



EXPEDITING AND SMALL LOAD TRUCKING

GROUNDBREAKING NEWS



A STORY OF SERVICE

US Navy Veteran Buzz Holcomb and
The Cuban Missile Crisis

DRIVER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

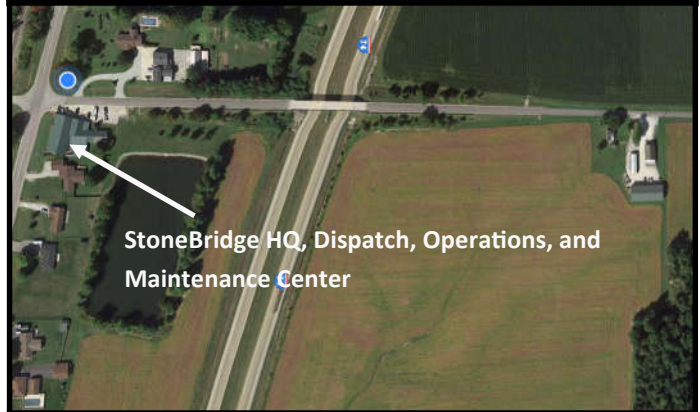
Ryan "RICO" Rouse and
his StoneBridge **WISHLIST!**

BREAKING GROUND AT STONEBRIDGE

Since 1999 when Butch Kennedy founded StoneBridge Trucking with a pickup truck and cargo van, steady and responsible growth was in place until the recession of 2008. It was then that Butch had to keep debt low, while keeping the fleet rolling to see things through until the economy recovered. In 2013, Butch retired from StoneBridge, putting his trust in Garry Hadler to single-handedly move the company forward. In 2016, when StoneBridge CEO Shane Kennedy (son of Butch Kennedy) began working with Garry until he retired in 2017. At this time, StoneBridge was growing significantly and had almost doubled in size. Production was up, the Fleet & Operators had doubled.

“We were outgrowing our tiny space on the corner of 46 and 600E. We needed space, and we needed it quick.” ~ Shane Kennedy, StoneBridge CEO. Around this time, a close friend with a nearby space approached Shane and offered to lease it as their business transitioned. It turned out to be a perfect fit. Featured in the “6th Edition Summer 2018 Newsletter” as “Past, Present, & Future of StoneBridge.” it was the first time StoneBridge made future long-term moves.

PAST



ON THIS DAY

4 years ago



Shane Kennedy is with Butch Kennedy at StoneBridge Trucking.

Mar 29, 2017 · Greensburg · 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻

StoneBridge Expediting and Small Load Trucking is ready to get to work.



In 2017, Shane Kennedy shared a picture on Facebook of the StoneBridge fleet tightly parked and stacked together.

“We were outgrowing our tiny space on the corner of 46 and 600E. We needed space, and we needed it quick.” ~ Shane Kennedy, StoneBridge CEO.

BREAKING GROUND AT STONEBRIDGE

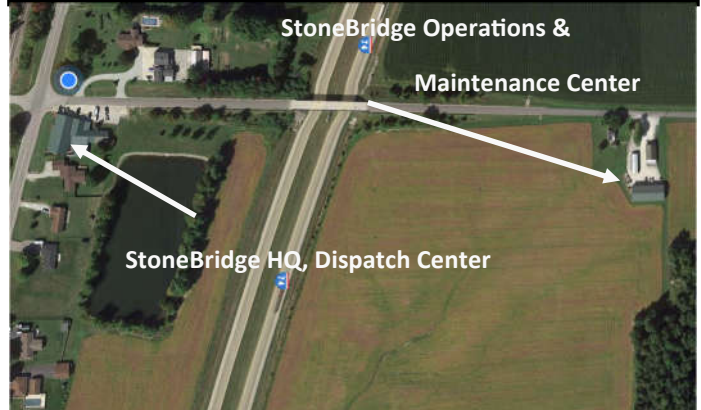
For the last few years, this move bridged a gap and provided a great location as StoneBridge continued to grow. But, it too is no longer sufficient in supporting the operation as StoneBridge continues to evolve. With a fleet of over 18 vehicles and an Operations Team with over 25 members, the StoneBridge Operation has tripled since 2016. ***"The Operation is continuing to grow and advance. Our processes and procedures are more efficient, resulting in an average movement of freight four times that of 2016. The time has been overdue for us to take an additional step."*** ~ Brad Stephens, Operation Manager.

In 2019, the search was on for the next home of StoneBridge Trucking. An evaluation of all surrounding counties and cities took place in search of a facility that would meet the StoneBridge needs.

"We looked everywhere, and nothing fit the blueprint of what we needed."

~ JD McClintic,
StoneBridge Maintenance Manager

Present



Featured in the Summer 2018 Newsletter, this facility has been imperative to bridging the gap to our future.



"The Operation is continuing to grow and advance. Our processes and procedures are more efficient, resulting in an average movement of freight four times that of 2016. The time has been overdue for us to take an additional step."

Brad Stephens, Operation Manager.

BREAKING GROUND AT STONEBRIDGE

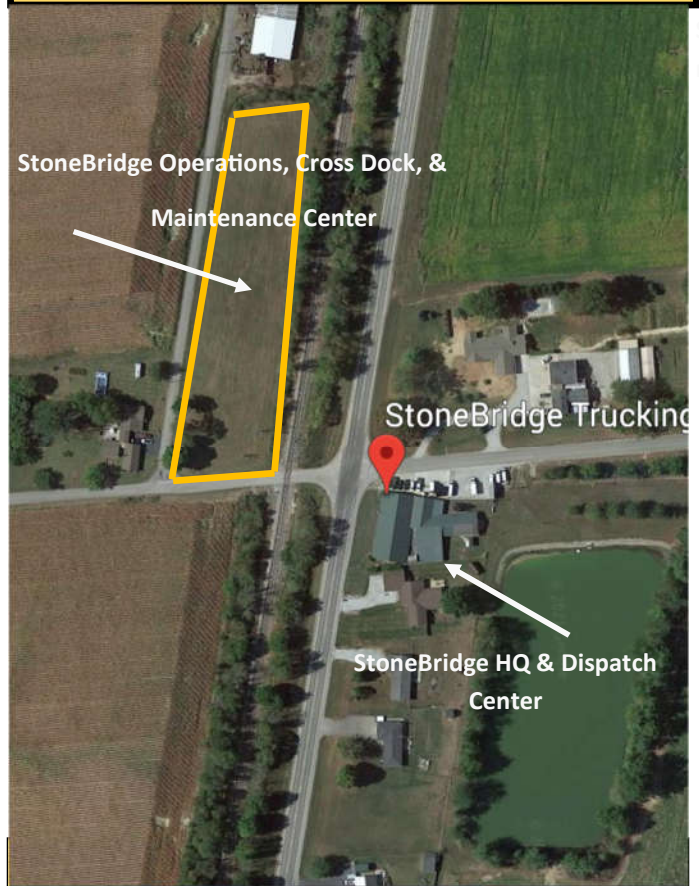
Eventually, Butch Kennedy would be the one to solve the problem . . . across the street. “I had already been in discussion with our neighbors; the land was available, they were willing to sell. All we had to do was cut the check.” At this point, an agreement was in place that building the future home of StoneBridge Trucking was the best option. And, we didn’t have to move the operation. In March of 2020, Butch recalls how the process was about begin, and the goal was to have our new home by August of 2020 UNTIL COVID 19. ***“We were ready to put everything in motion. COVID set the entire process back a year.”***

Finally, after a year of face masks, social distancing, and washing our hands so much our skin painfully dried, ground was broken on the future StoneBridge Maintenance, Warehousing, and Cross Dock. The 1.7-acre lot will support a 3,750 sq ft facility due to be completed in August.

“It’s a Small Building on a Small Lot. But it is BIG to US”.

~ Shane Kennedy

FUTURE



The 3,750 sq ft facility will be situated on 1.7 acres and support all



A STORY OF SERVICE

American
Veteran
Owned



American
Veteran
Driven

StoneBridge is proud of its commitment to the service of those who have served and serving. Our company is owned by veterans and is employed by many who have a history of service to their country.



StoneBridge Trucking is American Veteran Owned – American Veteran Driven. When we have the honor and privilege of bringing an American Veteran into our family, we are getting more than just a "hard worker" or "good person." We are bringing someone who has a proven history of commitment to God, Family, and Country. Over the years, since US Navy Veteran Butch Kennedy founded StoneBridge, our veteran members all share a unique bond: Pride of service, along with a special camaraderie when meeting fellow veterans at StoneBridge. In July of 2019, shortly after Independence Day, StoneBridge would bring another American Veteran into its family whose service in the US Navy was during one of the most critical international conflicts in our country's history.



Buzz enlisted in the US Navy in 1960.

