



Anna Carpenter Lee

October 3, 1951 - May 7, 2017

Stephen Wayne Lee, a 15th generation American and eighth generation Texan left this earth on May 7 to be welcomed into heaven by his heavenly father Jesus Christ. Stephen enjoyed life and was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend. The family will receive friends at Stewart Family Funeral Home on, Saturday May 13th, from 6-8p.m. with a Sunday Service to follow at Roselawn Cemetery 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Memorial Service at the Green Acres Chapel. Stephen was a long time member of Green Acres Baptist Church. Honorary pallbearers will be Bobby Perdue, Robert Hilliard, Daniel Evans, Ken Hapgood.

Stephen first saw the "love of his life", Anna Marie Carpenter in November of 1979. He was then Sports Director for KLTV-TV in Tyler and was covering a Tyler Junior College football game. While using binoculars, to identify the players, he caught sight of the Director of the Apache Belles seated in the opposite bleachers. He told his photographer, "I just saw the most beautiful girl I have ever seen and I have to meet her!" They soon began dating and were married on June 20, 1981. Up until his death he continued so say Anna was the most beautiful girl he had ever seen!

He is survived by a brother Philip Lee of Tyler and sister, Debra Rounsavall of Tyler. He is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces. Steve was preceded in death by his parents Rev. H.L and Ludie Lee. Stephen graduated from the University of Texas in Austin with a bachelor's degree in Radio and Television Communication. Following graduation he

began his broadcasting career with KDOK-KNUE radio where he said "I was a rock and roll disc jockey making \$100 a week and loving every minute!" While at KDOK-KNUE, Steve felt fortunate to have met and interviewed then President Gerald Ford, Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, future President Ronald Reagan and questioned President Richard Nixon. He later moved to KLTV-TV where he eventually became Sports Director and on-air anchor. He thoroughly enjoyed his employment at KLTV and loved covering Dallas Cowboy training camps in California, NFL games at Texas Stadium, covering two Super Bowls and covering the Texas Rangers. He was an ardent sports fan and was fortunate to have met and interviewed a number of childhood heroes including Mickey Mantle, Yogi Berra, Joe Namath, Merlin Olson and other great athletes. It was a game to Steve that he could say he had met and spoke with every President of the United States since LBJ.

In July of 1980, Stephen along with Bobby Perdue and Robert Hilliard left KLTV to form LPH Productions, a video production and marketing company. Through the years they produced videos for such companies as Microsoft, Las Vegas Tourist Bureau, DFW Tourist Bureau, City of Houston, the Brookshire Grocery Company, the Trane Company and many others. Business took Stephen around the world and he was fortunate to often be accompanied by the love of his life, Anna, on many of those trips. Business took the couple to cities across the United States, to Canada, Hawaii, Mexico, Central America and to numerous islands in the Caribbean. Both Matthew and Britton worked with him and he felt so fortunate to have his family close. Stephen had a genuine love of genealogy and took great pride in researching his patriot ancestors that formed this great country. His passion began when his son Matthew watched a Civil War Reenactment during an American History Class at Hubbard Middle School. Matthew said he wished he had a Civil War ancestor and Steve researched and discovered his great-great grandfather had fought in the Civil War and later became a Texas Ranger. The fire had been lit! Anna wanted to prove one of her ancestors had served in the Civil War and continued her search back to a patriot ancestor that had served

in the Revolutionary War. A love of family heritage began! Steve's earliest discovered ancestor, Christopher Tilghman, immigrated to the Virginia Colony in 1620 and Stephen enjoyed tracking the subsequent generations and discovering where and how each ancestor lived.

Steve was an active member of the Captain William Barron Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution where he was past president. He was a proud member of the chapter Color Guard and took great pride in wearing his Colonial Soldier Revolutionary War uniform and appearing at numerous events to promote patriotism. He was District X Vice President for the Texas Society, SAR, and served on many committees. On the National level he was a member of numerous committees and served as National Videographer traveling, along with Anna, to SAR activities across the country. He was a proud member of Sons of the Republic of Texas, Descendents of Washington's Army at Valley Forge and Order of the Founders of North America.

One of his proudest moments came when he discovered that his Revolutionary War Patriot, James Harris, had survived the terrible winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge and it was then discovered that Anna's Revolutionary War Patriot, George Carpenter, had also spent that winter at Valley Forge. A fact finding trip to Valley Forge proved their patriot ancestors were only two encampments apart. Steve and Anna often commented that their great grandfathers would have had to have known each other since they were both from Virginia and wouldn't they be proud that their grandchildren had married and were working to keep their heritage alive nine generations later. He was also proud of the fact that he had discovered 12 patriot ancestors that served during the American Revolution, one of them at the Battle of Bunker Hill which began the American Revolution. Steve and Anna both had patriot ancestors that served in the same encampment 100 yards apart in the brutal winter of Valley Forge. What are the chances of that! Anna Marie Lee was born on October 3, 1951 in Tyler to William Smith

Carpenter and Martina Vukovich Carpenter. Anna Marie Lee received her Bachelor's Degree from Texas Christian University where she was a member of the Phi Upsilon Omicron National Honor Society, President of Chi Omega Sorority and was an Original Dallas Cowboys cheerleader. She received her Master's Degree from Texas Women's University. Soon after, she became the Executive Director of the Internationally Famous Apache Belles at Tyler Junior College as well as the Dean of Women. Under her direction, the Belles performed at the halftime of the Super Bowl, met President Jimmy Carter at the White House in Washington D.C., performed during the halftime at numerous Dallas Cowboy games at Texas Stadium, at numerous bowl games, NFL playoff games, the National Cherry Blossom Parade in Washington D.C., and met celebrities including Bob Hope, Red Skelton and Anita Bryant. She appeared on the cover of "Sports Illustrated" with four of the other original cheerleaders and also appeared on "Entertainment Tonight", "Inside Edition", ESPN and in "Texas Monthly".

She is an Honorary Regent of the Mary Tyler Chapter and has served her chapter in numerous chairmanships. She is serving as National Vice Chairman of the NSDAR Credentials Committee and as District VI Chairman of the TXDAR/SAR Liaison Committee. She is a past president of the Piney Woods Regent's Council, District VI Director, an officer of the TX DAR State Chairman's Club, TXDAR State Chapter Regent's Club, and the TXDAR State Chapter Chairman's Club. She is the Recipient of the National Daughters of the American Revolution Evelyn Cole Peters Award, presented at the NSDAR Continental Congress in Washington D.C. She was also the recipient of the NSDAR American Heritage 1st Place Poetry Award, for outstanding literary work of the Society, also presented at Continental Congress in Washington D.C.

Under her leadership as Regent, the Mary Tyler Chapter placed their first DAR Historic Marker at the Goodman-LeGrand Home and Museum. She has proven 15 Revolutionary War Patriot ancestors and is an active member of Green Acres Baptist Church.

In addition to DAR, she is a National Officer of Colonial Dames of the 17th Century of which she was the chapter President for Louisiana. Anna was also selected to be installed in June as Louisiana's State President of the National Society of Colonial Dames. She is also a member of The Society of the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge, The Order of Founders of North America 1492-1692 Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Descendants of Stephen F. Austin's Old Three Hundred, U.S. Daughters of 1812, The First Families of Kentucky, The Society of the Descendants of Colonial Clergy, the National and Texas Ladies Auxiliaries of the Sons of the American Revolution The Society of New England Women and United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Anna has been married to Past-President of the Capt. William Barron Chapter NSSAR, District 10 Vice-President and National SAR Videographer, Stephen Lee, for 37 years. They are the parents of Capt. William Barron Chapter Past President, East Texas Color Guard Commander, and the James P Douglas Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp Commander, Matthew Lee, and Capt. William Barron Chapter 1st Vice President, Color Guard Drummer, former Capt. Samuel Mosby Society C.A.R. President, and the James P Douglas Camp Sons of Confederate Veterans, Britton Lee. They are known as "Mimi" and "Gramps" to grandsons, Mason and Hunter Lee. She is survived by a cousin, Bill Meyer; and many of loving relatives and close friends.

Instead of flowers the family is requesting that a donation be made to the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution at txssar.org

Cemetery Details

Rose Lawn Cemetery

2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.
Tyler, TX 75703

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 13. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Graveside Serv.

MAY 14. 1:30 PM (CT)

Rose Lawn Cemetery
2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.
Tyler, TX 75703

Mem. Service

MAY 14. 3:00 PM (CT)

Green Acres Baptist Church - Chapel
1607 Troup Hwy
Tyler, TX 75701

Tribute Wall

JE

“ Sweet Anna was my sister in Apache Belles and Zeta Phi Onega. She was a lovely and kind person and I feel blessed to have known her.

Julie Hoffman Ellis - May 14, 2017 at 09:38 AM



Hi Julie, I'm Diante with KETK News in Tyler. Please give me a call 214.529.9179. We are working on a story about the Apache Belles that went to the Super Bowl 50 years ago. Thank you!

Diante Marigny - February 11, 2022 at 12:33 PM



“ 73 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - May 13, 2017 at 03:02 PM

LS

“*Matthew and Britton, what a lovely tribute you wrote to honor your parents. Anna Marie was my favorite cousin, (our descent from John Carpenter of Lincoln County, Kentucky) and have cherished our e-mails and visits over the past 20 years. I was so thrilled to propose her, and welcome her as a member of First Families of Kentucky during my term as Governor General. She was physically beautiful, but more important, she had a beautiful spirit, character, and personality. As smart as a whip, she used her talents and abilities for important causes and to further education, service, history, preservation, and beauty. She showed love and compassion for everyone she met, and I loved her dearly. You are in my thoughts and prayers and will continue as you work your way through this devastating loss. Lynn Shea, Louisville, KY*

Lynn Shea - May 13, 2017 at 01:59 PM

JJ

“*Janis Johns lit a candle in memory of Anna Carpenter Lee*



Janis Johns - May 13, 2017 at 12:49 AM

CR

“*Anna was my son's first teacher when he was 3 years old. Stephen was a Burleson cousin. We are saddened by their deaths. Our hearts go out to Matthew and Britton who are friends to my son, Joe.*

Chris Russell - May 12, 2017 at 04:11 PM

KL

“ Karen White Lemons lit a candle in memory of Anna Carpenter Lee



Karen White Lemons - May 12, 2017 at 03:13 PM

LR

“ Anna and I were Apache Belles and Zeta sisters for those two special years at TJC. Our connection goes back even further to the Puritan migration of the 1630's when my ancestors were congregants of her Rev. John Lothrop in Barnstable, Cape Cod. There will always be a special place in my heart for Anna. I will remember her grace and beauty, and kindness to everyone. She had a gift.

Lynn Hester Runyon

Lynn Hester Runyon - May 12, 2017 at 02:56 PM



Hi Lynn,
I'm Diante with KETK News in Tyler. Please give me a call 214.529.9179. We are working on a story about the Apache Belles that went to the Super Bowl 50 years ago. Thank you!

Diante Marigny - February 11, 2022 at 12:34 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Anna Carpenter Lee.



May 12, 2017 at 12:03 PM

CJ

“ I express my sincere and deepest condolences. Anna Marie's memory will always live in our hearts. Someone so special can never be forgotten. Her passing away saddens us but her memory will light us forever. Let us remember her as someone who excelled and gave her best. Let the memories of your mother's and grandmother's life provide you with the comfort you need during this challenging time.

*Carolyn Hall Jones
National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century*

Kettering OH

Carolyn Hall Jones - May 11, 2017 at 03:00 PM

BN

“ *Bill and Susan Newton purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Anna Carpenter Lee.*



Bill and Susan Newton - May 11, 2017 at 12:18 AM

SN

“ 6 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Susan Newton - May 10, 2017 at 11:11 PM

FD

“ Anna served as Organizing Secretary General during my administration and she always brought a smile to our meetings. My prayers are with Anna, Steve and family. O Lord grant unto the souls of Anna and Steve Eternal peace. May their sons and grandsons remember happy and loving memories of their parents and grandparents. Anna and Steve will be greatly missed.

Frances Harrington Davis

President General (2013-2015)

National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century

Frances Davis - May 10, 2017 at 06:52 PM

PH

“ I've known Anna since grade school. Got to know her better through dance, drill team and Apache Belles. She was a beautiful person - inside and outside.

Paula Hammond - May 10, 2017 at 06:09 PM

CM

“ Anna was always an inspiration and a delight. She had a special way of seeing a spark in everyone she met, and encouraging that spark to grow. I am so sorry for the loss of this kind soul.

Charleen Mullenweg - May 10, 2017 at 05:05 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Anna Carpenter Lee.



May 10, 2017 at 04:35 PM

JB

“ Anna was a lovely person--very endearing and outgoing, gracious, and caring. I will miss seeing her at the organizations that we both belonged to. I pray our Lord's peace and comfort to all family. With deepest sympathy and love in Christ, Joanna G. Baldwin

Joanna G. Baldwin - May 10, 2017 at 04:01 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Anna Carpenter Lee.



May 10, 2017 at 02:26 PM

LB

“ Anna Marie was such a loving and giving person. She was always there with a smile on her face willing to do whatever was needed. Her beauty was as much in her soul as in her presence. She was a valuable member of the Colonial Dames XVII Century and will be missed. Our prayers go out to her two sons and Grandchildren of which she was so very proud. We are also praying for Peace for all involved.

*Leslie Daly Breaux
President General*

Leslie Breaux - May 10, 2017 at 08:50 AM

NC

“ Praying for peace and comfort to you ...Anna was a beautiful soul and impacted so many women through her leadership to Apache Belles. My heart is broken but her memory will always live. Nika Orm Carter, Apache Belles 33rd Line

nika carter - May 10, 2017 at 07:11 AM

CW

“ My heartfelt sympathy is with you and yours, Cousins.

*with love,
Carrie Anne Wilson Woolverton
your Burleson cousin*

Carrie Woolverton - May 09, 2017 at 05:41 PM

JH

Anna and I grew up on the same street and spent years playing together. I am so sorry for her loss and I wish peace and comfort to all in her family.

Judy Horsley - May 10, 2017 at 06:51 PM