



Terrence John "T.J." Egan

January 26, 1966 - August 12, 2025

North Myrtle Beach...

Terrence John Egan, age 59, went home to be in the presence of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on August 12, 2025. He was a dearly loved husband, devoted father, caring brother, uncle, and great-uncle whose life overflowed with love, encouragement, and service to others.

Born on January 26, 1966, in Freeport, Illinois, to John and Arlene Egan, Terry grew up in the Midwest with a strong work ethic, a warm smile, and a love for swimming. His passion for the sport led him to State competitions in high school, a scholarship to swim at Northern Illinois University, and a lifetime of helping others gain confidence in the water. He rescued numerous people while lifeguarding, later became a competitive open-water swimmer, coached Masters & Adaptive Swimming in Rockford, Illinois-always cheering others to personal victories.

Terry's professional career and passion as a fundraising executive spanned more than 30 years. He raised millions of dollars for foundations, charitable organizations, and ministries worldwide. Most recently, Terry's efforts supported Coastline Women's Center in Myrtle Beach, SC, and Come Go With Us ministry in Zambia, Africa. A leader in his community, Terry served as President of the Carolina Forest Sunrise Rotary and volunteered with the

Adaptive Surf Project and Adaptive Bike Rides, using his photography skills to capture moments of courage and joy.

Service was woven into every aspect of Terry's life. Whether making birthday calls, sending encouraging texts, reconnecting with childhood friends, delivering meals, or serving on the Production Team at NewSpring Church, he gave his time and talents generously. In September 2023, he publicly declared his faith in Christ through baptism in the Atlantic Ocean under a brilliant sunrise — a reflection of the hope and light he carried in his heart.

Terry turned his love for photography into a thriving business along the Grand Strand, capturing family portraits, weddings, senior photos, and special memories for countless people. With his wife, Jen, he partnered to bring music and inspiration across the world, supporting more than 40 volunteer musicians in performances for the 80th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii and the 80th Anniversary of Normandy in France. Together, their love and teamwork impacted many lives.

Terry is survived by his wife of 13 years, Jennifer Egan of North Myrtle Beach, SC; son, Nathan Samsel (Anna Bernhardt) of Denver, CO; daughter, Taylor Egan (Adam Sweitzer) of Denver, CO; step-daughters, Sara Hallstein of Dayton, OH and Shannon Hallstein of Los Angeles, CA; sister, Colleen Egan Nicolosi of Madeira Beach, FL; nephews, Matthew Nicolosi (Jessica) of Rockford, IL and Michael Nicolosi of Madeira Beach, FL; great niece, Ava Nicolosi of Rockford, IL; brother, Patrick Egan (Sharon) of Poynette, WI; nephew, Riley Egan (Marissa Gray) of Portland, OR; niece, Delaney Egan (Evan Warwick) of Madison, WI; and many other extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John B. Egan and Arlene Egan.

Visitation will be held Wednesday evening, August 20, 2025 from 5:00 PM-

7:00 PM at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Carolina Forest Chapel, 325 Hinson Drive, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579.

A memorial service for Terry will be held at 10:00 AM Thursday, August 21, 2025 at NewSpring Church in Myrtle Beach with Rev. Johnathan Foster officiating. Private burial will follow. The memorial service will be live streamed at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/@nsmyrns>

A celebration of life will be held in Terry's hometown, Freeport, Illinois at a future date. Details will be published on social media when they become available.

In lieu of flowers and to carry on Terry's vision of giving, the family requests donations be made to The Egan Family Fund at the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, https://cfnil.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=1214. The funds will be used to support charitable organizations worldwide.

