Sossoman
Funeral Home & Crematory Center
5th Generation Family Owned & Operated Since 1949.



Steven Lavone Gregory

Dec. 9, 1950 - April 6, 2026

Steven Lavone Gregory was born on December 9,1950 to Lavone and Callie Isenhower Gregory. Steve graduated from Morganton High School in 1968 and received a BA degree from High Point University in 1972. He then attended the Gemological Institute of America in Santa Monica, Ca where he obtained a Graduate Gemologist degree. Steve joined the family business, Gregory Jewelers Inc. where he became President in 1983. Steve was a member of the American Gem Society and was President of the North Carolina Guild of the American Gem Society in 1999. He was also a longtime board member of the North Carolina Jewelers Association and served as President in 2000.

Among his various local endeavors, Steve was a member of the Morganton Jaycees and the Morganton Elks Lodge. He was an avid pilot and golfer for many years and was a member of Mimosa Hills Country Club where he served as President in 1998. He was appointed to the First Citizens Bank Board in 1980 and served as Chairman of the Board starting in 1998.

He also served on the Beatrice Cobb Trust since 2003. He was a lifelong, active member of Calvary Lutheran Church and served in various roles. Steve was appointed to the Morganton Alcoholic Beverage Control Board in 1982 and served as vice-chairman and chairman

chairman and chairman.

Steve was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Hartsog Gregory, two daughters Briana Gregory Czerwinski of Wilmington, NC, Brooke Ledford of Holly Springs, NC, two granddaughters, Brynna Ledford and Bree Ledford, and three grandsons, Lincoln Czerwinski, Maxwell Czerwinski, and Callahan Czerwinski.

The family will receive friends from 4pm until 6pm, Thursday, April 9, 2026 at Sossoman Funeral Home. The funeral will be held at 11am, Friday, April 10, 2026 at Calvery Lutheran Church with Rev. Paul Carlson officiating. Burial will follow at Burke Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to Calvary Lutheran Church.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

I am heartbroken to read of Steve's passing. He looked me up in Wilmington and over a wonderful lunch overlooking the Cape Fear river we reminisced about our class in school and he filled me in on all my friends in Morganton. I was hoping to have more visits with him when he visited his daughter in Wilmington. I have been wondering why I haven't heard from him. My heart goes out to his wife, family and friends. He was such a warrior.

—Becky Carey

I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. I remember Mr. Gregory at the jewelry store growing up. I believe he pierced my ears. He always had a smile on his face and was always so friendly.

—Becca Paisley

I grew up in Morganton, and my parents worked downtown and near downtown, so I spent time around downtown with them. We always went to Gregory Jewelers, and I have such fond childhood memories of Steve Gregory helping and joking with us. I was sorry to hear of his death and am sending much love to his family. He is certainly a core memory from Morganton for me.

—Patti Digh

Our condolences and heartfelt sympathy go out to Nancy and family. Steve was a remarkable man.; he was so accomplished and strong. We had great respect for

all he did for our community. We know he will be greatly missed by his friends and family.

—Ron and Annelle Mulwee



—Jennifer



—Vanya McElrath

Our condolences to Nancy, Briana, Brooke and their families. Steve was a wonderful man and friend. We love all of you and are glad we maintained our friendship for many years after leaving NC. He will be missed by us and so many other people. Steve, we love you and will see you on the other side + Bob and Diane Cannoles

—Bob and Diane Cannoles



—Geneva Coffey



My condolences to his lovely family. Such a good man, I could never thank him enough for everything he and his mother did for me.





Such a good man. I could never thank him enough for all he did for me and my family.

—Richie Fleming

Steve was a gracious friend and fellow board member for many years. Always a kind word and a smile. You made my life brighter Steve, and I will always miss you. God bless you and your family brother. With love... Wally

—Wally Hinkamp



Steve was one of the nicest people I've had the good fortune to know. I miss knowing he's in this world. My heartfelt condolences to Nancy and the rest of Steve's loving family.

—Dawn McCombs

To Nancy, Brianna and families: Steve was such a thoughtful friend. He will be sorely missed in the Morganton community. He leaves a rich heritage and many wonderful memories in all the areas he touched in his life. My sincere condolences to all the family. Dolores

—Dolores Shepherd

Steve was a wonderful person. Always friendly and engaging. My Dad Vernon Rader loved playing golf with Steve at Mimosa Hills. I always enjoyed shopping at his jewelry store. Steve will be greatly missed. My deepest sympathies to his family. Brian Rader

–Brian Rader

My sincere condolences to all of you. Steve was a great friend for many years, he had more fortitude than anyone I have known. May you find peace and acceptance during this difficult time. Jim

–jim cornelison

To the Gregory family - Steve was much loved. Sue grew up with and graduated with Steve in 1968. We have continued to stay in touch over the years. He will be missed by many. Rest in peace my good friend. Skip and Sue Avery Douglas

–Skip and Sue Douglas

It is with much sadness to acknowledge the transition of Steve. It seems like as far I can remember, there was a Steve Gregory. He was such an interesting person, who could captivate the attention of many. He brought much laughter to me during our conversations and I shall always remember him for that sense of humor. My condolences to his lovely wife and great family.

–Artie McKesson-Logan



Condolences to his Family, Friends and loved ones. I am sorry to hear of his passing, he was very sweet.

–Angela Davis

There are some people who bring such a light to the world that it still shines after they are gone. Steve was a wonderful friend to everyone. Always smiling, always engaging, and quite the comic. He is the only reason I survived French class in High School. You will be missed by many. There is another bright star in the skies tonight. Rest peacefully my friend.

