



Shawn Patrick Flynn

NOV 29, 1967 - SEP 18, 2023



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MEMORIAL PARK
Funeral Home & Cemetery

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Shawn Patrick Flynn

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Beloved Shawn Patrick Flynn, age 55, passed away at his home in Memphis, Tennessee on September 18, 2023, surrounded by his family. Shawn valiantly and quietly fought GIST, a rare sarcoma cancer. He remained determined and hopeful until the end, working up until his last days. He endured countless treatments, clinical trials and surgeries to beat the uphill battle cancer presented to him. He gave it his all until the end, and has left an amazing legacy of fortitude, courage, tenacity, and strength to his children.

Shawn Patrick Flynn was born November 29, 1967 in Seneca Falls, New York to Patrick Thomas Flynn and Lucille Ann Flynn (Zaso). Shawn grew up in Central New York where he enjoyed spending summers at his family's cottage on Cayuga Lake. He graduated from Rush-Henrietta High School in Henrietta, New York in 1985. After graduation, Shawn joined the United State Marine Corp. After completing boot camp in Parris Island, South Carolina, Shawn was stationed at Twenty nine Palms, California at the USMC Air Ground Task Force Command and Combat Center. After completing his military service, Shawn continued his education, studying Business Administration at the University of Southern California. Shawn often said the mental strength and fortitude he learned while serving in the USMC was the true catalyst to his later professional success. He would say, "I might not be the smartest one in the room, but I doubt there is anyone in the room that can outwork me." He used that mental fortitude in his toughest battle, the one against cancer. He fought longer and harder than most, and would leave doctors and nurses in awe as he worked his phone and laptop during treatments. Towards the end, when his doctor suggested he might need to consider hospice, he left the appointment, looked at his wife, Gretta, and said, "They are just a bunch of quitters." He was a fighter.

Shawn met his wife Gretta in Key West, Florida. They married in March of 2003. Key West was one of Shawn's favorite places, and as a family they enjoyed spending their summers in the Florida Keys each year. Shawn loved being on the water. It was in these weeks each year in Key West, that Shawn could recharge his batteries and press pause on an otherwise intensely driven personality. Shawn was meticulous in all that he did and was. He loved dressing well and was



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known to say “If you want to be president, you need to look presidential”, or “You only get one chance to make a first impression”. His idea of “relaxed” attire was a starched linen shirt and shorts.

Anyone who worked with Shawn knew the passion and love he had for the business and his team. Shawn spent 21 years working for TruGreen. Shawn joined TruGreen in 2002 as a general manager and quickly rose through the ranks. He later served as Senior Vice President for the South Division and then as Chief Revenue Officer. Most recently he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Business Development Officer for TruGreen. Because of all of the opportunities for advancement, Shawn and his family relocated many times. Early on, Shawn and his wife agreed together, they would not say no to opportunities that would allow them to provide a better quality of life for their children. Shawn believed one of the best lessons these moves would teach his family was learning to “be comfortable being uncomfortable.” Shawn always had words of wisdom, was a voracious reader, and a true proponent of education and self-development. He was also a whole lot of fun. He knew when to be serious, but he also knew how to unwind. He was just energy, joy and optimism. He did not believe in pity or feeling sorry for one’s self. The constant message in their family anytime a challenge was presented was to improvise, adapt, and overcome. He ingrained those lessons in his children, and it made him so proud to see them putting those things into action in their own lives.

Shawn is survived by his wife Gretta Flynn and their children Patrick, Caitlin, and Molly. He is also survived by his father, Patrick Thomas Flynn, of Seneca Falls, New York, his mother Lucille Flynn of Rochester, New York, his sister Colleen[Weston]Oliphant of Viera, Florida, and half-brother Rory Flynn of Rochester, New York. He is also survived by his in-laws Jack and Vera Lauterbach, Craig[Laura] Lauterbach, Jack[Andrea] Lauterbach, Jr. and many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and colleagues.

Another one of Shawn’s colloquialisms was “Be brief, be bright, and be done.” Regretfully this was probably neither brief nor bright, and we are truly not ready to be done. Shawn was so loved by all who knew him, and he will be greatly missed...especially his laugh and sense of humor.

The Flynn family would like to thank all of the medical professionals at Baptist Cancer Center, Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center, MD Anderson Cancer Center, and Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center for their tireless support, understanding, encouragement and compassion during Shawn’s



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illness. We would like to say a special thank you to Dr. Clyde Jones who was with us for the entirety of his cancer battle and was a trusted guide in all of his treatments.

A visitation will be held from 5:00pm-7:00pm on Monday October 16,2023 at Memorial Park Funeral Home, 5668 Poplar Avenue, in Memphis, Tennessee. The funeral Mass will be at 10:00 am on October 17, 2023 at St. Francis Catholic Church in Cordova, Tennessee. A private Interment will be held at a later date at Memorial Park Cemetery.

The Family requests that donations be made in his honor to either The American Cancer Society, St. Jude Children Research Hospital, or The Life Raft Group-a non-profit organization focused specifically on research and finding a cure for Shawn's rare type of cancer.