Please sign the online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Carolina Forest Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

"His Lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant... enter into the joy of your Lord.'" -Matthew 25:21

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **20**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Carolina Forest Chapel
325 Hinson Drive
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

Funeral Service

AUG **21**. 10:00 AM (ET)

NewSpring Church
3001 Waccamaw Boulevard
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

Tribute Wall

KM

“ Karen (Birckelbaw) Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Terrence John "T.J" Egan



Karen (Birckelbaw) Mitchell - September 02, 2025 at 11:19 PM

CL

“ Carol Lane lit a candle in memory of Terrence John "T.J" Egan



carol lane - August 22, 2025 at 03:57 PM

“ We've gone to NewSpring with Terry and Jennifer for a few years now, serving together at Fuse and The Wknd summer camp. Terry's joy was infectious and I don't ever remember him without a huge smile on his face. He faithfully served on the production team & my last memory of him was watching him worship while manning the camera at NewSpring. Photography was his passion and getting to witness him using his spiritual gift on Sundays to serve and give back to others was truly awe-inspiring.

A few months ago, Lee McDerment was preaching and he opened his sermon asking if anyone in the audience would raise their hand if they needed prayer for healing. I rose mine after months of pain following my second son's traumatic birth as my body was still in pain struggling to recover. I had been traveling to Charleston once a week to see a pelvic floor specialist and I was sleep deprived, mentally & physically exhausted and experiencing nerve damage I was desperate to get rid of. I felt very defeated walking into church that morning, but I'm so glad I did. Lee asked the church to lay hands on and pray for anyone who raised their hands that morning so that they may receive healing.

I felt a hand land on my shoulder and I wept knowing someone had seen my pain and reached out in obedience. My body shook in the release it felt to surrender this pain to Jesus and to cry out for help from our church family. After this prayer time ended and before Lee continued on with his sermon, I turned around with tears in my eyes and saw Terry and Jennifer standing behind me. I smiled and thanked them for a moment that probably seemed small, but I would truly never forget.

The next day I woke up feeling the best I'd felt in months and the following day I had my regular weekly PT visit in Charleston. My therapist asked how I was feeling and I shared the good news that I had actually been feeling great the past few days. She looked at me blankly and said there were no signs of prolapse that she had been treating me for all of the weeks prior. It was like my body had

fully healed and my prolapse symptoms & nerve damage disappeared overnight. I tearfully shared the story of Terry and his wife praying over me at church that Sunday. We smiled at each other and praised God for what could have only been a miracle in that moment because it couldn't be scientifically explained any other way. I haven't had any symptoms or pain since!

I couldn't wait to tell Terry what I experienced that day in church and am deeply saddened that I will never get the chance to on this side of heaven. I never imagined he would be gone and his presence will be missed so deeply at NewSpring. To honor him this week, I made it my mission to tell Jennifer this story in person just like I had hoped to and to share it here in his memory. I pray this brings comfort to those who are grieving him this week and continue to build onto his legacy for generations to come. We miss you Terry, Go Pack Go!

Jess Kern - August 21, 2025 at 07:11 AM

LA

“ *Laure-cassandra lit a candle in memory of Terrence John "T.J" Egan*



laure-cassandra - August 20, 2025 at 06:35 PM

BE

“ *Braden & Kathryn Evans purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Terrence John "T.J" Egan.*



Braden & Kathryn Evans - August 20, 2025 at 08:22 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Terrence John "T.J" Egan.



August 19, 2025 at 07:07 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Terrence John "T.J" Egan.

August 19, 2025 at 03:17 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Terrence John "T.J" Egan.



August 19, 2025 at 03:17 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Terrence John "T.J" Egan.



August 18, 2025 at 04:26 PM

MB

“ Wishing you peace, comfort, and strength during this incredibly difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Mike Brendemuehl & Family

Michael Brendemuehl - August 18, 2025 at 12:36 PM

PA

“ One of the nicest people I ever met. Terry was so excited to share his love and expertise of swimming with us at Peak Sports Club several years ago. He gave me so much of his time and encouragement simply because that's who he was and not because of any expectation of something in return. It helped me immensely. I'll always be grateful for that and was not surprised in the least to read so much of the obituary being about service to others.

Patrick - August 18, 2025 at 12:31 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Terrence John "T.J" Egan.



