



Stephen Wayne Lee

July 11, 1952 - 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

CC

“ I am deeply saddened to learn of Steve and Anna's deaths. Steve was someone, who through kindness and friendship, was one of the more influential people in my life. I would not be the person I am today if it were not for him. We first met when he was a disc jockey at KDOK, and remained friends after he made the move to television. I was not old enough to drive, so I would ride my horse across Tyler, out to the old KLTV studios, and watch him prepare for the newscasts. I fell in love with television news because of him. He was instrumental in my getting hired at KLTV shortly after my 16th birthday; I could drive instead of "ride" to work. He was so kind and patient; allowing me to tag along on stories, teaching me how to write, edit, and shoot. He was not only a co-worker and mentor, but someone who filled the roll of a big brother during those years at KLTV. He provided me a wonderful professional reference, which led to a very successful 19 year television career in Oklahoma. That never would have happened without his encouragement and belief in me. I remember when I came back to Tyler to visit shortly after he and Anna had married. He was so very happy, and she was sweet and welcoming. I regret, and I am ashamed, that like most, I allowed time and distance to cause us to lose touch over the years. It happens, but this is a very painful reminder of why we should all take time out of our lives to drop a note or make a call to those who have helped us along life's path. When I was contacted today and asked if I knew or remembered him, my response was yes, that he was incredibly kind, with the best sense of humor - always laughing. When I was told what happened, it broke my heart. I pray that those who loved Steve and his wife can eventually find peace and solace in memories of happy times and those memories help make this terrible loss more bearable.

Catherine Curtin - May 14, 2017 at 04:26 AM

PM

“ Steve was the most patient person ever working with our family and employees. He made all of our commercials for 20 years and we couldn't have asked for a nicer and better business friend. Loved his encouragements and ideas along the way. Always there for us when we needed him. From an early age his boys were at his side learning the trade and had the best teacher in their dad.
Pat Melius

Pat Melius - May 12, 2017 at 05:11 PM

CT

“ Phillip, Debra and all. My heart hurts for all of you. I am so sorry. I have always had good memories of Steve, the 2 Randy's and Kim and the band. We had some good times back then.
I am keeping you all in my prayers.
Love you, Cindy Turbeville

cindy turbeville - May 12, 2017 at 01:18 PM

GS

“ GABC Rec Staff purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Stephen Wayne Lee.



GABC Rec Staff - May 12, 2017 at 11:05 AM

CJ

“ Through Colonial Dames XVII Century I saw that Steve was such a loving support for Anna Marie. We know they had such a special “sense of community” in their community service involvement. Your parents and grandparents were good special people. The so big loss that your family has suffered also causes terrible pain to us. We offer our support and affection. Those who are with God remain alive in His presence after death. Heaven has gained two new members.

*With Sincere Condolences
Carolyn Hall Jones
National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century*

Kettering OH

Carolyn Hall Jones - May 11, 2017 at 03:08 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Stephen Wayne Lee.



May 10, 2017 at 11:29 PM

SL

“ Matthew and Britton, I've been praying for you both daily. Know that God is carrying you both through this tragic time.

Your cousin, Shane

Shane Lee - May 10, 2017 at 10:23 PM

CM

“ *Every time I saw Steve, he greeted me with his whole heart. I will miss him terribly. My heart goes out to the Lee family and friends.*

Charleen Mullenweg - May 10, 2017 at 04:53 PM

PB

“ *Our heartfelt condolences go out to Debra, her immediate family and her extended family. May God be with the spirit of her brother and sister-in-law and comfort the families of each, during this sorrowful time. Pat and Wanda Baldwin*

Pat Baldwin - May 10, 2017 at 01:48 PM

LB

“ *This was such a terrible tragedy for everyone. Steve was so generous with his time and talent to the Colonial Dames XVII Century and will be remembered for this. My favorite memory will always be him dressed in his Colonial Uniform doing the Flag Ceremonies at our Conferences. We pray for comfort and Peace for his family and all who knew him.*

*Leslie Daly Breaux
President General
Colonial Dames XVII Century*

Leslie Breaux - May 10, 2017 at 08:54 AM

CW

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

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

Carrie Woolverton - May 09, 2017 at 05:40 PM