



Neil Anthony Assante, 56, passed away on May 14, 2026, peacefully at home. He was born on March 9, 1970, to Bethel (Gillispie) and Anthony Assante. Neil was preceded in death by his father, Anthony Assante.

Neil is survived by his mother, Bethel Assante; his brother, Todd Assante, and sister-in-law, Amy; and his cherished niece and nephew, Audra and Dalton Assante. He is also survived by his beloved fiancée, Tammy Bauman, and his stepchildren, Ashley Bauman (Timothy McDougall) and Matthew Bauman, with whom he shared many meaningful years and memories.

Neil lived a life filled with passion, loyalty, and genuine care for others. He loved all sports, especially cheering on the Boston Red Sox, Boston Celtics, and Pittsburgh Steelers. He enjoyed coaching Matt's baseball team during his younger years, reading, playing chess, traveling with Tammy, and spending quality time with Audra and Dalton. Neil also had a special affection for all animals who brought him great comfort and companionship.

A dedicated student, Neil graduated as salutatorian of the Class of 1988 from Manistee Catholic Central. He went on to earn dual bachelor's degrees in criminal justice and psychology from Western Michigan University in 1992, graduating as a proud member of Lee's Honors College.

Neil devoted 33 years of service to the community he loved. He began his career as an Office of Community Corrections Coordinator/Director for Benzie and Manistee Counties before continuing his work as an 85th District Court Probation Officer. He gave his time serving on the Manistee City Council. His professionalism, compassion, and commitment had a lasting impact on countless individuals and families.

Neil will be remembered for his kindness, steady presence, warm humor, and the deep love he held for those closest to him. His legacy lives on in the hearts of his family, friends, colleagues, and all who were fortunate to know him.

Funeral Services will be held Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 11:00 AM at the Oak Grove Funeral Home in Manistee with Father James Bearss officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 10:00 AM until time of service. Entombment will be at Oak Grove Cemetery.

Memorials in Neil's name may be directed to Homeward Bound or the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (Breakthrough T1D)

Please share a memory with the family at [www.oakgrovefh.com](http://www.oakgrovefh.com). Arrangements by Oak Grove Funeral Home and Cremation Service.