August 18, 2025 at 08:42 AM

CC

“ Jennifer - I am so saddened to hear of the home going of your husband. In reading his beautiful obituary I know he is a man who lived his life on earth dedicated to serving others and I'm sure that included you. I know your life together wasn't very long and his passing is causing you unimaginable pain. My prayer for you is that The Comforter, Jesus Christ, will comfort you as only He knows how, and that He will bring people into your life as you need them to help you through the days and months ahead.

Your HMM friend, Catherine Carmer

Catherine Carmer - August 17, 2025 at 06:56 PM

CC

“ Carol Lyons Cornett lit a candle in memory of Terrence John "T.J" Egan



Carol Lyons Cornett - August 16, 2025 at 02:58 PM



“ For the repose of my dearly departed Cousin Terry and His “entire” beloved Family~
Immediate & Extended ..
I didn't take advantage of the opportunity to share this with you person to person so I'll seize it now—
Just like the lyrics to Elton John's Song; Candle in the Wind, “Your candle burned out long before your LEGEND ever did/(will)! You're a Legend in our day/time! You left a legacy behind ... an example to follow~
I'm obviously not the first one to share that you treated 'everyone' like they were Family; with genuine kindness, love and generosity and I won't be the last, it's the common thread that was woven throughout your life, it's the 'essence' of who you were!
I didn't show it outwardly enough but I (always) loved/enjoyed being in your presence; younger as Cousins growing up & especially, on the even rarer occasions as Adults getting together: at Columbian Park for a “Family Reunion,” to reconnect, or 'meeting up' when U were just passing through Indy! Phone calls at Holiday time, especially Christmas. I've cherished those moments .. that time! Melissa (German) thank you for sharing/posting photos of such Cousin events! Love reminiscing the memories from them!
Jen, we met you for the first time at one of them— Columbian Park, a number of years ago. Was SO thrilled to meet you & even more to learn that, Terry finally met the true 'love of his life,' equally matched, partners in life & love 💕 He was SO DESERVING of that & U as well~
And your beautiful 'blended' Family ...Congratulations on Taylor's engagement ..
Your Legacy of Love will live on .. in your Children & theirs~ Thank You for loving All of Us with your whole heart & Soul, we are Blessed to have had U in our lives~ All our love Always & Forever til we meet again~
Rest in God's Eternal Peace in Heavens Glory with our dearly departed Family. Amen Love, Carol Lyons Cornett & Family and the 'entire' Lyons Family~

Carol Lyons Cornett - August 16, 2025 at 02:53 PM

“Terry had a remarkable way of making extended family feel like immediate family. He reached out with such genuine kindness and warmth, and our time together in Myrtle Beach will always hold a special place in our hearts. He invited us to the Jeep Jam, rode with us on the beach crawl, and took incredible professional photos of our Jeep, Optimus Prime. That was Terry—always present, always encouraging, always capturing the joy around him.

I had the joy of re-introducing Terry to my brother Billy, who lives in North Carolina—and the two of them looked so alike, it was almost uncanny. But beyond appearances, Terry welcomed Billy with open arms, especially during the holidays, treating him as if he were part of his own immediate family. That was just who Terry was—selfless, generous, and full of grace.

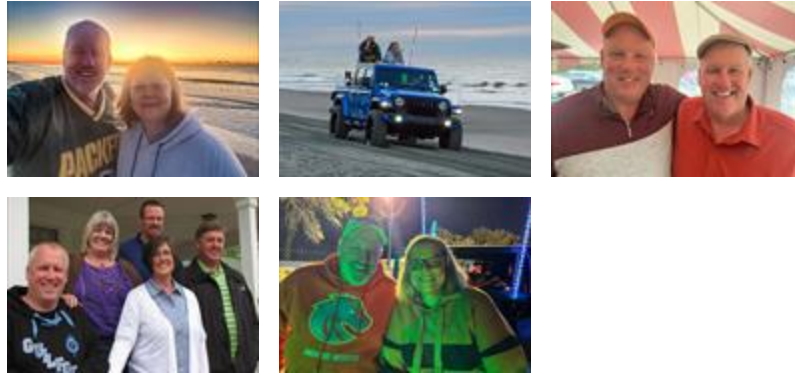
One of my most cherished memories was when Terry made a special trip to visit my Aunt Peggy, the oldest granddaughter of our shared great-grandparents, Alfred and Ethel German. While he was here, I took him to Brown County, knowing he would appreciate the natural beauty and artist colony there—and he truly did. When Aunt Peggy passed, Terry returned once again to honor her, just as he always honored the people in his life with his presence, compassion, and quiet strength.

