

William Eugene Leyendecker

February 11, 1945 - January 31, 2014

It is with great sadness that the family of William Eugene (Gene) Leyendecker announces his passing after a brief illness on January 31, 2014, at the age of 68 years. Gene will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 45 years, Kathie, and their two children, Stephanie (Richard) Salazar of Castle Rock, Colorado and CJ (Tiffani) Leyendecker of LaGrange, Kentucky. Gene will also be fondly remembered by his two precious granddaughters Zoe Kathleen Salazar and Mackenzie Grace Leyendecker; by his mother Hivana; by his brother Albert (Ann) Leyendecker; his twin brother Jerry (Gwenda) Leyendecker; his sister Karen Padgett and their families. Gene was predeceased by his father Philip Leyendecker. Gene was born in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma on February 11, 1945 where his father was serving in the U.S. Army. They moved to Las Cruces, New Mexico where Gene attended school and earned a BS degree in Civil Engineering from NMSU in 1969 and a MS degree in Water/Wastewater Engineering in 1973. Gene's first engineering job was in Los Angeles, California working for the County Sanitation District. After two years, he moved back to his beloved New Mexico and settled in Albuquerque. Over the next 43 years, he worked for himself, private consultants, PNM, and the City of Santa Fe in water and wastewater management and design. Gene was a member of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, and was an usher at the 10 o'clock Mass for many years. He was a loyal member of the Knights of Columbus serving three terms as Grand Knight and was a member of the Fourth Degree Assembly. Gene will be remembered for his love of life, his

generosity, his kindness and his sense of adventure. He was an airplane pilot, a sponsor of Little League teams, timer of swim meets, maker of kites, and judge of science fairs. He loved being on or near the water, and sailing was one of his favorite pastimes. He was a voracious reader of all things historical, loved to play chess, loved to travel, and loved spending time with his grandchildren flying kites, fishing, and reading them Dr. Seuss books. He was the NMSU Aggies most loyal fan even in the hard times. A Visitation will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at FRENCH – Lomas. Rosary will be recited on Friday, February 7, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Lomas and Tennessee with Deacon Jack Granato Reciting. Mass will be celebrated on Friday, February 7, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of the Assumption Church with Fr. Edward Domme, Celebrant. Interment will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Albert Leyendecker, Jerry Leyendecker, C. J. Leyendecker, Albert E. Leyendecker, Richard Salazar, and Chet Markham, Rick Hobson and Gil Gallegos. In lieu of flowers, donations may be given in Gene's memory to a favorite charity.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Calvary Cemetery

1900 Edith Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 6. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

FRENCH Funerals - Cremations (Lomas)
10500 Lomas Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112
(505) 275-3500
<https://www.FrenchFunerals.com>

Rosary

FEB 7. 10:30 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church
Lomas and Tennessee
Albuquerque, NM

Funeral Mass

FEB 7. 11:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church
Lomas and Tennessee
Albuquerque, NM

Tribute Wall

CL

“ As I sit in the office that Gene once occupied at the Southside Water Reclamation Plant, I remember the many times our paths crossed both as a friend and colleague. It was Gene who hired me in December 1982 when I needed a job. It was Gene who hosted the Redskins "hogs" Superbowl party in January 1984, and by the way, that was the last time I suffered through a Superbowl game when my team really got whapped. It was Gene, working as Division Manager for Albuquerque's Wastewater Utilities Division whom I had the privilege to serve when I worked as a private consultant.

His passing leaves an empty spot in my life. I am truly sorry for your loss.

Charlie Leder

Charles S. Leder - February 11, 2014 at 10:46 PM

MM

“ Kathie, Stephe & C.J. -- I saw in the paper that Gene had passed. It's been years since we were neighbors in the Mark Twain area and Stephe babysat for us and Adam and C.J. were friends. You all were such a wonderful family, sharing much love. I am very sorry for your loss.

