



## Judge Mark Layng

March 1, 1952 - December 16, 2020

Judge Mark Earle Layng, 68, passed away peacefully in his Snellville home December 16 with his wife of 44 years at his side after a years-long battle with cancer. He leaves behind a tight-knit family and scores of friends who remember him for his robust personality, compassion, intelligence, sharp wit and relentless energy. His is a great American story.

Layng, a prominent Gwinnett County attorney and a judge, was born March 1, 1952, in Rockford, IL, the eldest of ten children of Judge John and Helen Layng. He graduated the University of Wisconsin – Madison in 1974. He married the former Jane Bartel in their hometown in 1976, promising her an adventure. He delivered. They moved to Georgia in 1978 with little more than grit and a lot of love as they started their lives together. He graduated Atlanta Law School and was admitted to the Georgia Bar in 1980.

Layng built a general law practice spanning 40 years before retiring earlier this year. He also served as a Snellville Municipal Court judge for 12 years, the last nine years as chief judge, and as a part-time judge for the Magistrate Court of Gwinnett County for 13 years. Along the way the Layngs raised three daughters and a son, who in turn produced eight grandchildren.

Layng, who never met a stranger, was loud and boisterous in his opinions and humorous observations but always open with his heart. While enduring his

own painful struggles with cancer, he was a cheerleader and morale booster for other patients who sat next to him for endless hours of chemotherapy.

A deeply religious man with a mischievous smile, he was an active member of St. Oliver Plunkett Catholic Church where he was a former leader and member of the Men's Club. He also had served on the pastoral and finance councils. Layng was a founding member of St. Oliver's Life Teen program. Layng had a servant's heart. He was always willing to lend a listening ear, a helping hand and a shoulder to cry on.

A passionate lover of baseball and football, he was a softball coach, influencing the lives of countless young people. A strong patriot, he was a student of U.S. history, particularly the Civil War, and flew an American flag outside his home most of his life.

He is survived by his wife; four children and their spouses, Melissa (Mike) Rush of Lancaster, PA, John (Lauren) Layng II, of Carrollton, GA, the Hon. Katie (Greg) Armstrong of Snellville, GA, and Bridget (Will) Scanlin of Lilburn, GA; and eight grandchildren, Allison, Tripp, Gavin, Brady, Zach, Wyatt, Charlotte and Samantha.

The family asked that in lieu of flowers donations be made in his name to any of the following: Canes Southeast Baseball, C/O The Mark Layng Foundation, 118 South White St., Carrollton, GA, 30117; Beyond The Ribbon cancer support group, [www.beyondtheribboninc.org](http://www.beyondtheribboninc.org); and St. Oliver's St. Vincent de Paul Society, 3200 Brooks Drive, Snellville, GA, 30078

A Memorial Mass will be held at 11:00 AM on Monday, December 28, 2020 at St. Oliver Plunkett Catholic Church with Father Cyriac Mattathilanickal, MS presiding. The family will receive friends 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM at the church. Due to COVID restrictions, the church will be limiting attendance to 150

people. There will be an overflow area and the church will be livestreaming the service on youtube.

Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 2246 Wisteria Drive, Snellville, GA 30078. 770-979-5010.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 28. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Oliver Plunkett Catholic Church  
3200 Brooks Drive  
Snellville, Ga

## Memorial Mass

DEC 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Oliver Plunkett Catholic Church  
3200 Brooks Drive  
Snellville, Ga

# Tribute Wall



“ *Judge Mark Layng*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Judge Mark Layng.*



December 27, 2020 at 10:34 AM



“ *Law Offices of Margaret Gettle Washburn purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Judge Mark Layng.*



**Law Offices of Margaret Gettle Washburn** - December 24, 2020 at 12:47 PM

KA

“ I was so sorry to hear about Mark's passing. I feel honored to have met him. He was such a fine gentleman. It was very interesting to find out that Mark and my son (also Mark) in younger days played baseball on the same team in Rockford. Of course, Jane, I am well acquainted with your wonderful family through your mother. Please accept my heartfelt condolences to the whole family. I know that Christmas won't be the same this year but I pray that you will all keep well and be blessed in your sorrow.

*Kaare Nevdal*

---

**Kaare** - December 22, 2020 at 08:46 PM

JA

*Kaare, sending you love right back ❤️*

---

**jane** - December 23, 2020 at 03:08 PM

JL

*Thank you, Kaare sending you love from Georgia ❤️*

---

**jane layng** - December 23, 2020 at 08:33 PM

AF

“ *Albert Linus Feliu lit a candle in memory of Judge Mark Layng*



---

**Albert Linus Feliu** - December 22, 2020 at 06:23 PM

RG

“ Please accept my sincere condolences. I knew Mark for over 30 years and he welcomed me as a fellow "Yankee" to Lawrenceville back in the day. Consummate, dedicated lawyer, and a true friend! He was truly "one of kind." His wit and humor were unmatched. Much loved and respected by everyone, and he will be sorely missed.

*Rob Greenwald*

---

**Robert Greenwald** - December 21, 2020 at 05:55 PM

JA

*He loved you Rob!*

---

**jane** - December 23, 2020 at 03:09 PM

PM

“ The first time I met Mr. Layng he walked up to me at the Georgia Dome and thanked me for hiring his son, John with the Carrollton Parks and Recreation Department. However, what I wanted to tell Mr. Layng was we were the lucky ones. John is a chip off the old block. And though I only chatted with Mr. Layng a few times over the years I felt like I knew him with all the wonderful stories John shared about him and his family. Let light perpetual shine upon him.

*Peter Maierhofer*

---

**Peter Maierhofer** - December 21, 2020 at 05:33 PM

LM

“ My sympathy to the entire Layng family.  
*Lynn Momberger*  
*Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois*

---

**Lynn Momberger** - December 21, 2020 at 04:22 PM



“ Dear Sue & Family, so sorry to read of Mark's passing. A remarkable person will grace heaven.  
Sincerely,  
Maggie Stiles Yates

---

**Maggie Yates** - December 21, 2020 at 08:55 AM



“ Prayers for your family from a Woodberry Neighbor.

---

**Larry and Peggy Thomas** - December 20, 2020 at 07:21 PM



“ Although I first met Mark as a lawyer I came to know you as a wonderful family man and had the privilege of working with you and your daughters. I know that you are now up in heaven dancing with the angels. Prayers for your family. Julie Potts

---

**Julie Potts** - December 20, 2020 at 03:49 PM



“ Knowing Mark was like knowing a mischievous teddy bear. Generous with his time, wise with his advice. He had a magical effect on the people he met. You always felt better after a conversation with Mark. He was truly a special guy. We send our prayers and condolences to Jane and the rest of Mark's family.

Randy and Joan Travis

---

**Randy Travis** - December 20, 2020 at 01:10 PM

BC

“ *We Remember Coach Mark back in the Days of Softball: 1:Coached our Daughter Bridget and he was an amazing coach and we have always remembered him from those days, Love the Clemens Family*

---

**Beverly Clemens** - December 20, 2020 at 11:27 AM