



Robert M. Elder

April 3, 2026

Robert Elder, 71, of North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, passed away April 3, 2026, leaving behind a legacy of love, quiet strength, and a life well lived. Robert lived a life grounded in love—for his family, his faith, and the simple moments that made life meaningful. For 50 years, he was the devoted husband of Joanne Elder, sharing a partnership built on loyalty, laughter, and a deep, steady love that anchored their family.

He was a proud and loving father to Bethany Nguyen and Jared Elder, and a caring father-in-law to Paul Nguyen and Nikki Yacubovich. His greatest joy was being “Pap” to his grandchildren—Blake, Colin, Declan, Sloane, Turner, and Hadley—who brought him endless pride and happiness. He also embraced Aubrey, Max, Vivian, Kinsley and Kendra like his own grandchildren, loving them with the same open heart and quiet devotion. Robert is also survived by his siblings, William Elder, Cheryl Elder, and Debora Battistella, with whom he shared a lifelong connection. He also held a special appreciation for Joanne’s brothers and sisters, treasuring the extended family that surrounded him.

He was preceded in death by his parents Shirley and Myron Elder.

He spent his career as a software engineer, starting at Union Switch & Signal and finishing his 40+ year career with IBM.

Robert found his greatest peace in the beauty of the world around him. He loved visiting national parks and spending time on Anna Maria Island, FL, places where he enjoyed the beauty of nature around him and the smiles on

the faces of family with him. He loved nothing more than watching a sunset over a beach horizon, appreciating the gift of another day of life that God had given him.

Robert was a dedicated member of New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon, and quietly gave of himself by caring for the church's flower beds. It was a reflection of who he was—someone who showed love not through grand gestures, but through steady, thoughtful acts that made things better for others.

Robert will be remembered for the way he loved his family, the calm and steady presence he brought into every room, and his ability to find beauty in even the simplest moments.

A celebration of Robert's life will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, May 2, at New Hope Presbyterian Church, Lincoln Way, North Huntingdon, with, Pastor Brenda Barnes officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations in Robert's memory to support the National Parks Conservation Association.

The William Snyder Funeral Home, Irwin, is handling arrangements. For online condolences please visit www.snyderfuneralservices.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 2. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

New Hope Presbyterian Church
12727 Lincoln Way
North Huntingdon, PA 15642

Tribute Wall

AM

“ Anthony & Marie purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert M. Elder.



Anthony & Marie - April 28 at 08:16 PM

LJ

“ Lori, Pam , Barb , Amy , Julie purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert M. Elder.



Lori, Pam , Barb , Amy , Julie - April 27 at 04:41 PM

DW

“ Mr. Elder was a wonderful, kind guy and role model. I am very sad to hear of his passing. Growing up as his neighbor on Michael Dr., he welcomed me in his home and family, and on vacations at Anna Maria Island...and trusted me to watch his children when they were little. He always took care of me like I was family. Heart of gold. My sympathies to Mrs. Elder, Bethany, and Jared and all the extended family. Tough time, lean on all the good and fun memories for comfort. Rest in peace, Mr. Elder.

David Wojciak - April 17 at 04:26 PM

LJ

“ Love, Phil, Lynn and Jean purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Robert M. Elder.



Love, Phil, Lynn and Jean - April 16 at 04:41 PM

LJ

“ Love, Phil, Lynn and Jean planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert M. Elder.

Love, Phil, Lynn and Jean - April 16 at 04:41 PM