Terry wasn't just family—he was a light in our lives. He inspired us with the way he lived, loved, served, and lifted others. His friendship, his faith, and his joyful spirit left an imprint on our hearts that will never fade. I loved Terry dearly, and I am forever grateful for the laughter, the memories, and the deep connection we shared. He made the world better just by being in it.

And to his incredible wife Jen—your strength, love, and partnership with Terry were truly something extraordinary. You two were a shining example of what it means to walk through life together with purpose and grace. You brought out the best in each other, and in doing so, you brought light to so many of us. Thank you for sharing

your lives so generously. You are just as special as Terry, and you remain in our hearts and prayers.

*With love always,
Melissa & Terry*



Melissa German - August 16, 2025 at 07:56 AM

AC

“ *Audrey Hudson & Myrtle Beach CNPA purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Terrence John "T.J" Egan.*



Audrey Hudson & Myrtle Beach CNPA - August 15, 2025 at 06:20 PM

AM

“ Jen, When you meet someone on Facebook, through a shared interest, you feel as if you know them well via that shared interest. I knew Terry through his photography, his name and posts and photos frequently popping up in my feed. Just the night before, Terry had just commented on one of my posts on Monday, where I was shooting a family session in the rain, and he joked that I should've had them jump in the water.

I only knew Terry through photography but your words about your husband speak volumes of the man he was, over and above his photography. There is no question that he is now in the glory of God. My heart breaks for you and his children and all of his family and I lift you all up my prayers.

Anita Mosteller - August 15, 2025 at 05:57 PM

EB

“ *Godspeed Terry Egan, Rest well...*

Ed Brice - August 15, 2025 at 05:42 PM

RR

“ *Dear Jen,
I have never met you and hope I will in the future. I did meet Terry at one of the breakfast and I knew right away he was different than everyone else. Elegant personality and dedication to his projects. He will be dearly missed. I also got a feeling of comfort the other day when he said you and he would put me on your prayer list right away. So generous. I have to extend my condolences to you and your family. I will be watching the virtual for his service. Love and prayers to you. 🙏❤️*

Ree Reid - August 15, 2025 at 05:31 PM

KS

“ Dearest Jennifer and girls, you know Terry and how his love of capturing love in his photos was his heartbeat. Having known him for some time through our son first, we knew we wanted him to capture our family’s love live at the beach. We arrived, girls in dresses and our grandson dressed to the hilt. Well, the perfect spot was a loooooong walk down the beach through every puddle for our grandson and lovely conversation with Terry. Finally, he said, this is the spot. And, he was right! It was perfect and a reflection of King Jesus’ perfect creation where sea meets sand. He took photo after photo of our family and gave us such gifts to treasure. Terry’s love of giving love was displayed in many ways with every one having Jesus’ love center. Thank you, Terry, for this long lasting gift to us, and Jennifer for giving us the hours he meticulously gave us in love. Terry will be missed but treasured as we gaze upon the photos created through his love daily. Love, from Kurt, Kristin, Mark, Savannah and Dayna Slaughenhaupt.

Kurt and Kristin Slaughnhaupt - August 15, 2025 at 04:55 PM



“ I shall forever remember “Terry of the poppy fields” in Normandy. Love to you, Jen.

Steve Rondinaro - August 15, 2025 at 04:06 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Terrence John "T.J" Egan.



August 15, 2025 at 11:49 AM