Events

Shawn Patrick Flynn

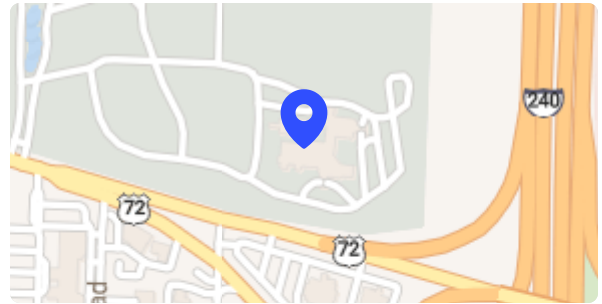
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Visitation

 **Monday**, October 16, 2023

 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM cst

 **Memorial Park Fireside Chapel**
5668 Poplar Avenue, Memphis TN 38119

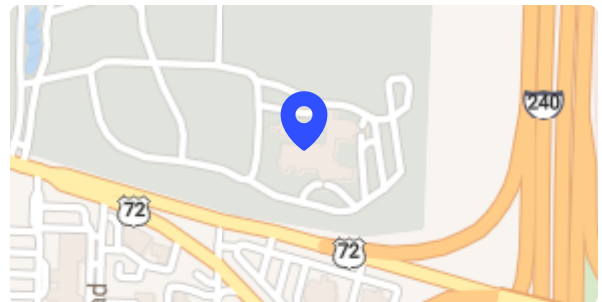


Rosary

 **Monday**, October 16, 2023


 7:00 PM cst


 **Memorial Park Fireside Chapel**
5668 Poplar Avenue, Memphis TN 38119



Funeral Mass

 **Tuesday**, October 17, 2023

 10:00 AM cst

 **St. Francis Catholic Church**
3151 Chimney Rock, Cordova TN 38016





Tribute Wall

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Shawn Ann Pigott posted:

I didn't know Shawn personally, but I do know his Uncle Dan. I've heard so many lovely stories of the Flynn family. I feel as if I knew both Shawn & Gretta. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire family. I extend my sincerest condolences. Heaven has gained another beautiful soul. God bless each of you during this difficult time. Shawn Ann Pigott

October 16 at 1:55 PM



Shawn Ann Pigott lit a candle in honor of Shawn.

Shawn Pigott lit a candle in memory of Shawn Flynn

October 16 at 1:48 PM



Anonymous sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Flynn family.

October 16 at 9:23 AM



Anonymous sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Flynn family.

October 16 at 8:52 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Shawn.

October 16 at 8:52 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Flynn family.

October 16 at 8:46 AM





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Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Shawn.

October 16 at 8:46 AM



Anonymous sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Flynn family.

October 16 at 8:43 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Shawn.

October 16 at 8:43 AM



Anonymous sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Flynn family.

October 16 at 8:21 AM



Anonymous sent a Rose Garden Heart to the Flynn family.

October 13 at 10:58 AM



JF

Joshua And Marci Farley sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Flynn family.

October 13 at 10:23 AM





Tribute Wall

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Joshua And Marci Farley planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Shawn.

October 13 at 10:23 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful Dreams to the Flynn family.

October 13 at 7:12 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Shawn.

October 13 at 7:12 AM



Shaakira Hargrow lit a candle in honor of Shawn.

Shaakira Hargrow lit a candle in memory of Shawn Flynn

October 12 at 4:39 AM



Jack Pillutla posted:

Shawn was a tru mentor.I worked with him for a few years. When his career took off at TG we still maintained contacted . I remain in his debt for his help and the counselling. I will truly miss him.

October 9 at 10:11 AM



Anonymous sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Flynn family.

October 4 at 4:36 AM





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Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Shawn.



October 4 at 4:36 AM



Lynda Oakes posted:

The sweet Flynn family are my neighbors & I first met Shawn, personally, when my car got stuck in my driveway during a snowstorm. He noticed my plight & (along w/ Patrick) literally lifted my VW bug up over the snowdrift to free it! He became my hero that day! His courage & strength during his cancer battle were truly amazing & inspiring.

October 2 at 3:50 PM



Anonymous sent a Dreams From the Heart Bouquet to the Flynn family.



October 2 at 4:32 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Shawn.



October 2 at 4:32 AM



Anonymous sent a Serene Reflections Bouquet to the Flynn family.



September 28 at 10:28 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Shawn.



September 28 at 10:28 AM



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David And Kathy Heatherly lit a candle in honor of Shawn.

You will be missed Shawn but you were a wonderful Son, Husband, Father and Friend. May the Lord help your family through this sad time and hear everyone prayers. No more pain Shawn Rest in Peace. Love Kathy and Dave Heatherly.

September 28 at 7:46 AM



Jamie Jobes lit a candle in honor of Shawn.

Shawn was passionate, inspirational, a TruLeader and most importantly a dear and beloved friend. My condolences to your beautiful family. Semper fidelis is a Latin phrase that means "always faithful" or "always loyal". That pretty much sums up Shawn. Oorah!

September 26 at 10:46 AM



Aaron Kannatt posted:

Great man & TruGreen Leader, Will be Truly missed, God Bless Him & His family

September 26 at 7:56 AM



Norman R Le Doux Sr posted:

My deepest Condolences to Shawns wife and family. I had the honor of working with Shawn when he first started with TruGreen in New Jersey. Watching his career grow was a treat to see. We missed him when he left here, and we miss him still. God Speed SPF!

September 26 at 7:53 AM



Precious S China posted:

My condolences go out to the family we lost a good person and we will miss you at Trugreen you fought a good fight and prays with the family.

September 26 at 7:23 AM



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Kristina posted:

Hello, My name is Kristina Freeman and I am a recruiter for the Mid-Atlantic team on the production side. I never met or knew Shawn but I would like to say thank you to his service in the Marines. He sounded like a true fighter with a positive outlook on life. I am sure he will be truly missed and my condolences go to his family and friends at this time.

September 26 at 7:05 AM



Anonymous sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Flynn family.



September 26 at 5:54 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Shawn by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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