Marian Matthews

Marian Matthews - February 11, 2014 at 10:19 AM

MN

“ Dear Kathie
This is such a very hard time but please know
that our prayers are with you and your family.
Mary and Hilary Noskin



Mary Noskin - February 10, 2014 at 08:53 PM

EM

“ Kathy, we are so sorry to hear of loss. In are thought and prayers.

Ed and Sharon Mata

Ed and Sharon Mata - February 10, 2014 at 03:42 PM

TT

“ Gene will be sorely missed. He was a great guy and when we
worked together we had great times. He made me laugh. Mary Ann
and I send our condolences. We just heard about Gene's passing
yesterday. It is always sad when a great guy passes and he was
one of the great ones.

Terry Tobel - February 10, 2014 at 07:28 AM

D.

“ David . purchased a sympathy card for the family of
William Eugene Leyendecker.



David . - February 09, 2014 at 10:57 PM

PD

“ Dear Kathie,
Please accept my condolences. My thoughts are with you and your family at this difficult time. I understand how difficult and unexplainable your loss is.
Wishing you strength and healing,
Paula Donahue

Paula Donahue - February 07, 2014 at 03:55 PM

JB

“ Kathie---I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and I hope you and your family can make your way through this difficult time.
Fondly, Janet Blair


Janet Blair - February 07, 2014 at 12:20 PM

KP

“ Kathie, our thoughts are with you and your family and friends as you gather today to honor Gene's life. God bless you.



Kati and Gene Passariello - February 07, 2014 at 11:43 AM


Christiana
Burk

“ Kathie, we were so stunned to hear of Gene's passing. It brought back so many wonderful memories of fun times with you and your family. Sending love to you all.
Bill & Chris Burk

Christiana Burk - February 07, 2014 at 09:54 AM

Fran
Ferguson

“ *Kathie, We are very saddened to hear of your loss. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. We hope that you find comfort in knowing that someone so special will never be forgotten. May the Lord look after you in these difficult times. Love ya, James & Frances Ferguson*

Fran Ferguson - February 07, 2014 at 12:28 AM

MC

“ *So sorry to learn of Gene's passing. My thoughts and prayers to you and your family. Mary Cox*

Mary Cox - February 06, 2014 at 01:03 PM

AW

“ *Thinking about Kathie and so sorry for your loss.
From Arthur Waskey*

Arthur Waskey - February 06, 2014 at 12:09 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of William Eugene Leyendecker.*



February 06, 2014 at 11:06 AM

PL

“ *Patty Lutsch lit a candle in memory of William Eugene Leyendecker*



Patty Lutsch - February 06, 2014 at 10:54 AM

PL

C.J., I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Patty Lutsch / Sam Swope Cadillac

Patty Lutsch - February 06, 2014 at 10:55 AM

RA

“ *Kathie ... I was stunned to read that Gene had passed. I can't even begin to imagine the sorrow you and your family are feeling. I know that your 45 years together are overflowing with many joyous memories. My hope is that your time together provides some comfort to your hurting heart. Love like you and Gene have is never-ending and you will be together again. Hope you remember me from our days at NMSU in Garcia Hall and later when you were at the Balloon Fiesta. Sending many thoughts and prayers your way. Rosemary Alvino-Ditmore, Sierra Vista, AZ*

Rosemary Alvino-Ditmore - February 06, 2014 at 02:24 AM

AA

“ *Kathie,*

I am so sorry for the loss of your beloved Gene. We are sending many hugs, prayers and lots of love to you and your family to get you through this time. Thinking of you, dear friend...

