about law and history. He was a true gentleman and one of my first friends in law school. I respected him and was lucky to have him as my friend. My heart goes out to all of Adrian's friends and family. I hope that his legacy will continue to inspire us all. May he rest in peace. ❤️

Deborah Beth Medows - September 23, 2024 at 08:03 PM

MK

“ My deepest condolences to you, Jonas, Elaine, and Sinead. I posted the following on my Instagram account and wanted to share it directly with you.

Adrian Angus was one of my favourite people in the world. We worked together as VPs of our student union at McGill for a little over a year, plus all the campaigning that came before. It was easily one of the hardest years of my life and Adrian was steadfast in his commitment to us as a team and the work we did.

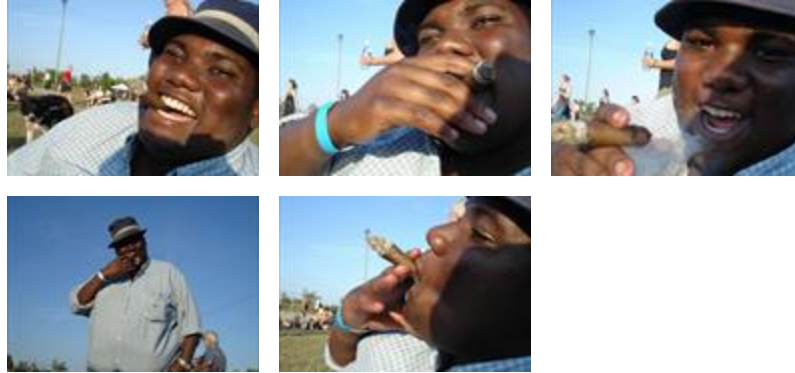
He loved so deeply and kindly, and in ways that were belied by his powerful, bombastic personality. I remember he made us all photo books commemorating our time together because he cherished those days and knew our team was special. He helped me move one time and absolutely never let me forget how many small boxes were involved.

*He used to make me so angry with his belligerent conservatism, and I was so proud of him when he became a public defender because I knew he would be using his incredible mind and skill for urgent work in the racist criminal justice system. He had the most marvelous, outlandish sayings. "The bridges that I burn only serve to light my way" is probably his most infamous aphorism. His most damning insult for someone in a position of power was to accuse them of a failure of leadership. He would deliberately use the wrong name for people he didn't respect. If he **did** respect you, he liked to call you by your full name. He would always text me on my birthday and never once corrected me when I consistently messaged him a day early for his.*

I remember when he messaged me back in 2015 to tell me he liked my Harry Potter podcast. He drove to Tufts when Hannah and I had a speaking gig there in 2016. He told me I'd make him look like a heel if I didn't let him buy us a round of drinks after the talk. That was the last time I saw him in person and I'm gutted that I don't have a photo of us together.

The photos I'm attaching were taken when Adrian and Max got hold of my camera the weekend we all went to the Wolfe Island Music Festival in 2007. I'm so grateful for these goofy pictures that capture Adrian's indescribable light.

He was so beloved, so widely cherished, by so many people. He did so much. He was so good. I miss him so much.



Marcelle Kosman - September 23, 2024 at 06:41 PM

HT

“ *Hamid & Georgia Tavakoli purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Adrian Angus.*



Hamid & Georgia Tavakoli - September 23, 2024 at 03:38 PM

HT

“ *Hamid & Georgia Tavakoli planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Adrian Angus.*

Hamid & Georgia Tavakoli - September 23, 2024 at 03:38 PM

JC

“ *He was the happiest person I met in law school.*

JAMES ROSS CORMIE - September 23, 2024 at 02:56 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Adrian Angus.*



September 23, 2024 at 10:39 AM

JA

“ *My dearest nephew Adrian,*

*I will always cherish your kindness, your radiant smile, and your beautiful spirit. I am forever grateful for the privilege of knowing you. Though the time we shared was brief, it will remain a lasting blessing in my heart.
May you rest in perfect peace.*

*With love,
Aunt Josephine*

Josephine Aryeetey - September 23, 2024 at 02:32 AM

SC

“ I first met Adrian in 2008, in Connecticut. My mother had spoken fondly of her nephew many times, so I was eager yet nervous to finally meet my cousin. At the time, we were both in our early twenties. He was finishing his degree in History at McGill, while I had just completed my Bachelor's in Modern Languages.