In this edition, we are proud to feature US Navy Veteran and StoneBridge Operator Boyd "Buzz" Holcomb as our "*Story of Service.*"



StoneBridge Operator and
US Navy Veteran
Boyd "Buzz" Holcomb

A STORY OF SERVICE

Buzz was born on April 11, 1943. At the moment of his birth, his father, John F Holcomb, was enlisted in the US Navy and on a ship en route East during WWII as part of the Army Air Corps. The Army Air Corps would later become the US Air Force. He was born in his own home with his Aunt Gertrude present.

Raised in Westport, Indiana, Buzz graduated from high school and enlisted in the US Navy in 1960. He recalls his reason for enlisting as if it was yesterday: *"I knew I was going to get drafted for Vietnam. It was inevitable, and I wanted to be in control of my environment. The Navy seemed like a good fit for me. I wanted to be a Gunner's Mate on a destroyer, but after testing at a high level, I received a recommendation that Naval Aviation was a better direction for me."*

After enlisting in Indianapolis Buzz took off to Naval Station

Great Lakes and would spend Christmas at boot camp as part of Company 608. After graduating from basic training, his father enjoyed his first beer with him while on leave before he boarded a ship and went sailing on a Mediterranean Cruise out of NAS Oceana, Virginia Beach, VA. He would later go to NATTO Jacksonville to study Aviation Administration in 1962. "While at Jacksonville, I was a part of the mission up to 5 times a year while keeping aircraft records full-time. Often, I would get to fly home to Bunker Hill at Grissom Air Force Base and come home for a few days to visit."

He would later receive orders to Norfolk, VA, with an assignment to the VA 86 Attack Squadron as part of the USS Independence. Buzz ensured the planes were ready logistically, mechanically, and administratively as an Aviation Administrator from head to toe. He would give each plane the thumbs from the flight deck before heading to the catapult for launch. It was aboard the USS Independence that he would partake in one of the MOST IMPORTANT MISSIONS IN US HISTORY. *"We met up at Naples, FL with the carrier to load up and go into the Gulf during the CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS. We were lined up ship-to-ship. It seemed like you could walk from Cuba to Key West via naval vessel and not get your feet wet."*



John Holcomb takes a picture with his son Buzz before departing for WWII.

A STORY OF SERVICE



President Kennedy's historic efforts ended the Cuban Missile Crisis by striking a backroom deal to remove nuclear-armed Jupiter missiles from Turkey. In response, the Soviets withdrew their nuclear weapons in Cuba. After the backchannel diplomatic efforts were executed, a nuclear showdown was avoided, and the blockade ended. Petty Officer 3rd Class Holcomb would eventually receive orders to VAW-11 NAS North Island, Coronado, CA from 1963 – 1966. From Coronado, his unit worked aboard the USS Hancock- CVA 19 and would spend nine months in the South China Sea. Due to Vietnam, in December of 1966, he was involuntarily extended for an additional six months until June 6, 1966. His orders were extended because his job was crucial in overseeing the aircraft flying the Vietnam missions from the South China Sea. In June 1966, PO3 Boyd “Buzz” Holcomb was ready to come home and was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy.

Buzz's service to country carried over to his service to community. A resident of Westport, Indiana, where he raised a family with his wife, Buzz admirably served two separate terms on the Westport Town Council where he upheld the same core values he learned in the Navy and applied in life: Honesty, Integrity, and Love of Country, Family, and Community. His work on the town council was summarized by a fellow Town Council member and friend:

"Buzz was a solid and reliable town council member that I had the privilege of serving with for eight years (2008-2015). He was instrumental in making the initial connections needed to obtain grant money for Westport's sewer rehabilitation project in 2012-2013. He cared deeply about his community, and his work ethic showed it."

~ Bryan Gatewood, Westport Town Council, 2008-2019.



A STORY OF SERVICE



Buzz enjoyed his first beer with his father John upon returning from Basic Training.



At StoneBridge, Buzz enjoys the camaraderie he shares with fellow veterans. *"I appreciate the opportunity to continue to work and stay active, meet fellow veterans and community members, and serve our customers. I take the responsibility as a StoneBridge Operator very seriously while enjoying the chance to travel. The Navy showed me the world, StoneBridge is showing me the United States."*

StoneBridge Founder Butch Kennedy echoes this bond: *"It is great to have Buzz working for StoneBridge. As a West Coast Sailor, we both were on ships serving in the 7th Fleet and made the same ports and swap tails of liberty. I always enjoy the conversation."*

Buzz Holcomb. Thank you for your service to your Country, Community, the StoneBridge Family, and its customers!



