



Stephen L. Kelley

November 25, 1954 - February 21, 2018

Stephen L. Kelley, age 63, of Oak Ridge, passed away Wednesday evening, February 21, 2018. Steve was born in Harriman on November 25, 1954, to George Kelley and Ruth Allion Kelley. He attended Roane County High School and served in the Navy for 3 years. In 1984 he married Renee Rickard; they had three sons. As a self-taught computer programmer, he joined his father in Scientific Endeavors, a software development company. He went on to get a degree in Business Administration from Tusculum College and worked on cutting-edge software in several companies, most recently Third Dimension Technologies. He was a past president of the Humane Society of East Tennessee, a past president of the Oak Ridge Sister City Support Organization, and a member of the Executive Committee of the Roane County Democratic Party. He was serving on the Roane County Commission at the time of his death.

Steve loved many things - boating, swimming, singing, making pancakes or chocolate chip cookies, being silly, playing cards - and most of all, his family. He was tremendously proud of his children and never missed a chance to tell stories about them. He never spoke of his wife without love. He was central to family reunions and holiday gatherings, filling the room with facts, stories, politics, laughter, opinions, and hugs. He was a man of strong beliefs, and he put his values into action as a civil servant as well as a role model for his friends and family.

He is survived by his wife, Renee Rickard Kelley; his three sons: Will (and his

wife Sarah) of Kingston, Sam (and his partner Hannah Bebb), and Ben, both of Oak Ridge; his mother, Ruth Kelley, currently of Lenoir City; his brother, David Kelley, of Atlanta; his four sisters, Becky Brown (and husband Bill), Janet Kelley (and partner Joe Driggers), Jean West (and husband Larry), and Laura Ousley (and husband Ted); and myriad nieces, nephews, and cousins. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27th at Kyker Funeral Home, 350 W. Race St., in Kingston. A memorial service will follow at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Steve's memory to the Special Olympics.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **27**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kyker Funeral Homes
OUR KINGSTON CHAPEL
PO Box 69, 350 W Race St
Kingston, TN 37763
(865) 376-6531
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Kyker Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Stephen L. Kelley*



Kyker Funeral Home - February 26, 2018 at 02:38 PM

DK

“ *Merry Christmas Stephen, my heart hurts so bad right now ..I love you so much I miss seeing your smile .. I love you son love mom*



Deanna Kelley - December 25, 2024 at 06:03 AM

TH

“ *Oh my gosh, Renee. So very sad to read of Steve's passing. I will miss him so much. He was my favorite partner to drive the Band Trucks with. Being with Steve was always such a fun trip. He was so very skilled, enthusiastic, and pleasant to be around. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the family. - Terry Hannon, ORHS Band*

Terry Hannon - March 02, 2018 at 11:25 PM

JE

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. I tried to get away from work for the receiving but was unsuccessful. Steve was a good friend, so kind, interesting and easy to talk to. I'll miss him. Praying for all of you.

je - February 28, 2018 at 11:09 AM

LS

“ My heart is broken for you and your family, Renee; I still can't believe Steve is gone. I will remember him with great fondness, his energy, his fine mind, his strong and well-thought-out political convictions, *and* his mastery of the mysteries of the world's best chocolate chip cookie. Blessings on all of you on your journey of parting and remembering.

Liz Singley
Kingston TN

Liz Singley - February 27, 2018 at 02:32 PM

DA

“ The photo memories are wonderful and precious. Steve left us too soon but his was a life well-lived. Love ya'all.- Dale and Delbert Arwood

Dale Arwood - February 27, 2018 at 11:48 AM

TA

“ Renee and family, we were so sorry to hear of Steve's passing. It is obvious from the video and photos what a wonderful husband, father and family man he was! His love of family was so prevalent throughout. Treasure all the wonderful memories that were created. Praying for God's comfort in your time of grief. Our sincere condolences.

The Alcorn family, Oak Ridge

Timothy Alcorn - February 27, 2018 at 09:06 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Stephen L. Kelley.



February 26, 2018 at 06:05 PM

KT

“ Praying that God will give you comfort and peace during this very difficult time.
Kim Tharp

Kim Tharp - February 26, 2018 at 03:40 PM



“ 63 files added to the album Life Tributes



Kyker Funeral Home - February 26, 2018 at 01:32 PM



“ Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Stephen L. Kelley.



February 26, 2018 at 01:10 PM