



## Gregory Edward Imler

September 4, 1973 - April 17, 2026

Gregory (Greg) Edward Imler, of Hamden, CT died at Smilow Cancer Hospital on April 17, 2026. He was 52.

Born in Galesburg, Illinois on September 4, 1973, to Judith Forstrom Imler and the late Michael Imler, Greg grew up in Naugatuck, CT, where he graduated from Naugatuck High School in 1991. Shortly after graduation, Greg began his career as a truck driver, working at Andreucci Trucking for many years.

In 2004, Greg met and married the love of his life, Shelly Toth Imler, whom he lost in 2025 to lymphoma. They built a life on love, respect, trust, and romance. Of their many hobbies, they truly enjoyed going on road trips to their favorite places. Whether it was civil war monuments and battlefields or Acadia National Park along the coast of Maine, they loved to travel and go on adventures.

A Civil War historian in his own right, Greg studied the subject for the better part of his adult life. He was also a skilled bowler with a high score of 287, a near perfect game. Greg was passionate about a wide range of genres of music, and he always found himself drawn to and moved by great lyrics. He was a big fan of James McMurtry's and planned on going to see him on his current tour before the cancer took him. Greg was a runner having run both full and half marathons as well as having enjoyed hiking some of the bridges in the northeast, including the George Washington, Tappan Zee and Newburgh Beacon, among others.

Known amongst his friends and family for his kindness and big heart, he

leaves behind a legacy of loyalty, knowledge, humor, and love. He lived his years to the absolute fullest. He was an A student in the university of life, and most importantly, he knew how to give and receive love.

He is survived by his loving mother, Judy, brother Jason (Ayako), nephew Derek, and many other family members and dear friends. Please visit his tribute often to get updates on his Memorial Service which will be determined for a later date.

# Tribute Wall

KS

“ Greg was so funny and smart, and just a nice guy all around. With Rich, we would go out bowling or to get food at Howard Johnsons, him in his white Honda civic, us in Rich's parent's blue Firenza, and then hang out in his tiny bedroom playing CDs and records, singing along, and talking about music, lyrics, funny stories, their antics, and laughing way into the night. We would talk about anything under the sun, or talk about books we really liked. He could deliver a funny line or tall tale with a straight face and try to see if you'd fall for it. When you called him out, he'd crack that smile and chuckle. He was someone we could turn to when we needed to talk. I will miss him so much, and miss having him in our lives. I will miss how he could draw a heartfelt laugh from Rich, even when he was down. We miss you, Greg, and always will. We miss Shelly too, and can only hope you are together again.

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**Karen Smith** - May 13 at 11:34 PM

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“ I cherish Greg's humor— one of the funniest people I ever met. I will always remember the shenanigans at family parties. He put up with his younger cousins and always made everything fun. I was always amazed by his kindness and how smart he was. I will miss you— just wish we had more time.

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**Christina Bacus** - May 13 at 04:56 PM