Our first meeting was warm and easy. Adrian walked through the door with a big, beautiful smile, and as we started talking, it felt like we had known each other for years. He listened intently, offering thoughtful advice with such kindness. Since he was studying at McGill and I was about to move to Canada the following month for my graduate studies, it felt like fate had allowed us to meet at the right time. I hung onto every word of his advice.

By the end of our conversation, he suggested something I had not considered before — teaching after my graduate studies. Fast forward sixteen years, and I have been a high school teacher for the past twelve years.

Though Adrian barely knew me when we first met, he listened so deeply and somehow understood the perfect career path for me, one I had never imagined for myself. For that, I will always be grateful.

Adrian, your wisdom and your ability to make everyone feel truly seen and heard will never be forgotten. I will miss you dearly and promise to keep your memory alive, sharing stories of you with my children — Kayron and Sasha.

Rest in heavenly peace, dear cousin.

With love,
Shirley

Shirley Carboo - September 23, 2024 at 02:23 AM

CW

“ I met Adrian when he started as a public defender. Later Adrian became a senior mentor for a statewide group of Black and brown public defenders. It was my honor to have practiced with him. His commitment never wavered, and he was a pillar of support to new public defenders. Adrian helped us all be better public defenders and better people. We will continue his fight.

Christian Williams - September 22, 2024 at 04:55 PM

GP

“ Adrian was a kind and wonderful neighbor. Though we sadly did not have the privilege of knowing him well, it was always a joy to speak to Adrian and his empathy, kindness, and warmth were felt in even the smallest of interactions such as saying “hi” and wishing one another a good day. We are humbled and inspired by his commitment to social justice and his dedication to his work as a public defender and are grateful to have known him as our neighbor — his presence made our condo community stronger and a happier place to live and we extend the sincerest condolences to Adrian’s family

Gianna and Paul - September 21, 2024 at 02:53 PM

WW

“ Adrian was always such a happy guy... even when passionately debating how to provide "justice" to all... or even politics. Imagine how unfair life is when you consider the potential of this "not-yet-40-years-old" President-elect of the Worcester, MA Bar Association. Thank you Adrian for the fond memories! -- LOVE YOU ALL.... Ed Wendover

w. edward wendover - September 21, 2024 at 01:13 PM

KK

“ Karen John Logan and Keegan purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Adrian Angus.



Karen John Logan and Keegan - September 21, 2024 at 08:36 AM

KK

“ Karen John Logan and Keegan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Adrian Angus.

Karen John Logan and Keegan - September 21, 2024 at 08:36 AM

SM

“ Adrian was a mentor to so many of us. He always offered a listening ear, and never hesitated to make himself available to others. My fondest memory is co-chairing a MBA subcommittee together and drafting a Statement of Principles for Blacks Lives Matter during the George Floyd protests. He was an impactful leader and great friend. His contributions to this profession and his community is significant. Rest in peace dear friend.

shayla mombeleur - September 20, 2024 at 07:31 PM

SM

Typo correction: Black Lives Matter*

shayla mombeleur - September 20, 2024 at 07:45 PM

CA

Adrian, you ran the race on your own terms, you may not be with us in body, but your spirit and smile alone will forever stay with us. 'Dampirifa due' "Wɔ jogbanj"

Christian a Angus - September 21, 2024 at 03:11 AM

CB

When Adrian was young and lived next to mom (Aunt Mid) he would often drop by and visit her and talk with her. I know how much that meant to her for someone so young to take the time to visit. To me, that always spoke to what a kindhearted, loving ,caring person he was. He will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him.

*My heart goes out to all of you.
Sending love and prayers,*

Christine

Christine Butler - September 22, 2024 at 03:33 PM

JA

“ *Adrian's energy was a gift to everyone who knew him. I was lucky to work with him as part of the Arts Student Union at McGill, and his smile and his commitment to justice still come to mind. I'm so sorry to his family.*

Jacqueline Whyte Appleby - September 20, 2024 at 05:57 PM

MA

“ *I'm a better attorney and a better person because of Adrian. He will be greatly missed by all his colleagues at CPCS.*

Mark - September 20, 2024 at 05:45 PM

KD

“ *Adrian was an amazing nephew . He was a smart and kind young man . He will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him . Rest in heavenly peace .*

Karen Dunn-Peltier - September 20, 2024 at 05:19 PM