



Stephen Murray Wallace

January 6, 1952 - April 10, 2020

Steve Wallace, 68, of Bristol, Tennessee passed away on Friday, April 10, 2020 in the Bristol Regional Medical Center, Bristol, Tennessee. He was born in Knoxville, Tennessee on January 6, 1952, a son of the late Marvin Albert and Virginia Louise Armstrong Wallace. Steve is survived by his loving wife, Anne ; son, Peter William ; daughter, Elisabeth Anne and her partner, Jacob Canter; brother, Rick Wallace; dear friends, Tony and Sarah; and our cat, Zelda.

Steve was a resident of Bristol for 60 years. He was a loving and devoted son, husband and father. He was a graduate of Tennessee High School, Class of 1969. He was a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Class of 1973 and UT Law, Class of 1976, where he was a proud member of the Law Review. He started in private practice as an attorney in 1976 and was appointed to the office of Public Defender, 2nd Judicial District in 1989, and retired in 2018. Steve was an avid UT sports fan. He loved being in the outdoors. He was an Appalachian Trail 2000 Miler, completing the hike to the top of Mt. Katahdin in 2014. He loved running, being with his family on the boat on South Holston Lake, and going to concerts. He was a member of State Street United Methodist Church, Bristol, VA.

Due to the COVID-19 concerns, the family will hold a Celebration of Life at a later date. A private burial will be held Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at Glenwood Cemetery, Bristol, TN. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104, State Street United Methodist Church, 300 W. Valley Dr., Bristol, VA, or the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425. During these unprecedented times, please continue to support the family through their loss by sending cards, making phone calls, or placing on-line condolences at www.BlevinsCares.com. Mr. Wallace and his family are in the care of Blevins Funeral & Cremation Services.(276) 669-6141.

Cemetery

Glenwood Cemetery

839 Bluff City Highway

Bristol, TN, 37620

Comments



“ I first met Steve in the summer or fall of 1984 . We had recently opened our law practice in Bristol and had a windfall of Federal court appointed case for food stamp fraud. Steve and I shared the same client, Pee Wee (last name for confidentiality). Ole Pee Wee was a salt of the earth type, grew up poor and skating on the edge of the law his entire life.. Steve had a few more years on me in practice. He told Pee Wee who wanted us to get the charges thrown out .WE love to go to trial(I didn't of course.) He said it is what we live for. Then he went on to explain to good ole Pee Wee the reality of going to trial in Federal Court was going to be pretty bad for good ole Pee Wee.

Pee Wee took a deal . I loved Steve for his love and concern for the oppressed in Bristol. He never gave up on believing in our system. He never gave up on supporting his Church through hard times. WE were in some of the early State St Sunday School classes together (Koinia, Open Door Cross Roads ,Young Adult) when young married were popping out new babies left and right. I last saw Steve a little over a month as he was ushering. He will be missed Ann

bernardvia - April 17, 2020 at 10:01 AM



“ Anne, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. It will be my honor to make a contribution to the Southern Poverty Law Center in Steve's memory. Thinking of you during this sad time. Lisa Greenway

Lisa Greenway - April 14, 2020 at 11:49 AM



“ thank you

Stephen or Anne Wallace - April 17, 2020 at 11:34 AM



“ Lisa Greenway sent a virtual gift in memory of Stephen Murray Wallace



Lisa Greenway - April 14, 2020 at 11:46 AM



“ So thankful for Steve's service to our congregation at State Street United Methodist Church as an usher and in other roles. We are thankful for his many years working and living in our community, and for his great achievements outside of work. My thoughts and prayers to Anne, his family, and many friends.



Catherine Brillhart - April 13, 2020 at 07:34 PM



“ May Steve be at Peace, in Heaven. Prayers of comfort and The Grace of God be with the family. Patti, Class of '70 THS.



Patti Hawks - April 13, 2020 at 04:14 PM



“ Anne, Peter and Beth,

One of the best days of my life was Memorial Day 1987, the first day I started working for Steve! It was my privilege to work alongside him for over 32 years and I can honestly say I enjoyed every minute of it! He was the best boss a person could have asked for and we quickly became best friends. We saw each other through the good and bad times and I always knew I could count on him! I honestly don't know what I will do without him and my heart aches. I think he's busy now hiking the trails in heaven with my dad and they're probably still debating who's better UT or Alabama! Take care my precious friend and know I love and miss you very much!!!

Sarah

Sarah Patrick - April 13, 2020 at 03:53 PM



“ Bill Simpson lit a candle in memory of Stephen Murray Wallace



Bill Simpson - April 13, 2020 at 02:01 PM



“ Anne, I'm so sorry to hear of Stephen's recent death. My sincerest condolences to you. Thinking of you during this sad time. Wanda Earp

Wanda Earp - April 13, 2020 at 12:39 PM



“ I met Steve in 1989 at the initial meeting of Tennessee's new District Public Defenders Conference, as I too had been appointed a District Public Defender. Through the years, Steve's insights into the plight of poor persons in the justice system, his calm demeanor and thoughtfulness in discussing issues of importance with fellow public defenders led to me developing a great deal of respect for him. I am proud that we were friends. We often spoke of our mutual love of UT sports and of the outdoors. I extend my heartfelt wishes that Steve's family will find comfort in knowing that he has always been held in high regard and respect.

