

Gordon Eugene Mahan Jr.

April 10, 1959 - July 13, 2021

Gordon E. Mahan, Jr., 62, of Floresville, left our world on July 13, 2021, after a private but intense, 18-month battle with cancer. Better known to many as “Donny”, he was the alpha of his dog pack, working hard until the day his health forced him to retire earlier this month. He was a proud father, loving son, devoted husband, compassionate Papa, loyal uncle, diligent boss, the best bubby, and a steadfast friend. A tireless fighter, Gordon maintained his positive attitude until the moment he passed in the comfort of his own home, surrounded by his wife, children, grandkids, and his faithful pets.

Born in Germany as an Airforce “military brat”, Gordon and his family lived in many places before eventually establishing roots in San Antonio. There he graduated from the South San West Campus and soon encountered the person who would become his best friend and companion for life, Stephanie. Together, the loving couple raised four wonderful children who blessed them with four equally amazing grandchildren.

Family was everything to Mr. Mahan. As the thoughtful son that he was, he made it a tradition to take his mother to breakfast every single Sunday. Following the tragic and unexpected death of his baby sister in 1993, he took in his niece and nephew, Scotty and Brandi, and cared for them as if they were his own children. Cherished by his kids, he was there for them every day and taught them all the valuable life lessons about work, marriage, parenting,

and life. There was nothing this remarkable character wouldn't have done for those he loved.

Gordon was a loyal San Antonio Water System (SAWS) employee and proudly dedicated 38 ½ years of his life to serving the company and the community. Although originally fulfilling an entry-level job as a high school graduate, he ultimately rose to become the Senior Director of Distribution and Collection Operations. He was known to encourage anyone he worked with to pursue opportunities to move up in the organization, just as he did. His career saw him form and manage the tapping crew that set a world record in the 1994 main tapping contest hosted by the American Water Works Association (AWWA). Additionally, he was influential in establishing in-house construction efforts designed to modernize aging water and wastewater infrastructure. Mahan also played an integral part in updating infrastructure with high-density polyethylene pipe and facilitated SAWS' restoration work through the development of a quick-setting flowable fill. The innovative leader was passionate about training and safety, always keeping his teammates' well-being at the forefront of his mind.

Like a true Texan, Gordon was a solid barbeque enthusiast. He had a knack for smoking briskets and turkeys and thoroughly enjoyed holiday dinners both at home and with his SAWS family. Everyone will remember how much he loved to judge and compete in family and company cooking competitions, and no one will forget his refusal to concede to other victors.

Mr. Mahan was an expert craftsman who could build or repair just about anything, including houses, cars, and sewer systems. The film buff was a big fan of classic rock, bowling, Ford trucks, barbacoa tacos, TikTok, peanut M&Ms, rocky road ice cream, his dogs and even his chickens, and of course, his beloved Spurs and the Cowboys. Much like his passion for golf, he also had an obsession with fishing. He organized, hosted, and directed countless

coastal fishing tournaments that united the SAWS family that included current and retired employees. As a modern-day hero, Gordon's legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of all who knew him, and his presence will forever be missed – especially by his loyal canine companion, Panda, who remained by his side until the very end.

This extraordinary man was preceded in death by his father, Gordon, Sr.; sister, Holly; and father-in-law, Edward E. Zimmerman. Gordon is survived by his loving wife of over 37 years, Stephanie; his mother, Dolores; mother-in-law, Sally; his children, Krissy, Justin, Trey, and Samantha; daughter-in-law, Shannon; grandchildren, Jaylan, Aidan, Asher, and Emily; sister, Mary; brother-in-law, Roger; nieces and nephews, Scotty, Brandi, Laura, Nikki, Che, Tricia, Jimmy, and Zach; and many extended family members, in-laws, friends, and colleagues.

Upon his request, Mr. Mahan will be cremated, and his ashes will be placed under the oak tree at his home in Floresville, where he loved to enjoy his life. Visitation will be July 23rd, from 5 - 8 p.m. at Mission Park Funeral Chapels South. A funeral service will be Saturday, July 24, 2021, at 2 p.m. at this location. A Celebration of Life will follow the service at the family's home. Please contact the family for more details.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **23**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels South, Cemeteries & Crematories
1700 SE Military Dr
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 924-4242
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Funeral Service

JUL **24**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels South, Cemeteries & Crematories
1700 SE Military Dr
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 924-4242
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemeteries created a Tribute Video in memory of Gordon Eugene Mahan Jr.*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - July 21, 2021 at 06:18 PM

SU

Beautiful memorial! RIP my friend.

Susie - July 22, 2021 at 11:26 PM

VW

“ *Gordon was a really good friend we had a lot of good times playing cards dinner his wife was a good card player too we shared alot of things gardening helping each other with everything he and Stephanie were so close too me I loved taking care of there dogs I tried coming over a couple of tomes but I guess they went out of town or something he was a cool guy smart as hell I didnt come too his funeral I was feeling bad I will miss you buddy and see you on the other side I will go see Steph later on and if she needs anything or help I will do Love you Buddy Vic*

Victor Winkler - July 24, 2021 at 07:42 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Gordon Eugene Mahan Jr..*



July 22, 2021 at 05:47 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gordon Eugene Mahan Jr..*



July 21, 2021 at 08:29 PM



“ *Andrea lit a candle in memory of Gordon Eugene Mahan Jr.*



Andrea - July 21, 2021 at 11:52 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gordon Eugene Mahan Jr..*



July 21, 2021 at 12:52 AM

LX

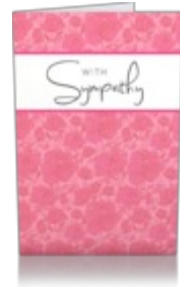
“ Love From Wendy and Martin xxx purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gordon Eugene Mahan Jr..



Love From Wendy and Martin xxx - July 20, 2021 at 02:27 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Gordon Eugene Mahan Jr..



July 20, 2021 at 08:44 AM

ML

“ My wife and I planted trees in memory of Gordon. He was a good friend to us all. I knew Gordon working with SAWS and always respected his opinions and knowledge. He was a true gentleman. Please accept our deepest sympathies on his passing.
Mark and Barb Langenhan
Olean, New York

Mark Langenhan - July 20, 2021 at 08:35 AM

RD

“ *Rolando and Bertha T. Venegas, Tenoch Distribution purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Gordon Eugene Mahan Jr..*



Rolando and Bertha T. Venegas, Tenoch Distribution - July 19, 2021 at 10:13 PM

BM

“ *Gordon was so respected that when he came to a meeting everyone waited for him to speak. He was very knowledgeable and a pleasure to work with. RIP Gordon.*
Bob Moore

bob moore - July 19, 2021 at 04:55 PM