

Family, friends mourn passing of prominent Coachella Valley political insider

COLIN ATAGI • THE DESERT SUN • MARCH 19, 2010

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Friends and family members tonight are mourning the death of Barry Nestande-- the brother of state Assemblyman Brian Nestande -- who served as chief of staff for Riverside County Supervisor John Benoit. He was 49.

ADVERTISEMENT Barry Nestande passed away at John F. Kennedy Memorial Center in Indio just after 3 p.m., Benoit said tonight.

Nestande was riding an exercise bicycle at World Gym in La Quinta when he may have suffered a heart attack, the supervisor said.

Barry Nestande, who worked for and with many Coachella Valley politicians throughout his career, and wife Marrilee were married for seven years. He had a stepson, Tyson, 21 and a son, Brett, 6.

His brother, Brian Nestande, could not be reached for comment tonight.

Family and friends were reportedly gathered together tonight at Barry Nestande's home in Indio.

Details on funeral services are pending.

Read more in tomorrow's Desert Sun.

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Barry Nestande, who appears in this 2004 Desert Sun file photo, died this afternoon. He was 49, family members said. (Desert Sun file photo)

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