



Chadwick Gandy Neely

March 7, 2022

Chadwick Gandy Neely, of Austin, Texas, a loving son, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away on Monday, March 7, 2022. Chad was born in Houston, Texas in 1974. He grew up in San Antonio, Texas, and graduated from Alamo Heights High School. After graduation, Chad attended Virginia Military Institute (VMI) in Lexington, Virginia, where he pursued his love of football, earning a full football scholarship. In 1997, Chad graduated from VMI with a BA in Economics and Business. He was the youngest cadet to receive the Academic Achievement Award in the Economics and Business school. In addition, Chad founded the VMI Texas Investment Club. In 2009, Chad received his MBA from the University of Texas McCombs School of Business.

After graduating from VMI, Chad couldn't wait to move back to his beloved home state of Texas. Chad began his professional career in Austin working at Merrill Lynch. He then moved to Comerica Bank, working in the Technology and Life Sciences group. In 2009, he stepped into the entrepreneur role as Founder and CEO of Wenzel Spine. Named after Chad's late grandfather, Wenzel Gandy, Wenzel Spine is a medical technology company focused on surgical and diagnostic solutions for the treatment of spinal disorders. He loved his work. The passion he had for business and his team was apparent to all. It is rare to find a leader so embraced by those around him.

Over the years, Chad organized and led his friends on adventures around the

world that included traveling to and climbing the high-altitude mountains of Aconcagua, Kilimanjaro, Elbrus, Island Peak, and Everest Base Camp. Other adventures included many memorable motorcycle trips to West Texas, which Chad often referred to as his church. In addition to the mountains and motorcycles, Chad was also passionate about his lifetime of family sailboat trips to the Virgin Islands. For Chad, all of the travel and adventure was only half of the fun. The other half was creating Juggernaut Productions to fulfill his love and uncanny skill of making Hollywood quality movies to document each and every trip. These movies have been watched and loved by many.

Chad never did anything halfway. He was truly larger than life. Later in life, Chad became a bonafide rock star and played lead guitar in his band Kings of the Nighttime World, where they performed in the corporate Battle of the Bands and headlined his legendary annual Halloween party.

The most important things to Chad were his family and his friends. One of his greatest joys was sitting around the fire pit with them at his family's lake house on Lake LBJ, enjoying a cocktail and sharing stories. Chad was a deeply caring friend, son, brother, and uncle who would do anything for those around him. He loved being "Uncle Chad" to his niece and nephew and dear friends' children. Chad is survived by his mother Kimberly Gandy Neely, his father Warren Fordtran Neely, his sister Caroline Neely Rose and husband Thomas Walter Rose, his niece Eleanor Grace Rose, his nephew Thomas Neely Rose, his grandmother, Grace Hoffman Gandy, his aunt Karol Gandy Barnhart, uncle Paul Fred Barnhart Jr, cousins Kelly Grace Barnhart and Paul Fred Barnhart III. He is also survived by aunt GERALYN Mary Neely and cousins Melina Elizabeth Neely and Robert Joseph Neely. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Wenzel Austin Gandy, and grandparents Robert Allen Neely and Eleanor Stein Neely.

Chad maintained deep personal connections throughout his life that he would never let fade. Chad was the glue that held the universe together for so many. While unsure how to move forward, we also know Chad would not have wanted us to dwell on his passing. In fact, it might have elicited one of his famous pep talks, instructing us to, instead, raise our glasses and be happy for all that we shared and the memories we will cherish forever.

A service to celebrate Chad's extraordinary life will be held on Wednesday, March 16th at 2:30pm at First Presbyterian Church in San Antonio, Texas. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Previous Events

Celebration of His Life

MAR **16**. 2:30 PM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
404 N. Alamo
San Antonio, TX 78205

Tribute Wall

SB

“ Our sincere sympathy with the loss of Chad. Please know that you and your family are in our family’s prayers. Our deepest condolences. God bless you all.
Joe and Sandi Becraft

Sandi Becraft - March 29, 2022 at 01:31 PM

EC

“ Dear Warren & Kim,
We were so sorry to hear about Chad’s passing. We do somewhat know the sorrow you feel because our beloved 48 yr. old son-in-law passed away last month. We will be praying for God’s comfort and peace now and in the days, weeks, & months ahead when you are missing him so much. May God Bless You All ❤️

Earl & Carolyn Crawford - March 15, 2022 at 08:27 PM

RB

“ Dear Warren and Kim,
I didn’t remember your son’s first name, but when I saw his photo and last name in the obituaries I was immediately afraid it was him. I’m so sorry I was right. I know what it is to lose a child who hasn’t had the chance at a full life, and my thoughts and prayers are with you both. Warren, I know how proud you were to be able to work together to make Wenzel Spine a reality, and I wish that I had had the opportunity to meet Chad and get to know him. Please accept my sincerest condolences.
Rusty Biechlin

Rusty Biechlin - March 13, 2022 at 06:38 PM

JB

Grace, I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your grandson. He was obviously a very special person and one that will be missed by many.
Jamie Barrere

Jamie Barrere - March 14, 2022 at 02:59 AM

JB

“ *I never knew Chad but my heart and prayers go out to this precious family, especially Grandmother Grace - my dear friend. Thoughts and prayers are with you this day, Grace. I will talk with you in the days ahead. God bless and keep you.* *Jeanne Riley Blackmon*

Jeanne Riley Blackmon - March 12, 2022 at 04:26 PM

KK

“ *Dear Kim, Warren and family,*
I am so very sorry for your loss. My heart hurts for you. Kim, you and Warren always held a special place in my heart. I will keep all of you in my daily prayers. God Bless your family!
Fondly,
Kathleen Kuper



kathleen Kuper - March 10, 2022 at 04:09 PM