–Vicki Fisher Vanderbloemen

To the Gregory family - Steve was much loved. Sue grew up with and graduated with Steve in 1968. We have continued to stay in touch over the years. He will be missed by many. Rest in peace my good friend. Skip and Sue Avery Douglas

–Skip and Sue Douglas

So very sorry and sad to hear of Steve's passing. He was such a gentleman and was so kind whenever we saw him. He never failed to speak. Our prayers are with Nancy and all his family.

–Doug and Sandi Bristol

My deepest condolences to Nancy and family. I always considered Steve to be a friend. May he rest in peace.

–Flossie Amoia

Nancy...I am so sorry to hear about Steve...He was a such a kind and friendly man....He will be missed....My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family

–Janet Jones Beck

My acquaintance with Steve began in 1980 when I joined "our" bank family. He was always a gentleman, loved to have a good time, honest, accomplished in his business, a true asset as a board member and chairman. His was a life well lived. My condolences to Nancy and the family.

–Kathy Crowe

—Kathy Crowe

Dear family, What a privilege to know Steve as a friend! He was the perfect role model as a spouse, parent, grandparent, son, Christian, and community servant. Steve loved his family, friends, and community beyond measure. Please accept

our sincere condolences. May God bless you with comfort, courage, strength, and love as you go through this difficult time.

—Susan and David Pollpeter



—Anne Turowski

Prayers for your family that the Lord will give you peace and confort during this time of grieving. I work for UNC BR Cardiac Rehab where Steve was in our Maintenance Program after completing our Cardiac Rehab. He was a real sweet man and was always a friendly face to see coming in the door. He will truly be missed. Sincerely, Frances Eller

—Frances Eller

—Greg Poarch

Steve was a very nice and respectful person. My brother Greg worked for him for around 25 years. I always liked stopping in the store to say hello and see what he was up to. Later when we would come in from Nebraska we would make sure to stop and see him. Our prayers and thoughts are with the family. Gods, Pease and Love

—Eddie & Johnna Poarch



Steve was a good, kind and loyal friend to me and scores of others. His loss will be felt throughout the community that he loved and served so well. What many of us would have seen as limitations he saw as opportunities to be of service

to God and his fellowman. His humor and his zest for life were contagious. Nancy, you, the girls and the grandchildren are being lifted up in prayer by those who were fortunate enough to have known him. He will be mourned by many, missed by many and remembered by many.

–Thomas Peeler



Gregory was a “one of a kind” man. Always enjoyed our interactions, jokes and conversations. He was certainly proud of his family. Thoughts and Prayers with Nancy and the entire family.

–Damion & Carmen Patton

My deepest sympathy to Steve’s family. Steve med a remarkably complete life. I remember him for his enthusiasm, wit and resilience.

–Walter Wall

Nancy and family, My sincerest condolences for your loss. Steve will be missed by so many. I’ve had the honor of not only being friends with Steve for 50+ years, but also working with him to fulfill a mutual dream of building a memorial to our alma mater, Morganton High School. What an incredible guy and great friend ~ keeping you all in my heart. Steve, rise in peace, light and love - Ruth

–Ruth Riddle Jones

Nancy, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your girls. Steve leaves a hole

in your heart- I know. Keep the fun and wonderful memories you shared close to you. It will help ease the pain. We all will miss Steve's smile and friendship. Love, Brownie

—Brownie Rochefort



Steve was one of the friendliest people I have ever known. His smile said it all. His strong will and determination was evident in everything he did. My thoughts and prayers are with Nancy and his family. Judy Lane Davis

—Judy B Lane Davis



Steve was a schoolmate and friend. He would meet any challenge and keep us all smiling. His leavetaking is a great loss to family, friends, and our community.

—Susan Houck

He was a very kind man and a pleasure to do business with. Sincere condolences to the family.

—Phil and Penny Smith



My condolences to Nancy and family. Steve's smile, wit, and model to live life to the fullest with the cards you are dealt meant a lot to me. I will remember him as a kind gentleman who was in service to his Father God.

—Candy Barrier



Steve and I became friends at 5 and enjoyed many good



Steve and I became friends at 5 and enjoyed many good times over the years. I am so sorry for his family and am heartbroken for the loss of such a wonderful person. I am honored to have been his friend. Lee Ann Sigmon Farley

—Lee Ann Farley

Steve is one of God's special souls. He was a tribute to society, our community and all who knew him. He will be missed by all he left here. I know Miss Callie is happy to have him with her again.

—Susan Corley Fetner

Nancy, I am deeply saddened to learn about the loss of Steve. My heart, thoughts and prayers reach out to you and your family.

—DORIS B CRAWLEY



—Peggy G Wilson

Nancy and family I am sorry to hear of the passing of your love one. may the LORD comfort and strengthen you all during your time of grief. Love and prayers

—Frances Woods



—Rhonda Woodell

My deepest condolences to Nancy, his children and family.

—Shirley Dale



I so enjoyed my time in Morganton with Steve! When I served as pastor of Calvary Lutheran Church, Steve was extremely helpful and supportive of our ministry and mission.. Lunchtime hamburgers at Pat's was a weekly feast with Steve. His love for the church and the city were always admired. We've lost a good man!

—the rev dr michael l collins



Steve was my dear friend, and a true gentleman. I admired and respected his enthusiasm for life and for accomplishing anything he set out to do. He had a delightful wit that always brought a smile to us all. My most sincere condolences to you Nancy, and to your wonderful daughters, Steve was so proud of them. God bless you all, Sincerely, Charlie

—Charlie Butler