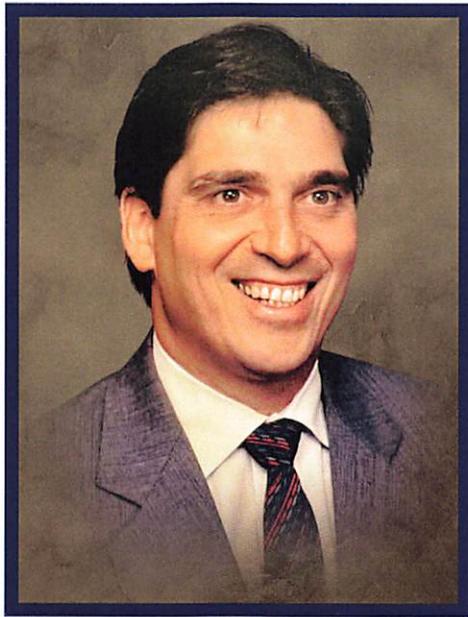


CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



*Gregory Keith Laney*

May 5, 1947 - November 8, 2025

SERVICE

Friday, November 21, 2025

3:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church

303 North Avenue C

Elgin, Texas 78602

Pastor Amy Meyer, Presiding

Gregory Keith Zaney, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, attorney, coach, and friend, passed away suddenly from heart failure at the age of 78 on Saturday, November 8, 2025.

Born in Pittsburgh, PA, Greg's sharp intellect and sense of justice led him to pursue a law degree from St. Mary's University, launching a remarkable 50-year career as a board-certified criminal defense attorney. Throughout his career, Greg was known not only for his legal acumen but for his unwavering compassion and his fierce commitment to fighting for the rights of others. His colleagues and clients alike admired his integrity, humor, and genuine care for people from all walks of life.

As he approached semi-retirement, Greg found the California coast home, devoting himself to his art and poetry alongside his beloved wife, Kathryn. Together, they traveled across the country in search of the next best meal, walking along the beach, or visiting an art gallery. Unsurprisingly, Greg found the best in every experience, rain or shine.

Greg was truly one of a kind—a man whose humor, warmth, and personality filled every room. Those who knew him best recall his quick wit, his gift for storytelling, and his ability to find something worth celebrating in every moment, big or small. Beyond his professional life, he generously gave his time, coaching youth basketball, football, and soccer for over 20 years. He also volunteered within his community to help the underprivileged.

A lifelong sports enthusiast, Greg was a born athlete who played college football, ran marathons, and loved nature. He found joy in cheering for his beloved Pittsburgh Steelers, San Antonio Spurs, and the University of Texas Longhorns. He shared that passion with his children, encouraging a love for competition and perseverance.

Above all, Greg cherished his family. He was deeply devoted to his wife Kathryn, with whom he shared over four decades of love, laughter, and adventure. Together, they built a home filled with warmth and celebration. Greg took immense pride in his children—Margot, Gregory II, Matthew, and William—and treasured every moment spent with his grandchildren: Zane, Max, Octavia, Ariel, Zara, and Lukas.

He was preceded in death by his father, Otto; his mother, Emily; and his son, William, whose memory remained close to his heart throughout his life.

Greg's legacy is one of compassion, humor, creativity, and love. A celebration of Greg's life will be held on Friday, November 21, 2025, at 3pm, located at Elgin Presbyterian Church, with a reception following. His family and friends will gather to share memories and honor his remarkable journey. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that those wishing to make donations make them to a charity of their choice.

## *I Remember*

I remember the scent of Nona's homemade soup,  
I can remember the squashing of grapes on the homemade press  
of Nono's, making wine in the cellar as a young child.

I remember the bitter taste of the wine as the old-time Italians  
drank.

I remember football and baseball out in the streets and dodging  
cars.

I remember pretending to be a Pittsburgh Pirate and hitting the  
winning home run at Forbes Field.

I remember the vistas of Grandview Avenue and feeling  
suspended over the Golden Triangle by the overlooks.

I remember the Nuns at St. Mary's hitting me with a ruler.

I remember the love of the Simplistic Church of St. Mary's.

I remember the old radio singing Italian operas in my early  
childhood.

I remember Lavolas Farm in Chicken Hill and grandeur of parties  
and Italian weddings.

I remember being happy living on Mount Washington with the  
inclines going up and down the mountain in its rhythmic climb.

I remember the pallor of gray snow falling in early winter. The first  
flakes holding a mystical grip of fascination.

I remember the eternal gift of love my Italian family passed on to  
me.

I will always remember Grandma Zaney who took me to  
Wildwood, New Jersey every summers and walking the boardwalk.

I remember everyone speaking Italian.

I remember the sharp, surreal pain of losing NONO.

I remember the knock on my dorm room door at college and not  
wanting to believe that life is an end game.

And then NONA, and Grandma Zaney.

And my Mom, who was full of life and creativity.

I remember Emily, who created my soul and love of life.

I remember never being the same and drinking.

I remember someone saying, "Don't ask why."

## *Peace*

A river of enchantments and  
sweet moons and wondrous creatures  
no abuse trays of food for all  
eternal angels no one in cages  
freedom!

endless compassion souls singing, no wars  
acceptance for our cosmic spirituality  
differences dissolved once and for all  
our laughter embraced by all things living  
endless hugs, color but no separation of color  
imagine that!

gratitudes and blessings, no negative thinking, doing, or  
speaking connecting through doing its about love  
I am peace



## *Tapestry of the Forests*

Wandering through the forest enhances my senses  
Away from the maze of electronic nonsenses.  
Capture frames of falling leaves that eventually  
become mosaics of the trees.

How lucky to be in the forest. Come to me silence of secrets  
The wind whistling its tunes.

I know I will be like the leaves that falls and be doomed.  
I feel the cool moist earth, this is the end before my rebirth.  
So i say to all before you pass, go into the forest as your last Task  
and the tapestry will forever last.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Sentences.....Pastor Amy Meyer

Prayer of Saint Francis Of Assisi.....Pastor Amy Meyer

### *Remembering Greg*

Obituary & Psalm 23.....Pastor Amy Meyer

Shared Stories.....Ben Blackburn

Poetry "Peace".....Margot Witteveen

Shared Stories.....Dan Rizzo

Shared Stories.....Adam Bernstein

Poetry "Poeticia".....Pastor Amy Meyer

Shared Stories.....Matthew Zaney

Moment of Silence.....Margot Witteveen

Benediction.....Pastor Amy Meyer

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The family of Greg Zaney wishes to express heartfelt gratitude for the many acts of love, kindness, and prayers shown during this time of bereavement. A special thanks to Pastor Amy Meyer and the First Presbyterian Church of Elgin.

## INTERMENT

Elgin Cemetery  
901 West 2<sup>ND</sup> Street  
Elgin , Texas 78621

Professional care and services entrusted to:



**ELGIN** | 712 N. Ave C  
**FUNERAL HOME** | 512-281-5697  
[elginfuneralhome.net](http://elginfuneralhome.net)

*Service and Compassion from a Family that Genuinely Cares*