



Colin Edward Fitzgibbons

June 12, 1979 – November 21, 2025

In trying to capture the essence of the life of Colin Fitzgibbons, words will inevitably fall short, as his impact on his family, his friends and the Dallas community was immense. Way too young, Colin lost a heroic battle with colon cancer on November 21, 2025. He was 46 years old.

Colin was born in New York City but moved to Dallas at the age of two-and-a-half with his New York-born father, John (Jay) Murray Fitzgibbons and Dallas native mother, Ruth Miller Fitzgibbons. He attended pre-school at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church, and elementary school at Preston Hollow Elementary School, where he made lifelong friends that are still exceptionally close today.

Colin was an avid wordsmith—at least once he got past the 3rd grade spelling bee, where it took him a full three minutes to spell “w.e.r.e.” Later, at Hillcrest High School, he found a true passion for writing in the journalism room. As editor of the *Hillcrest Hurricane*, a proud moment came when he won a state-wide headline writing contest. That reverence for words extended into adulthood. Maybe his best “headline” was the name he suggested for the iconic restaurant atop Reunion Tower, “Crown Block.”

But that’s getting ahead of the story. Colin graduated from Hillcrest High School in 1997. In addition to journalism, he was a standout in football and baseball, president of his senior class, and was selected “Most Likely to Succeed.” A lifelong lover of sports of all kinds, Colin was recruited to play Division III football at Washington and Lee University, where he majored in economics, also made forever friends, and met the love of his life, Jessica Mentz Fitzgibbons.

After college, Colin moved to Washington D.C., where he was hired as a freelance reporter on the Sports Page of *The Washington Post*. Though his beat was considered the bottom rung of the ladder—high school girls lacrosse—he managed to publish more stories in one year than any other single reporter on staff.

After a year of trying to make a career out of writing, Colin and Jess moved to New York. They both fell in love with Manhattan and nearby Montauk, Long Island, where the extended Fitzgibbons family had spent many idyllic summer vacations. Following in his father's footsteps in commercial real estate, he joined the Staubach Company, and for five years, worked on high profile Manhattan real estate projects, learning the basics as a tenant rep broker.

Colin and Jessica were married in a beautiful ceremony in Rancho Palos Verdes, California in 2006. Along with his marriage, Colin's life was truly fulfilled by the birth of his three sons, Patrick, Conor and Declan. Despite his many achievements, he was most proud of being a father to his boys. He spent countless hours cheering, "correcting," and coaching their sports exploits, and he beamed with pride at their academic achievements. As these boys become young men, their outstanding characters are already evident and will live on as a legacy to their beloved father. They were his greatest accomplishment.

He returned to Dallas in 2008 to enter SMU's Cox School of Business, earning an MBA, acquiring mentors and forming relationships in real estate along the way. Beginning as an intern, he spent almost 10 years with KDC, a national developer of office buildings, build-to-suit facilities and multi-use projects, where he was involved in several high-profile developments in north Texas, most notably, CityLine in Richardson and Legacy West in Plano. In 2020, Colin was named President of Hunt Realty Investments, the wholly owned subsidiary of Hunt Consolidated, where he built a unique and highly respected culture, navigated complex issues that impact the future of the region, and nurtured transformational projects at Uptown's North End and The Fields in Frisco.

A leader throughout his life, Colin's impact on Dallas's civic life has been great. He served as a board member of The Real Estate Council, where he first made his mark as President of the "Young Guns," the Moorland YMCA, Downtown Dallas, Inc, Center for BrainHealth, SMU's Folsom Institute, and as a member of Young President's Organization. Colin was named by DCEO to the Dallas 500 most influential leaders in 2022.

Predeceased by his father Jay Fitzgibbons, Colin is survived by his wife Jessica, sons Patrick, Conor and Declan, mother Ruth Miller Fitzgibbons, brother Brendan Fitzgibbons (Marisela) and their children Kendrick and Sofia, "Second Mama" Victoria Espinoza, father- and mother-in-law John and Karen Mentz, grandmother-in-law Joan Mentz,

brother-in-law Rob Mentz (Jenna) and children Lawson, Beckett and Campbell, uncle Phil Miller and aunt Jeannette Miller, aunt Christine Fitzgibbons Hinsch (Gary), aunt Eileen Fitzgibbons, numerous cousins, and a legion of friends.

A celebration of Colin's life will be held will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, December 3rd at Highland Park United Methodist Church.

Contributions in his memory can be sent to the Jay and Colin Fitzgibbons Scholar-Athlete Scholarship at scovellscholars.com.