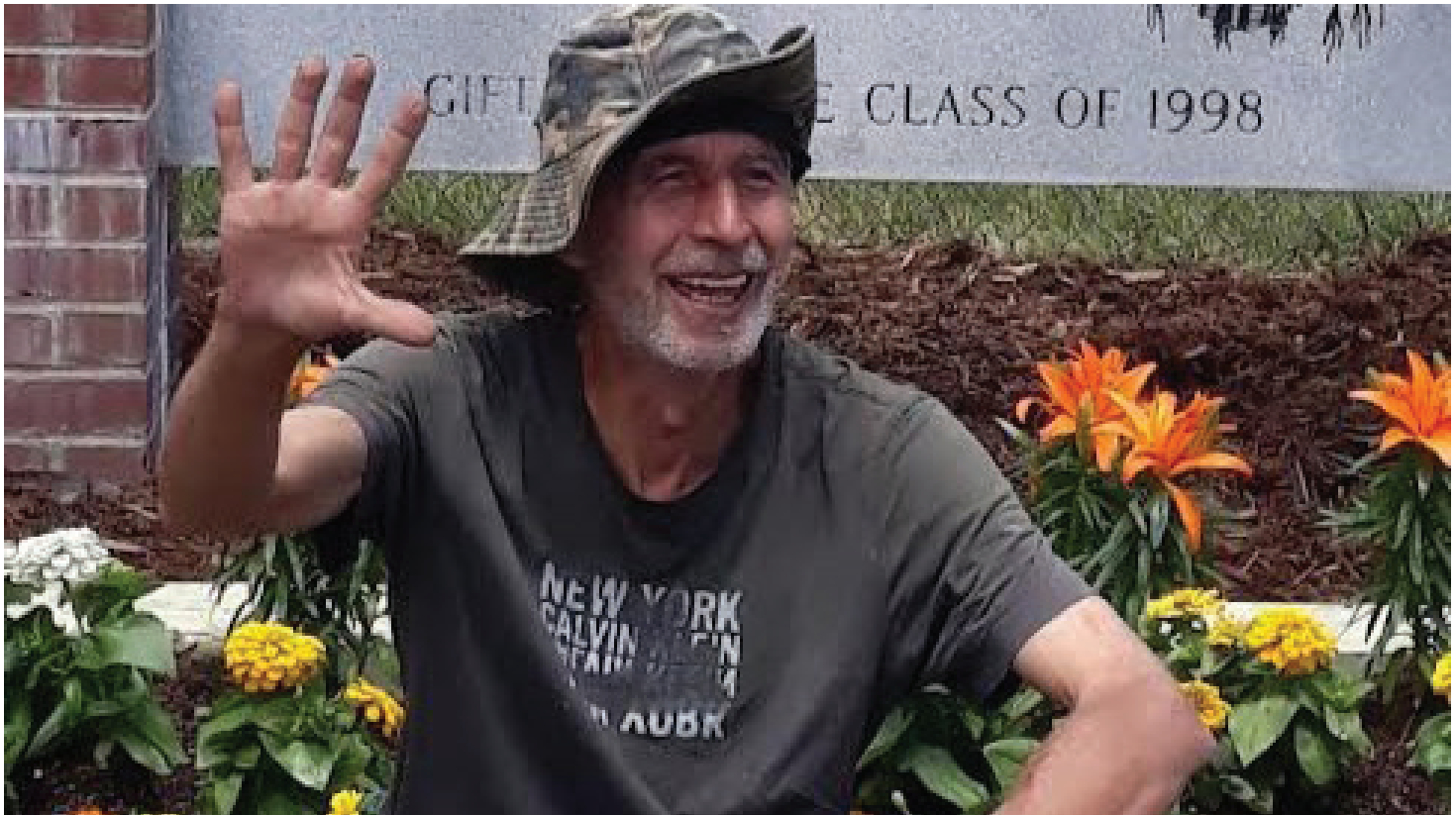


REMZIJA CURIC | 1959-2022



‘HE JUST LOVED BEING HERE’

Custodian remembered for dedication and demeanor.

by Mae Bryant and Anna Olson

Picture Remzija Curic in your mind, and it’s likely you see the beloved custodian grinning from ear to ear. In the halls, the cafeteria, even outside in the cold, which he hated, Curic was known for always working with a smile on his face.