Driver in the Spotlight

*Behind the company are people.
Know the people - Know the person - Know the company.*



StoneBridge Trucking has a history of hiring people from all walks of life. We take pride in sharing a specific set of core values when hiring to be a part of our team:

Willing to Work Hard
Honesty
Professionalism
Family First

Upon interviewing to join our team, they are informed that they are joining a team with specific values. Each team member is accountable for embracing these values. By doing so, the company can uphold them as a collective unit. StoneBridge has been blessed over the years to hire many who proved to fit the StoneBridge mold. Humbly we admit, we have hired a few that did not adhere to or regard our values and are no longer part of our team. With this, we realize that everyone deserves an opportunity to persevere beyond life's challenges and past decisions that may not fit into the StoneBridge framework. Sincerity and a genuine desire to right one's path will earn you that opportunity.

When Ryan "Rico" Rouse joined StoneBridge Trucking, he was genuine and sincere about embracing these values and wanted a company that would stand by him. ***"Ryan was not a perfect fit on paper. During his interview, we had reason to be hesitant to give him an opportunity. Still, my gut told me he was honest and sincere and wanted an opportunity to prove himself. I wanted Ryan to have an opportunity. We all have needed opportunities to get where we are." ~ Shane Kennedy***

Eight months later, he is the StoneBridge
"DRIVER IN THE SPOTLIGHT"

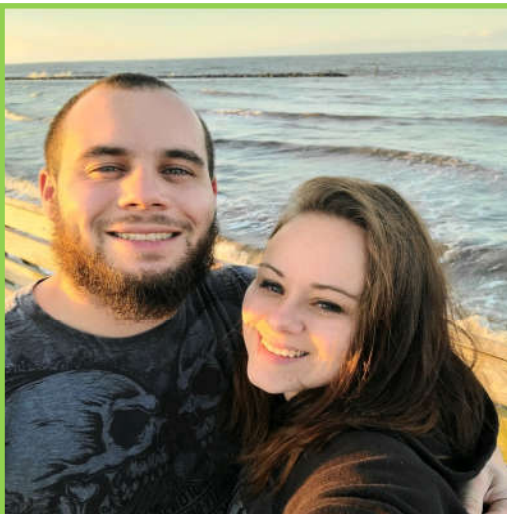
Driver in the Spotlight

Ryan “Rico” Rouse was born on January 26th, 1993, in Fort Myers, FL. The son of Evangelista Neris, his mother Angel, married Richard Rouse on St. Patrick's Day in 1995. Richard would adopt Ryan at the age of 2. They would remain there until Hurricane Andrew devastated the state, and Ryan's mother relocated to St. Joseph, MI to live with her father, Robert, known to Ryan as Grandpa Robert. After spending some time in Michigan, they moved to Connersville, IN, where they would eventually get jobs at Gecom and relocate to Greensburg, IN, where they reside today. Ryan would studied Core 40 automotive technology at Greensburg High School. Ryan's experience in High School presented many challenges.



Ryan (right) poses with his brother Samuel (left) who he had just met for the first time with his nephew Ryan (middle) who was named after him.

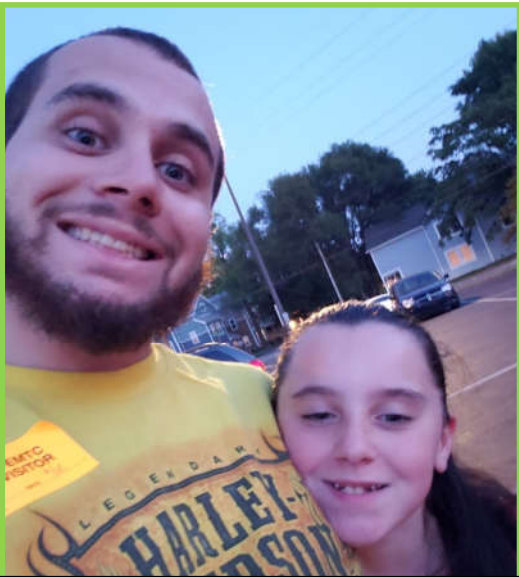
Specifically the challenge of being a young father. On May 27th, 2010, while trying to navigate a high school teenager's path, Ryan's daughter Arianna was born ten weeks premature at 2lbs 6 oz. He recalls this life-changing experience vividly: ***“This was one of the hardest times in my life. I was a high school kid juggling school, working at STI, and living at Riley Children’s Hospital while she was in the NICU for 37 days.”***



Ryan takes a picture with his girlfriend and best friend from High School Tasha.

