



Stephen Neal Always

July 28, 1946 - February 5, 2023

Stephen Neal “Steve” Always, beloved husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather, brother and uncle entered into eternal rest on Sunday, February 5, 2023 after a brief battle with cancer.

Steve was born in New York City on July 28, 1946 to Melvyn and Rebecca Friedman Always. Along with his twin brother, Howard, the family moved to San Antonio where his mother’s family was living. Steve attended Ben Franklin Elementary, Maverick Elementary, Longfellow Junior High and graduated from Jefferson High School in 1964. Steve and Howard both attended the University of Houston. After college, Steve began working for the family business, Always Toy Box. In the early 90’s, he changed the course for Always Toy Box by creating Always Collectible. After selling the business, Steve became a sales rep. One of his lines was Kerusso, a Christian t-shirt line. Steve spread his love of the Word of the Gospel through his t-shirt sales. He was the top salesman for the Kerusso line in the country.

Steve grew up Jewish. He was a very devout Jew, attending Hebrew school, becoming Bar Mitzvah’d, attending the high holiday services from beginning to end. In 1992 he and Susan were married. Susan is an Episcopalian. The two decided to support each other in their religions. Susan attended Synagogue with Steve and Steve attended Church with Susan. In 2005, Steve accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior being baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal

Church. Steve was on fire for God.

Steve loved his family. He enjoyed being with them whether going on vacation together or just getting together for a meal. Steve also loved his church. After being baptized and confirmed, Steve served on the Vestry at St. George. During his tenure, he served as the Clerk, Junior Warden and Senior Warden. He also served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister and taught a Sunday School class called Understanding the Gospel. In addition, he served on the Executive Board of the Diocese of West Texas. He served on several Cursillo teams and was rector of Cursillo, "God is Good".

Steve loved serving his community. Steve served with many organizations, Muscular Dystrophy Association, Boy Scouts of America (Council Commissioner and staff at Philmont Scout Reservation), KLRN (Voice of the Auction for over 30 years), and the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo Public Affairs Committee (Chairman).

Steve is survived by his loving wife, Susan, his sons, Jerry (Shirley) Alwais, Randy (Amber) Alwais, James (Corina) Clark, and daughter, Jennifer (Greg) Kirkland as well as grandchildren, Edward (Jamie) Alwais, Alex Alwais, Rebecca Alwais, Elizabeth Kirkland, Cannon and Cara Clark. He is also survived by his twin brother, Howard, and many nieces and nephews and cousins.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at St. George Episcopal Church, 6904 West Avenue, San Antonio, Texas, with the Committal in the church garden immediately following, the Rev. Ramiro Lopez officiating.

There will be a reception after the service in the Parish Hall. Please join the family as we break bread together and share stories of our lives with Steve.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial gifts honoring Steve, to St. George Episcopal Church, San Antonio.

The family would like to thank the staff at Arden Courts and the staff at Mission Hospice for their love, care and compassion during Steve's final days. Thank you to the St. George family for embracing our family with love and gratitude for Steve's life.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB **25**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. George Episcopal Church
6904 West Ave
San Antonio, TX 78213

Tribute Wall

CH

“ I met Steve in 1982 as an employee of the Toy Box in Highland Mall in Austin Texas. The man was kind, considerate, and understanding toward everyone he met. Just a good man. He and his brother Howard were so instrumental in me becoming successful in my career. He was a walking man of knowledge that was always willing to share with others. I'll always be grateful for for the tools he equipped me with.

Clifton Harmon - June 18, 2025 at 03:42 PM

JS

“ I first met Steve at the McCreless Toy Box when i was just a kid, and he was just a man worked in the store. I had high hopes of buying that toy I had eyed for weeks. The wonderful man in the store would come out and he would take the time to talk to me about my purchase on my own without my parents. He would make so confident about my decision, I felt so big. When I would go to his store, and not see him, i would ask the salesperson, if he could come out and talk to me about an item I was thinking about and he would talk about that or other possibilities he thought I might like or a new item on the shelf. It took many years to discover his name was Steve. Then it was like an old friend was telling me about the Toy Box, my favorite voice heard once again. So long Mister. You made every one feel big!

John Scheel - February 25, 2023 at 05:54 PM

AB

“ Like many of us, I met Steve thru Scouting. Once he found out I was a photographer, he tagged me for several projects. One project was to enhance the yearly Pow-Wow with his wife Susan. Who could ever forget the time we tapped into ‘NASA’ to bring Space Shuttle back to the launch pad? That led to him asking me to volunteer at KLRN where I enjoyed over 20 years of volunteering my time and talent. Steve wasn’t finished with me yet, as he and Ed Frankland teamed up to ‘ask’ me to volunteer with the Public Affairs Committee at the SA Stock Show and Rodeo where I get up way too early to be with the morning news crews. I owe a lot to Steve, but nothing meant more than saying he was my friend.

Alan Boedeker - February 23, 2023 at 07:12 PM

DS

“ I met Steve first through his wife Susan and then went on to work with him for many years at KLRN during the Blazing Gavel Auction. May the family find grace and healing during their time of grief. May Steve find eternal rest in His loving arms.

Dorcus Sampson - February 16, 2023 at 03:14 PM

DM

“ I met Steve in the late seventies and eighties through Boy Scout leadership and training. Also at KLRN with the Blazing Gavels Auction where he was the "voice of auction" for many years. May he rest in in peace.

Dennis A McDonald - February 08, 2023 at 03:05 PM

 John Halloran

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Alwais family. I worked at Toy Box in the late 1970s and loved every minute of it! May the angels lead him to Paradise! - John Halloran

John Halloran - February 08, 2023 at 11:19 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Stephen Neal Always.* ”



February 07, 2023 at 05:48 PM