Curic, employed at Arapahoe for 17 years, died from a heart attack at age 63 on Oct. 18, 2022, sending shockwaves through the community.

Brian Ceriani, one of the school’s assistant principals and head of

student services, oversees the custodial staff and says he had a close relationship with Curic.

“He was a very happy person – one of the happiest people we probably have in the building. He never had a negative thing to say, and was never not laughing,” Ceriani says. “I don’t remember a time when he was even sad. He just loved being here.”

Fabian Llerenas, head of custodial staff, worked with Curic since 2005. “When I first started working with him, his English wasn’t great, but he was a man that came from Bosnia,”

he says. “He was a man that appreciated life, in the sense of just being free.”

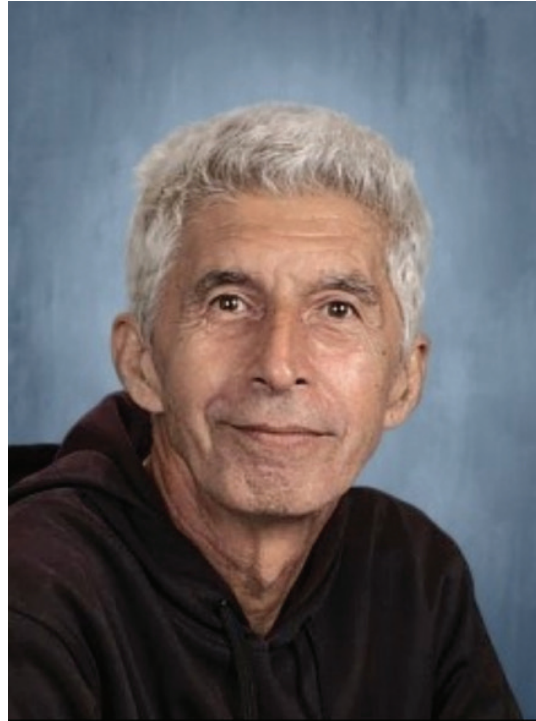
Principal Natalie Pramenko says she’ll remember how Curic was quick to respond to any request.

“I feel like I had a very positive working relationship with him,” she says. “He would do anything for anyone at the drop of a hat. He was willing to support everyone here.”

Curic leaves behind twin sons, both high school students in the Littleton school district. Llerenas says he

“While his boys were his first love, this school was his second love.”
~Brian Ceriani

“
(Custodians are) highly intelligent, passionate people who are as important to our school as anybody else. And if you always remember that, I think Remzija, he'd be smiling wherever he is.”
~Fabian Llerenas



AHS staff and faculty share stories about Curic

“I saw Remzija at the same time every morning, turning on all the lights with the same routine he does every morning, always saying, ‘Hey buddy!!’ with his happy voice. He was always just taking life in a positive way, always moving forward.”

~Mario Esquivel,
Campus Supervisor

“I will never forget the year he had his twins and our staff threw a baby shower. His face was so excited and just showed true gratitude.”

~Natalie Pramenko,
Principal

“He brought the books he would read and talked to me about them and made me look forward to reading them.”

~Steve Miles,
English teacher

“Every day I came into this building, he greeted me with a smile, waved, talked to me. He just made me feel comfortable and at home.”

~Jessica Comp,
English teacher

hopes the community will keep them in their thoughts.

“His kids are young and to me, as a father, I would almost imagine anything to help them,” he says. “Not necessarily money. But maybe just reaching out sometimes.”

Llerenas stresses that Arapahoe’s maintenance crew has more to offer than often meets the eye.

“They bring more than just cleaning the building,” he says. “They’re highly intelligent, passionate people who are as important to our school as anybody else. And if you always remember that, I think Remzija, he'd be smiling wherever he is.”



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~Fabian Llerenas



Scan the QR code to donate to a Go-FundMe account to help support Curic’s family.