



Stephen Lee Spanich

March 8, 1947 - January 31, 2021

Steve was born March 8, 1947 in Kewanee, Illinois, to his parents, Joseph and Helen Spanich. The younger of their two children, Steve, excelled in sports and was a high school all American in basketball and baseball. Steve attended the University of Illinois on scholarship and later transferred to Quincy college where he met the love of his life, his wife Terri. They married May 30, 1970 and Steve spent the rest of his life with Terri. Steve was an educator for most of his adult life, working as a teacher, coach, principal and athletic director. He taught, coached and directed for more than forty years. While passionate about education and his opportunity to serve as a Pastor at Victory Christian Center, his heart beat truest and strongest for his family and the Lord. His discipline and dedication led to his three daughters following in his footsteps in education, while his three sons pursued business banking and law. Steve's family now includes six children, 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Steve was ready to give anything for his family. He was always ready to tell a joke and he loved it when we said it was a "dad joke" and loved it even more when we laughed. More importantly, he loved Jesus and took every opportunity to pray with anyone that would let him, and even some that didn't! He put his word into action, something so rare today, because he was an uncommon man. His favorite phrase was "God bless you" and his most prized accomplishment was bringing someone to Christ. Thoughtful and dedicated, he fought as hard as he could, to stay with us for as long as he was able. Known as BG (Big Guy) to every grandchild, he is survived by his wife Terri, his children Jason (Julee), Nicole (Warren), Adam (Christa), Bethany (Brian), Samuel (Kenda) and Hannah (Jeremy) and their children.

In honor of Steve's memory, please consider a donation to :
<<https://www.gofundme.com/f/steve-spanich-memorial-fund>>

Comments



“ We are very sorry for your loss. We will be praying for peace and comfort for all of you.
Don and Marie Chaon

Marie Chaon - March 15 at 05:43 PM



“ Sending sympathy and prayers to cousin Steve's family.
Debbie Dura Lindbeck



Deb Dura Lindbeck - February 13 at 08:26 AM



“ Tom Dura lit a candle in memory of Stephen Lee Spanich



Tom Dura - February 08 at 08:37 AM



“ Am stunned to hear about Steve's passing. Talked with him few months back. I went to high school with Steve and played high school and American Legion baseball with him. I've stayed in touch over the years and down the road when Steve was coaching baseball, I was coaching against my best friend. What a treat. We had a special Steve Spanich day at Alleman high school and wouldn't you know, Steve's team won. What a dynamite coach and communicator just as he was

Jim Murphy - February 06 at 10:30 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Stephen Lee Spanich.



February 05 at 06:31 AM



“ All praise to the Lord for the wonderful things He brought to light through the life He provided to Steve Spanich. Our precious time with Steve began in the late 1980's. Steve was called by the Lord to answer His call to serve the Lord's school in service at the Lord's new Isaac Newton Christian Academy at Cedar Rapids Iowa. This Academy was launched by Richard Felter (President & CEO), Anita Johnston (Secretary), Barb McDaniel (accountant), Ken Kolek (Treasurer & CFO), a marvelous teaching staff, wonderful volunteers and a dedicated board. The missing piece of the formula was the caring attitude, nurturing environment, balanced discipline and focused leadership of an experienced professional. That important piece was in place upon Steve's arrival for the second year. He served the Lord, his family, the faith based community and the Lord's school. We will remember you fondly with our individual memories. Thank you Lord for bringing Steve into so many of our lives at the perfect time. We will miss you for the short time until we enjoy eternity together singing praises to our King. Love and peace to the family from Ginni and Ken Kolek.