April Anaya - February 05, 2014 at 06:06 PM



“ *Kathie, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May wonderful memories carry you through this difficult time. Best Wishes, Doug Gantt*

Doug Gantt - February 05, 2014 at 04:53 PM



“ *Kathie: Gene was my dear buddy, since college and through our careers. We shared so many good times and probably just as many rough times. I am so sad and will miss my buddy forever. We finally retired and left the crazies behind. My deepest sympathy to you and the family he loved so much. So proud of his children and his beloved grand daughters. It's an honor to be a pallbearer.*

Gil Gallegos

Gilbert Gallegos - February 05, 2014 at 02:41 PM



“ *I went all through school with Gene and Jerry, and was saddened to hear of Gene's passing from Hank Nusbaum. I remember Mrs. Crosno's class in third grade, and again in seventh, and I remember dancing the Mexican hat dance with Gene and Jerry in fourth grade for a PTA pageant. Summers we spent riding up and down Brown St. in my horse-drawn buggy with Karen and the twins, and having milk and cookies after in the Leyendecker home. None of us came from wealthy families, but we had a rich childhood and a wealth of memories that live on. My thoughts are with you all.*

Ginita Allen Wall, then from Las Cruces, now living in San Diego

Ginita Wall - February 05, 2014 at 09:19 AM

DW

“ *Kathie,
I am so very sorry for your loss. My heart and prayers go out to the
whole Leyendecker family in this time of sorrow.*

Donna Wood (Amy Leyendecker's mother)

Donna Wood - February 05, 2014 at 08:13 AM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of
William Eugene Leyendecker.*



February 04, 2014 at 04:33 PM

CO

“ *Kathie,
Please know that you and your family are in my prayers. May God
give you the strength and courage needed in such hard time.
Connie Chavez*

Connie - February 04, 2014 at 04:26 PM

LP

“*Kathie, I just learned of Gene's untimely passing. I cannot fathom what you are going through. I am so deeply sorry. I cannot see an Aggies game or hear about NMSU without thinking of both of you. All of my thoughts, prayers and love are with you and Stephie and CJ.*

Love, Louise Peterson

Louise Peterson - February 04, 2014 at 12:35 PM

PP

“*Kathie and your whole Leyendecker family,*

My heart and my prayers go out to all of you. May God's blessings comfort you always.

*Love,
Phyllis Peacock*

Phyllis Peacock - February 04, 2014 at 09:42 AM

MM

“ Kathie,

Gene and I, along with Jerry, had a great time at NMSU--at the Fraternity House (Sigma Pi) and all those times "tying" to pass our graduate exams and completing our Masters Thesis projects in the lab. Long hours, but fun times. These were special times for us. As I reflect back to that time, I can only recall Gene's laugh and positive outlook when at times it looked a "little dark" for us. And I recall these wonderful times spent with Gene with a smile.

God Bless you Kathie and grant you and your family strength of spirit. I'm sure Gene is looking down on us...laughing as we try to write great things about him...a Good Man!

Love and Prayers,

Marcos and Elizabeth Madrid

Marcos J Madrid - February 04, 2014 at 09:27 AM

BJ

“ Kathie,

so sorry to learn of Gene's passing. I remember how kind he was to my father when they were neighbors.

Barbara Vicker Joyce

Barbara Vicker Joyce - February 04, 2014 at 08:27 AM

PH

Kathie, I cannot fathom the depth of your loss. You and Gene are two of the finest most loving people God joined together. Linda always spoke of how loving and kind you were to those you served at ARCA, I will always remember the help you gave my nephew Bill when you worked for Steve Schiff. Your loving heart beat was the echo of Gene's.

In God's good time Kathy you will join him for a joyous, eternal reunion. Gene, thanks for all of what you gave, a a pleasure to have know you.

Philip Howell - February 04, 2014 at 09:07 AM

MH

“ *Many of us, who know Gene as a good, decent, loving family man with a good heart, a great mind, and a keen sense of humor, join you in mourning his loss.*

Mary Ann Hatchitt

Mary Ann Hatchitt - February 04, 2014 at 08:23 AM

ES

“ *On behalf of the FRENCH Family of Companies we want to express to you our deepest condolences.*

Eddie Sheffield - February 03, 2014 at 04:26 PM