

Russell "Rusty" Petty

Ansar's 110th Potentate

Rusty was born on April 23, 1984 in Springfield, Illinois. He is the favorite son on Terry and Susan Petty. Rusty is a Legacy Shriner, following in the footsteps of his father, Terry Petty who served as Potentate of Ansar in 1997. Terry also served as Recorder from 2008-2022 and will receive his 50 year pin during Rusty's year.

Rusty grew up in Springfield, graduating from Springfield Southeast Highschool in 2002. He continued his education at Southern Illinois University – Carbondale, graduating in 2006 with a degree in Journalism with a focus on Integrated Marketing Communications. After graduating, Rusty entered the world of fine spirits, becoming the Illinois and Missouri state manager for Kilo Kai Rum. He worked for a couple different distributors before landing in his current position as Key Account Manager for BC Merchants.

Rusty's masonic career began in 2012 when he became a Master Mason at Chatham Central Lodge 523. He joined the Scottish Rite and the Shrine the same year. He was made an aide by Illustrious Sir Wally Stutz, appointed Chief Aide by Illustrious Sir David Wright, appointed to the Divan in 2015 by Illustrious Sir Chuck McEvers and appointed to the advancing line by Illustrious Sir Rich Smith.

Since joining the Divan, Rusty has been an ambassador for numerous clubs and served as the Temple's public relations chairman. Rusty also serves as the regional director for the Imperial Marketing and Communications Committee and serves on the board of Shriners Children's St. Louis. He is also active in the Ansar Jazz Band, Directors Staff, Capitol City Shrine Club and is an honorary member of the Ansar Legion of Honor.

Rusty is encouraged by his amazing family; his wife Tara and sons Finnegan (7) and Rowan (4). This journey would not be possible without their amazing support and love!