

Bryant Rutledge

Birthday: [REDACTED]

Innovation Project Leader and CoE Manager
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Bryant Rutledge is a seasoned professional with a rich background in military service and manufacturing. As a Senior Circular Solutions Project Leader, he is a Certified Six Sigma Black Belt and Project Management Professional, bringing a wealth of experience to his role at Eastman.

His journey began in the United States Air Force, serving as a military police officer and achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant Select (E-5 select). His career at Kennametal was marked by continuous growth, taking on roles such as CNC Operator, Group Leader, Engineering Technician, Area Supervisor, Lead Pressing Engineer, and various interim positions. His hands-on experience in manufacturing plants has given him a comprehensive understanding of the industry.

Bryant obtained an Associate of Science in Engineering Technology from Northeast State Community College and a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology Engineering from East Tennessee State University. He has also attended Villanova to meet the requirements for testing for his PMP Certification, further demonstrating his commitment to professional development.

Contact Info & Biographies – Class of 2025

Bryant is married to Lindsay, a compassionate Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) who takes great pride in caring for her patients. They have three children: Jasmine (22), Bryant Jr. (13), and Ava (9). His active involvement as a small group youth counselor and member of the praise team speaks to his commitment to service and faith.

Bryant's philosophy on life emphasizes the importance of focusing on what we can control and responding positively to the challenges we face. He believes in being the best version of ourselves every day, regardless of external perceptions. His approach to leadership and personal growth is grounded in this mindset, making him a respected figure both professionally and personally.

Community Involvement

Bryant Rutledge is actively involved in his community, contributing his time and expertise to various organizations and initiatives. He serves on the **UW Children and Youth Vision Council**, where he helps shape the future for young individuals. As the **EVETs Transition Assistant Lead**, Bryant provides guidance and support to veterans transitioning to civilian life.

His leadership skills are further showcased as the **Fun Fest Allandale Family Picnic Committee Chair** and the **Fun Fest Event Committee Chair**, where he plays a pivotal role in organizing and executing community events that bring joy and entertainment to families.

Bryant's passion for mentorship and youth development is evident in his roles as a **Small Group Leader** and **Worship Leader** at Christ Fellowship. He also dedicates his time to coaching various sports, including softball, baseball, basketball for **Kingsport Parks and Rec**, soccer for **Tri-Cities United**, and serving as an advisor for **Kingsport Tribe Football and Cheer** and the **Lynn Garden Pee Wee Football League**.

His commitment to fostering a sense of community and encouraging active participation in sports and faith-based activities makes a significant impact on the lives of many in the Kingsport area. Bryant's involvement is a testament to his belief in the power of community service and the positive influence it can have on both individuals and society as a whole.