

“We’re your average family in Katy raising our kids just like everybody else.”

- Glenn Hegar

The Hegar family
Glenn, Dara, Julia,
Claire, and Jonah



Written by Kennan Buckner | Photos courtesy of Glenn Hegar

At Home with Glenn Hegar



A Q&A with Texas State Comptroller and Katy father of three

When he’s not hard at work protecting tax dollars and advocating for job growth in the Texas economy, Glenn Hegar and his wife, Dara, enjoy raising their three children in Katy. We wanted to know more about how this hardworking Texan took his work ethic from a farm just north of Katy to holding an executive office at the state capitol.

What has been your biggest accomplishment as State Comptroller?

“One thing that I’m really proud of is we returned a record amount of unclaimed property back to rightful owners. If you closed an account or forgot to close out an account, or put a deposit on utilities and you forgot to get it back, it is unclaimed and is turned over to the state of Texas, which holds about \$4 billion of unclaimed property. We were able to turn around and return about a quarter billion back, which is a major accomplishment.”

What are Texas’ largest challenges?

“We need to ensure that we make enough for the increased population. With 600 births and 500 new residents every day, the population increase puts pressure on the transportation systems. We also want to make sure that we have water resources for residents and businesses by ensuring that we continue to have a lower cost of living for people and a high-quality, educated workforce. Texas is fortunate that we have a younger demographic, so that means we have a workforce for the future. We need to make

sure they have the tools necessary to be productive citizens. Those are probably always the most common challenges, but those are the ones we need to continue to address.”

How has being in a family of farmers influenced your work ethic?

“Growing up on that family farm taught me a hard work ethic. There was nothing free in life. Most importantly, it’s taught me that there is no job too small or too big. I’m part of a team. In a family farming operation everybody has to pull their weight, and so it’s the same around the comptroller’s office. If there are things that I need to do, even though I’m the comptroller and the top of this organization, there’s nothing that’s too small for me to accomplish. Growing up in the small farming operation you just do it all. You’re the boss, the employer, and you sweep the floors. I’ve never been afraid of long hours and work. Just watching my dad and grandfather over the years, it’s taught me that you always need to make sure that you’re honest, you’re forthright, and you have integrity. The world has changed, but I used to watch them make a deal with a handshake. Unfortunately, the world doesn’t operate that way anymore, but you still need to operate with that value system.”

How long have you lived in Katy?

“I moved to Katy in summer of 1998, and then my wife and I got married that fall. We as a couple have been living in Katy since then. My wife’s family grew up in Katy. Her mom and dad graduated from Katy High School before there were other high schools. One of her grandmothers was a Franz. Where the Morton Ranch High School and junior high are, that’s where their old property used to be. So they’ve been part of the Katy community for a long time. Hers was one of the founding families of Memorial Lutheran Church in Katy proper.”

What makes Katy such a great place to live?

“We had all our family right here, and family is really important to us. Over the years, as we’ve had children, it’s a great place to raise kids. The school system has been really good for our children. They’ve done really well. We have one going into fifth grade, and our twins are going into first. We’ve been really pleased with their education so far. Katy is a great community for us to call home.”

What does the Hegar family do for fun in Katy?

“We’re your average family in Katy raising our kids just like everybody else. We love to watch my son play football, my daughters at their dance recitals, or just hang out at home. Somebody asked me the other day, ‘What’s your hobby?’ They’re the hobbies of Julia, Claire, and Jonah. Their hobbies are my hobbies. Football is a big favorite in the Hegar household, and we’re pretty good at football, too. So it works out well.” KM

HEGAR FAST FACTS

Born in Texas in 1970 and is a sixth-generation Texan.

Married wife Dara in 1998, and they have three children.

Was elected to the Texas House in 2000 and the Texas Senate in 2006, 2010, and 2013.

Attends St. Peters United Methodist Church in Katy.

Favorite Katy restaurants are Midway Barbeque, Lupe Tortilla, and Texas Tradition.

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Abigail Langan, M.D.

832.405.4660
810 S. Mason Rd., Suite 345
katy-psychiatry.com



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