



Stephen Matthew McDonnell

MAY 5, 1963 - DEC 25, 2022



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Stephen Matthew McDonnell, born May 5th, 1963 in Hollywood FL, passed away peacefully in his sleep at the age of 59 on Christmas day, December 25th, 2022.

He is survived by his 3 Children: Brittany McDonnell (Bryan Pellicer), Dylan McDonnell (Victoria Olmsted), Rachael McDonnell (Alex Martinez). His ex-wife of 30yrs Eileen (Gould) McDonnell; His 5 Grandchildren: Noah McDonnell (9), Julia Pellicer (5), Chloe Pellicer (3), Saleena Martinez (2), Jack Martinez (2 months), and 1 bonus Granddaughter Alyssa Pellicer (15). His siblings: Pat Delano, Lorraine Stevenson, & Richard McDonnell. He was predeceased by his parents: Lawrence (Ed) McDonnell, Mary Kathleen (Millard) McDonnell, his brother John McDonnell, and his oldest son Stephen Matthew McDonnell, Jr.

Raised in Yonkers, New York he was the youngest of 5 children, and graduated from Saunders Trades and Technical High School. He moved back to Florida in his early 20's and met his wife Eileen who he spent 36 years of a life, marriage, and children with. Steve was very smart and excelled as an engineer of CAD designing fire alarm systems for Lee/Collier County. His final position in 2018 was an accomplished dream of his; Florida State Fire Marshall for Lee/Collier County. Steve had a great sense of humor, was the greatest practical joker and very outgoing. He worked very hard to secure a life for his wife and children, only ever wanting to see them succeed. Steve influenced many lives, and we share fond memories with friends and family. Steve had a big heart and would give you the shirt off his back. He was always there for his children. He loved old cars and owned many Mopar's in his lifetime. "Betty" being his high school car, a 1969 Dodge Charger, was the love of his life. He taught Dylan how to work on cars and fix them, he taught Brittany how to do Math beyond her years and CAD design. He taught Rachael her love of music and took her to see Black Sabbath in concert. Steve will be sorely missed by all who knew him... Gone but never forgotten in the lives of his children, and his grandchildren.

Flowers or donations can be sent to his daughter: Brittany McDonnell.



Obituary

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The family is planning a celebration of life on February 4th, 2023 at 3:00pm for an hour at: Friendship Grace Brethren Church, 10251 Metro Parkway, Ste # 116. Fort Myers, FL 33966. Anyone who would like to come and give a funny story or memory is welcome to attend.

To share a story or photo, leave a tribute or to offer condolences to the family at this difficult time please visit Steve's memorial webpage at www.fortmyersmemorial.com and sign his guestbook.



Tribute Wall

Stephen Matthew McDonnell

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BM

Brittany McDonnell posted:

I have pretty much finalized a small service for Dad. For anyone who would like to attend and pay their respects for my Dad, or come and tell us a good memory you have of him, a funny joke he shared, a good time you had... Please do. WHEN: Saturday - February 4th TIME: 3pm for an hour WHERE: Friendship Grace Brethren Church, 10251 Metro Parkway, Suite 116. Ft. Myers, FL 33966 If you have any questions, please reach out. There will be a slideshow of photos of Dad on a screen.

January 26 at 5:51 PM

DL

Dave Lewis posted:

Steve was one of my longest friendships in life. I met Steve when I moved to the duplex across the street from his family in about 1985. We both had an affection for 1970's Dodge and Plymouth "muscle cars". At the time Steve had his "Betty" which at that time was in primer gray and black and had just received a rebuild on his 383. I had a 73 Cuda and had just bought a 74 Barracuda for parts but was driving it with no interior panels and a bungee cord holding the passenger door shut because the door hardware was missing. I made the U-turn in front of Steve's duplex and the door flew open. I heard this cackling laughter and "Plymouth sucks" come from his driveway. I stopped and got out to tie the door shut again and that was the beginning of a lifetime friendship. He used to remind me of that pile of junk car regularly while laughing and I would make the Dukes of Hazzard "General Lee" horn sound. It was our way of poking each other in the ribs. I will always remember Steve as "the guy who would do anything for a friend and everything for his kids". Steve would give the shirt off his back if you needed it. We lost touch for a while after I remarried and moved to the other coast for a few years but one day I walked into 7-11 on Palm Tree Blvd and here's this stocky Irishman with now gray hair tormenting the cashier. I stood there and started laughing knowing it was Steve. He turned, looked at me and we were right back where we left off. A few pounds heavier and a few more gray hairs but it was like the clocks went back for us. In life you will make a lot of acquaintances and a few really close friends that regardless of how much time passes you still have that connection. That was our relationship, it was a blood brotherhood and we are family. I am lucky enough to have you as my closest friend for decades. Hopefully there is a 7-11 up there I can walk into and we can pick this right back up. Love and miss you my brother.

December 29 at 6:25 AM

BM

Brittany McDonnell December 31 at 2:59 PM

I love this. Thank you Dave. I laughed at the Plymouth sucks comment. I can just hear him saying it.



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DN

Dominic Naro posted:

STEVE AND I HAD A SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP ..WE BOTH HAD MOPARS I REMEMBER STEVES HIGH SCHOOL CAR A 1969 DODGE CHARGER HE CALLED HER "BET SIE" ..GOING TO MISS YOU BUDDY AND KEEP EVERYONE IN HEAVEN LAUGHING .

December 29 at 6:51 AM

DN

Dominic Naro posted:

MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILYHE WILL BE MISSED RIP STEVE

December 29 at 6:45 AM

DN

Dominic Naro posted:

IN 2008 STEVE MYSELF AND A FRIEND NAMED AL WENT TO A MOPAR PART S YARD IN STARKE FLORIDA WE USED STEVES WHITE VAN .STEVE HAD US LAUGHING ALL THE WAY THERE AND ALL THE WAY HOME.IT'S HIS WAY OF PUTTING THINGS TO YOU .BUT HE ALSO WAS SERIOUS .I WOULD NOT WANT TO GET HIM MAD AT ME .STEVE AND I WERE VERY CLOSE .WHEN IT CAME TO GETTING HELP WITH SOMETHING HE WAS THERE. IM GOING TO MISS YOU BUDDY VERY MUCH SO . MY MOPAR MAN

December 29 at 6:41 AM

LJ

Laura Jordan posted:

Sending prayers of comfort to the entire family. We're so very sorry for your loss.

December 29 at 6:25 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Stephen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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