

A bright light in the Apitherapy and beekeeping world was extinguished prematurely with the death of Craig Byer due to injuries sustained from a motorcycle accident near his home in Huntington, New York. Craig lived fiercely and passionately as an Apitherapist, Beekeeper, friend, father, colleague and AAS board member where he infused fresh energy, enthusiasm and innovative ideas. His larger than life personality was infectious and his love for the honeybees and sharing their medicine ran deep. While actively involved with the AAS, Craig worked hard to promote Apitherapy attending every Charles Mraz Apitherapy Course and Conference dating back to 2009 and generously donating his time and resources to the AAS. He also enthusiastically participated in various workshops that the AAS offered in different parts of the country in addition to appearing on Martha Stewart for an Apitherapy segment. Craig jumped wholeheartedly into every honeybee related aspect whether it was collecting wild swarms, bringing home pieces of tree trunks containing a hive, setting up bee yards all over Long Island and collecting wasp nests for anti venom production. He had found his calling and his dedication and generous spirit was always appreciated. You are missed Craig, already and forever.

A very special thank-you to Master Beekeeper Richard Blohm of Centerport, NY, Craig's beekeeping teacher and mentor, and all the students from the advanced beekeepers class for their generous contributions. Craig was an active and integral member of this class often hosting the meetings at his home and place of business.

Craig's Dad, Martin Byer, has asked that donations be made honoring Craig's commitment and work with Apitherapy and the honeybees to the AAS online or by check to 15 Heights Rd., Northport New York 11768. Please be sure to mention Craig's name so we may say thank-you and let his family know.

-Frederique Keller, L.Ac.
President, American Apitherapy Society