Ginni & Ken Kolek - February 04 at 09:25 PM



“ In the early days of Issac Newton Christian Academy Steve and I had a great time in the management of the school. When tough decisions were required we always came together in a manner that honored the Lord. We had a physical challenge in that the facilities were old and run down....hooray it took several volunteers to keep things running. Steve took it all in honorable fashion, We did have fun in the operation of the school. I will say, golf did enter into the joy of our time together. Steve was very competitive and so was I! Terry Knake and I played against Steve and Steve Scheib. I was the weakest player but seemed like we could often win because I could putt and Steve would overplay his shots. Steve always had the attention of the students which made for a successful operation. Our prayer time together was precious! Finally, I was very pleased and honored when Steve called me last Thanksgiving to thank me our time together while at Issac Newton Christian Academy in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Thanks to Terry and family for strong support during their time in Cedar Rapids.

Dick Felter - February 04 at 05:27 PM



“ Steve was a wonderful teacher, coach and mentor to so many. I am thankful for the time we were able to work together at the Tournament of Champions and TPS. My heartfelt prayers go out to his family. Jen Sanders

Jen Sanders - February 04 at 12:13 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Stephen Lee Spanich.



February 04 at 10:03 AM



“ My heartfelt prayers go out to Terri and all the family. I have so many good memories of Steve while he served as administrator at Isaac Newton Christian Academy. I remember asking Steve if he would consider me teaching at Isaac Newton, when I was contemplating a career change. With tears in his eyes he said he and their board had been praying for male teachers to come teach there. Soon thereafter I was blessed with the opportunity to begin subbing for Mrs. Potter in 3rd grade, then offered a teaching contract the following year. I certainly enjoyed Steve's "Dad Jokes" and we had a blast trading puns back and forth (along with Mr. Judy). I will always remember this giant of a man with an even larger heart and a compassionate spirit! Heaven has gained another saint! Dave Gascho

Dave Gascho - February 03 at 10:04 PM



“ Enduring Light Casket Spray was purchased for the family of Stephen Lee Spanich.



February 03 at 10:41 AM



“ Steve was so friendly and always made me feel special. He had SUCH a sense of humor and made me laugh. What a great heart! He really had a way of making me feel special and I'm sure that's how he was with everyone. I pray for Terry and their children and grandchildren at this time of loss.

Claudia Streetman - February 02 at 11:44 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Stephen Lee Spanich.



February 02 at 07:52 PM



“ My family was forever changed under the leadership and guidance of Steve Spanich at Isaac Newton Christian Academy. He always had a listening ear and would often pray with me about things that were bothering me. Knowing that he cared for everyone of the staff, parents and children at the school was a great comfort to leaving both my children in his care, leadership and guidance. He provided employment for Jeff when he needed to change jobs. He gave everything to all of us who knew him. He had a good sense of adventure and humor, and as a reward for fundraising goals being met he let the students squirt him with ketchup and mustard while pretending to be a hotdog inside a bun. The smile on his face is something that I will always remember. It was an honor to know you and your family. God bless you.

Helen Schwietert - February 02 at 07:33 PM



“ I just learned of Steve's death. I am so sorry to hear this. Steve and I go way back. Grade school playing against each other and both at Alleman a year apart. Then we both were at Quincy University. And finally we worked and coached together at Quincy Notre Dame High School. Steve was such a great positive person. One you could always count on. Married to a beautiful and fun wife Terri and fantastic children. I am so very sorry for your loss. May God watch over all of you. John (Jack) Spring, Quincy, IL.

John - February 06 at 10:19 PM



“ Terri and family. So sorry to hear about Steve's passing. May he Rest In Peace! From his cousin Janice (Ebel) Heaton

Janice Heaton - February 07 at 09:51 AM



“ Rest Peacefully Steve Until We Meet Again.

Tom Dura - February 08 at 08:44 AM



“ Terri and Family-You are in my prayers. Eternal Rest Grant Unto Steve.

Mike Dura

Michael Dura - February 08 at 05:28 PM



“ Just heard. My heart goes out to the Spanich family. Thoughts and prayers to you all. I watched him play basketball at Quincy College and he was my coach at Quincy CB. Great influence..great man.

Chuck Grawe

Charles Grawe - March 31 at 03:38 PM