Day 38 would mark the beginning of a 7-month journey in which Arianna would live with a G-Tube in her stomach. Ryan glows when he discusses how healthy, strong, and intelligent she is today at the age of 10.

Driver in the Spotlight



Ryan's daughter Arianna is as healthy, smart, and strong as ever.

“Absolutely, I would love to go there. I have a brother there I have never met.”



Aunt Maria (left), Ryan, Grandpa Evangelista (right), Cousin Victoria (far right).

After graduating, Rico has had a few jobs on his path to StoneBridge Trucking. He has spent time at Enkei in Columbus, Indiana as well as Gecom. He found a great opportunity at Steel Tech and enjoyed the job until Covid 19 devastated the world population and economy in 2020. After nearly three years at Steel Tech, he was laid off in August 2020, leading him to a conversation with StoneBridge Mechanic JD McClintic. ***“I saw Ryan outside of Autozone in Greensburg one day. We grew up neighbors, and I struck up a conversation with him and recommended he inquire about Stonebridge's opportunities. I knew we were looking for operators, and Ryan seemed to possess the value of hard work that we prioritize. I am proud of him and am glad that he has found a career with us. We all appreciate him very much.”***

When hired at StoneBridge, like most companies, you must go through orientation. Part of that is filling out a biography and personal checklist. An essential part of this is a StoneBridge **"Wishlist"** outlining where you would like to visit in the 48 states. He listed California, Texas, and Washington D.C. After just a short time behind the wheel, a customer requested a long run to Mansfield, Texas. As Ryan's first potential long run, Brad Stephens offered it to him, not expecting the response. Rico jumped at the opportunity. ***“Absolutely, I would love to go there. I have a brother there I have never met.”*** A few days later, he embarked on a journey with two goals in mind: Complete his first extended run for StoneBridge and meet his brother for the first time.

.....next page

Driver in the Spotlight

Ryan enjoyed the experience and smiled ear to ear as he recalled meeting his brother Samuel. ***"I got to hang out with him for a few hours, meet my nephew. He named his son Ryan after me. What an honor. We worked on his motorcycle for a few hours and installed a new windshield before I had to get in the StoneBridge truck and head back home. I cannot wait to go back to Texas."***

A few months later, Ryan was back on the road heading to the East Coast. This time, it was to make an East Coast delivery, with another important stop on the way home. Rico's father Evangelista has family in Philadelphia that he had not seen for over 13 years since his Grandmother's passing. After his delivery, he requested a stop in Philly to spend the evening with his grandfather Evangelista Sr; Aunt Maria and Uncle Miguel. The location was safe and not too far off the path of return. StoneBridge was on board with the opportunity to reunite him with his family. ***"It was as if it had not been 13 years. Puerto Ricans have a reputation for having strong family values. They received me exactly the way I expected. As if I had just seen them yesterday."***

Rico seems to have found his professional groove at StoneBridge Trucking. He was recently recognized as the StoneBridge **"Driver of the Month."** Due to his hard work and financial prowess, he is now a proud homeowner. He and his girlfriend Tasha have moved in together, and he is ecstatic to have her in his life. ***"She has been my friend since Junior High, and she is my best friend. I consider her son Aidyn my own"***. His professional and personal life are in a good spot. He is taking advantage of the opportunity StoneBridge has given him by working hard, being honest and professional, and putting his family first. Along with reuniting with his loving family, he has also visited another love almost 30 times.

"Since joining StoneBridge, I have visited approximately 30 Harley dealerships. StoneBridge has given me a home, a career, and another family. I love it here and am going to continue to work hard and see where my career can go with StoneBridge."

Ryan Rouse has a great story to share, and that is why he is the StoneBridge ***"Driver of in the Spotlight."***



Featured left to right: Logan, Aidyn, Ashlynn

WHAT DOES **STONEBRIDGE** DO?

**EXPEDITING - EXPRESS - HOT SHOT - DEDICATED -
PREMIUM LOGISTICS - LTL - CUSTOM COURIER SERVICE -
LIFTGATE SERVICE - OVERNIGHT TRUCKING**

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CARRYING UP TO 4000lbs**

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- Pay based on experience, licensing, and load types.

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