



Stephen Walker

February 23, 1943 - April 3, 2013

Stephen R. Walker, 70, passed away at home on Wednesday, April 3, following a lengthy illness and death from the complications of multiple sclerosis. Steve was born February 23, 1943, in Chicago, IL, and was adopted as an infant through The Cradle by Barbara M. and Edwin F. Walker, Jr. of Oak Brook, IL. Steve graduated from Hinsdale Township High School in 1961, having achieved second in Illinois state doubles tennis. He earned a BS in psychology from Rockford College in 1966. Following years in pharmaceutical sales, Steve became a certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor and worked at Hinsdale Hospital's New Day Center until 1993. He and Marilyn moved to Minocqua in 1995 and worked as AODA counselors at the Family Resource Center in Lac du Flambeau until 2004. Steve loved fishing, sports (especially the Chicago Bears), hiking, and life in the Northwoods. Steve is survived by his wife of 28 years, Marilyn; daughter Melissa Walker of Clarendon Hills, IL; son Brian (Julie) Walker of Naperville, IL; stepchildren Paige (Zachary) Doehla of Springfield, IL, and James (Lisa) Gilchrist of Allentown, PA; grandchildren Tommy, Kate, Brynn and Blake; sisters Harriet (Bill Hirschauer) Walker of Lac du Flambeau and Nancy (Michael Senger) Walker of Traverse City, MI.; nieces, great nieces and nephews and his ever faithful puppy, Dewey. The family thanks the wonderful home and hospice "angels" from Ministry Home Care, caregivers, Mark Zingler and Scott Erno, and Dr. Richard Fossen for their support and guidance. Arrangements are being handled by Bolger Funeral Home, Minocqua. A funeral service will be held at St. Matthias

Episcopal Church, Minocqua, on Saturday, April 20th at 11:00am. A reception with the family will follow the service in the parish hall. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Ministry Home Health and Hospice Services or Lakeland Food Pantry/Howard Young Foundation.

Tribute Wall

DC

“ I will say that Steve was a Chicago Bears' fan! His father and Steve took me to see a Bears' game at Wrigley Field when we were in junior high school. What I remember is how cold it was. Even with a blanket and a hand warmer I was really cold. They were very dedicated fans!

Steve is also featured in one of our high school movies on YouTube. It is called "Blind Man's Bluff" and can be found at <http://youtu.be/m3HX2Oad5o0>

Duke Castle - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

HL

“ My sincere condolences to the Walker family. After high school in the mid and late 60's, Steve and I spent a good deal of time together hanging around in Chicago's environs. He was probably the closest thing I ever came to having a "best friend". Steve was an intelligent, honest and thoughtful person with wry sense of humour.

Hank Ladyn - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

RC

“ I knew Steve from first grade in the old Butler School in Oak Brook. Our cub scout pack met at his house. We often played there with the "original" beagle Dewey. The first car I ever owned was the an Olds 98 convertible I bought from Steve. I remember taking him to the airport in his car when he was returning to Florida Presbyterian College and he flew off with keys in his pocket. The memories are far too many to list.

Rune Carlson - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

LK

“ Marilyn and family,
I'm so sorry for your loss and send my deepest condolences. Steve was such a good friend to my brother, Frank, and loved by all of our family. He will be missed and never forgotten.

With love,
Lisa Krohn

Lisa Krohn - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

JM

“ Marilyn and family, we just wanted to send our love and prayers to you all.

Jamie and Rick Mattila - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

RH

“ I was saddened to hear of Steves passing. I always enjoyed visiting with him and admired his optimism and generosity. He was a good friend and neighbor and will be missed. My condolences to Marilyn and the family.

Rollie

Rollie Hettinga - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

TT

“ Steve was a good friend during and for many years after high school. He was always positive. He was always supportive. He was always fun to be with. He was such a good person. I am sure that he has added to the happiness and good fortune of all those who knew him. He definitely has left his mark on the world.

Thomas N. Talley - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

KO

“ *Good by Steve - When I learned of your illness, I included you in my prayers every day. People who know me may not believe this. You were a Special Friend! My very best to your family & friends.*

Karl (Oz) Ostrum

Karl (Oz) Ostrum - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

SA

“ *Marilyn and family I know this has been a long road for all of you. I also know all too well that it will take time for you to fully deal with your loss. Please be comforted when you remember that Steve is now whole again and with his Lord where it is all good. Peace and love to all. Sarah Doehla*

Sarah - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

JL

“ *Dear Marilyn,*

*Weep as you must for your husband Stephen.
You must also know that he has entered into the kingdom of God.
He shall possess a joy and peace that is unattainable on this our earthly realm. Rather, rejoice in his everlasting and total happiness, for his eyes have seen God. What a beautiful thought. I wish you comfort and strength.*

Your friend. Jeannine

Jeannine Laibly - March 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM