



Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS

September 11, 1974 - June 13, 2023

Dr. Corbett Kennard "Cory" Stephens, DDS, 48, of Austin, Texas, formerly of Tyler, passed away peacefully on June 13, 2023, at the Hospice Austin-Christopher House. He was born in Tyler on September 11, 1974, to Dr. Marvin and Penny Stephens. Cory was preceded in death by his brother, Trey Stephens, his father, Dr. Marvin Stephens, Jr., grandparents, Marvin G. and Charlotte Stephens, Sr., Dr. Warren G. and Betty Kennard, and cousin, Kevin Stephens Lehmann.

In 1993, Cory graduated from Robert E. Lee High School where he played soccer until suffering a knee injury in his junior year. He attended the University of Texas in Austin (Hook 'em Horns) and graduated in 1997 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree, with honors. While attending UT Austin he was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and on the water ski team for 2 years.

From the time he was a small boy, Cory wanted to follow in his father's footsteps and become an orthodontist. When old enough, he began working summers in his dad's orthodontic office. He would sweep floors and clean toilets just to be there and watch his dad work on patients. That desire carried on through high school and college years where he studied long and hard to make grades good enough to be admitted into dental school.

In the summer of 1997 that dream came true. Cory was accepted into the Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas, class of “2001”. After graduating he went on and was accepted into their Orthodontic Program, which he completed in 2003. Then was born the Stephens and Stephens Orthodontic practice in Tyler and Lindale. Dr. Cory, as he was called at the office, loved his work. Every patient mattered to him. He wanted each one to be satisfied with their happy “smile.”

Cory was active in various organizations during his years in Tyler. He served as President of the Smith County Dental Society, was a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics, an active member of Baylor College of Dentistry Orthodontic Alumni Association, a member of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon (dental) Honor Society, the American Association of Orthodontics, the Angle Orthodontic Association, and the National Tweed Orthodontic Foundation. Cory was awarded the Scholastic Achievement Award by the Psi Omega Dental Fraternity. Locally, he served as President of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation-North Texas Chapter and a member of the Order of the Rose of the Tyler Rose Festival.

Some of Cory’s favorite activities included time at the family lake house on Lake Palestine where he taught many a folk how to water ski. He loved spending time at the “ranch”, hunting and hanging out with his dad, brother, uncle, and many “guy friends”. He always said “what happens at the ranch— stays at the ranch”. And, he was rarely without his constant companion, “Miss Bree”, his yellow lab.

Cory is survived by his mother, Penny Kennard Stephens of Tyler, his sister, Brooke Marie Stephens of Northlake; niece, Marlee Blythe Stephens of Dallas; aunt and uncle, Dr. Jerry and Janie Lehmann of Austin; and cousin, Dr. Melissa Leigh Lehmann of Austin.

Cory grew up attending Marvin Methodist Church. He had a strong personal relationship with the Lord. When struggles arose, he always said “If God brings you to it—He’ll get you through it!” He is now having a glorious reunion with his two best friends—his father and his brother, Trey in their heavenly home.

A casual Celebration of Life is planned for Saturday, July 1, 2023, at Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler at 11:00 AM with Rev. Wes Bynum officiating. UT orange attire welcome! A Grab & Go lunch will be provided after the service.

Honorary pallbearers include: Dr. Mike Augustine, Joel Bates, Dr. James B. Holton, Katie McArthur Houck, Dwain James, Arick Lester, Linley McClendon, Peyton McKnight, Matt Moore, Tessa Todd Morgan, Jeff Neal, Kara Johnson Newberry, Blake Norrid, Dr. Kyle Smith, Casey Stanfield, and Luke Wheeler.

If desired, memorials may be made in Cory’s honor to: Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd, Tyler, Texas 75701 (www.hospiceofeasttexas.org), Hospice Austin-Christopher House, 2820 East Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd, Austin, Texas 78702 (www.hospiceaustin.org), Baylor Oral Health Foundation, 3600 Gaston Ave., Suite 1151, Dallas, Texas 75246 (<http://bohf.org/about/overview/>), or any non-profit of your choice.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



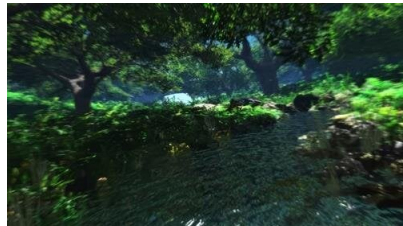
“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS



Stewart Family Funeral Home - July 01, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 26, 2023 at 10:11 AM

ST

“ My heart is broken into a million pieces. I've just learned of the passing of Dr. Stephens and Dr. Cory. I worked for Dr. Stephens sometime around 1984-1986. I even kept Trey and Cory a few times when their parents went out of town. I remember one time when Cory was around 10 Yrs old, we ran an errand in my new car, a bright red Fiero! Well... he began to beg to drive my car in the parking lot so needless to say I couldn't turn him down as he described that this would be one of the greatest things to ever happen to him. Lol. So we took a few spins around the parking lot before going home. Many years later I saw him and the first thing he said after he hugged me, was “remember that time you let me drive your Fiero?” Lol.
I'll cherish every moment I spent with The Stephens family and never stop missing them.

Shannon Trevino - September 02, 2023 at 08:51 PM

JR

“ Penny, my prayers are with you and Brooke for the losses you have suffered this year. May your faith give you what you need to accept the suffering that you must be going through. Juane Reed

Juane Reed - July 02, 2023 at 01:56 PM

KP

“ Kim DePaul and Kathleen Partain purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS.



Kim DePaul and Kathleen Partain - June 30, 2023 at 11:18 AM



“ 3 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 29, 2023 at 09:44 AM

RC

“ Dear Penny and Brooke,
We were so deeply saddened to learn of Corey’s untimely passing. We know how difficult these last months have been for your family and wish there was something we could say or do to help ease the pain of loss. We are not able to be with you in person for the memorial, but you are in our thoughts and Corey in our memories. Corey and I shared a 9/11 birthday, albeit different years, which I will always fondly remember. It was always fun to hear from him on our “special” day.
Sincerely,
Richard & Cindy Ceen

Richard Ceen - June 28, 2023 at 01:24 PM



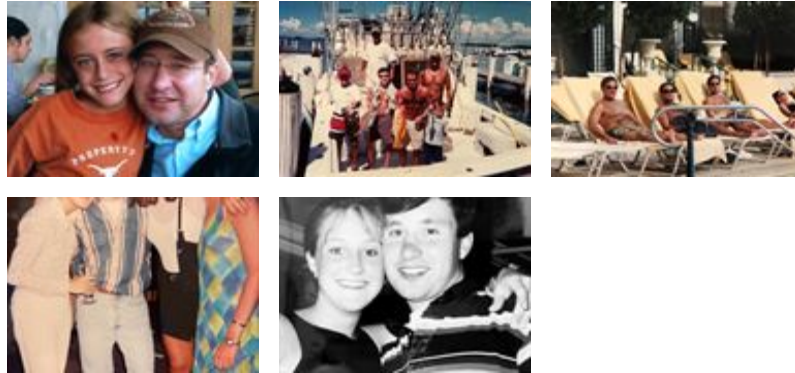
“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS.



June 26, 2023 at 04:48 PM



“ 73 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 26, 2023 at 10:10 AM

KU

“ Kelley Uzzell lit a candle in memory of Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS



Kelley Uzzell - June 22, 2023 at 10:35 PM

JC

“ The Jim & Babs Connally Family were so saddened to hear of the loss of the Stephens Men! Our thoughts & prayers go out to Penny & Brooke.



Baseball, Hotdogs, Braces & MANATU....God Speed Friends!

Jennifer Connally-Cain - June 22, 2023 at 05:15 PM

CH

“ I’m so sad to hear of his passing. Both my daughters seen Cory and Marvin for their orthodontic work. We loved them both dearly. Many prayers for everyone. I know he is rejoicing in his daddy’s arms

christie - June 22, 2023 at 08:16 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS.



June 21, 2023 at 08:05 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS.

June 21, 2023 at 08:05 PM

DA

“ You left us far too soon brother. You were a deaf friend, fellow Southwest "Angler", hunting buddy and so much more. I will miss you every day. Your passing has left a huge hole in my life. My heart goes out to your mother and sister. Daniel Percy

Dan - June 21, 2023 at 08:01 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS.



June 20, 2023 at 02:23 PM



“ Words will never be able to express how absolutely devastated I am about losing my brother my friend. Cory I love you more than you know. I am thankful for our our last conversation where you professed your relationship with our God. God has now set you free my brother from the worlds suffering and I know now you are now in the cradle of Gods love. I will miss you my brother and look forward to the day I get to give you the big hug. I love you pal and always will!
Christopher Jones
Family

Christopher I Jones - June 20, 2023 at 12:18 PM



“ Dr. Cory was an amazing orthodontist and I'm extremely lucky to have worked with him.



Tammara Thompson - June 20, 2023 at 10:37 AM

MK

“ Oh Penny my heart is broken for you guys. Prayers and hugs. We love you.

Mendy Kopecki - June 19, 2023 at 06:29 PM

JN

“ Jan Norton sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Corbett K. "Cory" Stephens DDS



jan Norton - June 16, 2023 at 08:24 AM

DB

“ Cory was on the soccer team I coached on the 80s. I will never forget those little legs pumping away as he raced down the pitch. Penny, I am so very sorry for the losses you have had in the past year. I pray the Lord will comfort you as He did for us in our loss of our son.

Debbie Blalock - June 14, 2023 at 11:20 PM