



Joseph Banta Fitzgerald

December 12, 1939 - February 12, 2026

Joseph Fitzgerald, 86, of Giddings, passed away early morning on February 12, 2026.

Joseph Banta Fitzgerald was born on December 12, 1939, in Leavenworth, Kansas, to Edward Joseph Fitzgerald and Eleanora Marian Banta. He was baptized on January 12, 1940.

Joseph enlisted in the United States Navy on December 12, 1956, and honorably served until October 10, 1960, attaining the rank of E-6. During his service, he completed naval submarine and diving certifications. On June 20, 1961, he married the love of his life, Glenna Jolly.

He had a strong passion for his work and earned certifications in electrical contracting, swimming, refrigeration, electric and mechanical engineering, machining, and ultrasonic NDT welding. Joseph built a successful career as a Project and District Manager and took great pride in his years working for Georgia-Pacific.

Joseph also held a federal aviation license and enjoyed flying. In his free time, he loved coaching Little League, fishing, traveling, tinkering with small engines and racing motorcycles. He was a proud member of the American Legion York Post 276 in Giddings.

Joseph is survived by his son, Shawn Fitzgerald Gutierrez of San Antonio; his adopted grandson, Michael Thamez and wife Patty of Giddings; adopted great-grandchildren, Noah Thamez, Isaiah Thamez, Owen Thamez, and Jonas Thamez, all of Giddings; as well as extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Glenna Fitzgerald.

A private celebration of life will be held.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Giddings American Legion York Post 276 or to the charity of one's choice.

Cemetery Details

Giddings City Cemetery (Section C)

900 West Austin Street
Giddings, TX 78942