Gerald L. Melton
District Public Defender
16th Judicial District

Gerald Melton - April 13, 2020 at 11:06 AM



“ I loved worshipping with Steve and Anne at State Street United Methodist Church's 9:01 Contemporary Service on Sunday mornings. I sat with them many times and enjoyed the fellowship and loved to hear Steve's voice joining the singing. He was a fine man.

Roger L. Horton - April 13, 2020 at 08:41 AM



“ Anne and family,
Steve was not only my boss for more than 20 years, he was a very good friend. His insight when we were discussing cases, procedures and trial strategies was always helpful and innovative. Please know that each of you are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.
Richard Tate

Richard Tate - April 13, 2020 at 06:47 AM



“ Anne, Pete, and Beth, Steve and I met at UT in 1971 and became fast friends over our shared belief in fighting for the little guy against the establishment. Steve was able to carry on this fight by becoming the Public Defender. And, Wow, did the people of Sullivan County get the right person for that job. One cannot appreciate what it is like to go into a courtroom with everyone in that room against your client with you being his only hope until you have experienced that feeling yourself. It takes dedication, courage, and a belief in oneself that you can represent this client in obtaining the best outcome. All these qualities Steve had in his professional and personal life. Qualities that made him admired and appreciated by colleagues and friends alike.

I will miss him.

Terry - April 13, 2020 at 05:59 AM



“ Dear Anne & family,
I'm so sorry to hear of Mr. Wallace's passing. In the few years that I was employed at the Public Defender's office. I feel blessed to have known him. The Love he had for his family and the care for his clients and staff showed daily. My thoughts and prayers are with you and family.
Pam

Pam Dyer Love - April 12, 2020 at 09:07 PM



“ Anne, we are so sorry for your tragic loss of Steve. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.
All of the Fletcher family.

Fletcher family - April 12, 2020 at 03:20 PM



“ God Bless you Steve Wallace

Bill Simpson - April 13, 2020 at 02:02 PM



“ Steve was a good friend growing up in the Haynesfield area of Bristol, we were always seated at back of the classrooms having names starting with W. We went to church together too. He was a good trombone player, smart, and funny. Just saw him at our 50th reunion and he said he was in good health. Condolences to Anne and his entire extended family. RIP Steve! Christopher Wilson

Christopher D. Wilson - April 12, 2020 at 12:14 PM



“ Dear Anne, Beth and family, We are so sorry for your terrible loss. May the Good Lord's blessing be with all of you and with Steve. We hope that many happy memories and the thought that Steve has moved on to a new phase of his existence in God's presence be of great comfort now. Sincerely, David and Becky Luther

David Luther - April 12, 2020 at 11:33 AM



“ Anne, so sorry for your loss. Deep blessings during this time of grief and transitions.

cynthia carnahan - April 11, 2020 at 09:35 PM



“ Anne, Pete, and Beth, I am so sorry for your loss.
Words are insufficient to convey the grief I feel with Steve's passing. I owe him so much I could never repay him. He took a chance on me and really helped shape the lawyer I am today. I will miss him.
Andrew J. Gibbons

Andrew Gibbons - April 11, 2020 at 08:39 PM



“ I only knew of Stephen through his brother Rick, but Rick often spoke so fondly and highly of his brother not only to me but to all the staff and students at the medical library. I am sorry for your loss.

Joseph Owens - April 11, 2020 at 07:17 PM



“ Anne, Beth, & Pete,
I was so very saddened to hear about Stephen's death and wanted to offer my sincerest condolences. It is such a great loss to your family. I spoke with Rick just now to let him know how sorry I was and he shared such sweet memories and spoke of his admiration of his brother. My thoughts are with all of you during this time of grief.
Sharon Brown

Sharon Brown - April 11, 2020 at 07:14 PM



“ Dear Anne, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I pray God's love to give you peace and comfort during this time.
Much love and prayers,
Sharon Kestner



Sharon Kestner - April 11, 2020 at 06:07 PM



“ Anne so sorry for your loss. Love & prays from Almaroad family. James, Kim, Katherine and TJ.

Almaroad Family - April 13, 2020 at 11:13 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Stephen Murray Wallace.



April 11, 2020 at 05:44 PM



“ Anne, I am so very sorry for your loss. May God hold you and your family nearer to Him

Lynda Aistrop - April 11, 2020 at 05:21 PM



“ Anne, we are so sorry for your loss. Please pass our condolences on to Elisabeth and Peter. May God be with you in this difficult time.
Annette and Greg

Greg Cochran - April 11, 2020 at 02:38 PM



“ Thank you so much.
anne wallace - April 11, 2020 at 02:59 PM



“ I hope you know that all your friends at WW are thinking of you and your family, sending love and prayers.
Judie Wolverton - April 11, 2020 at 05:22 PM



“ Anne, Kay and I are so sorry for your loss. Miss seeing you in bible study Miss all my church family. Please call on me if I can do anything. Prayers for you and your family
mike kovacs - April 11, 2020 at 09:13 PM



“ Sweet sweet man, we are so sorry for your loss,prayers for all of you. Judy and Charley Burroughs
Judy/ Charley - April 12, 2020 at 06:57 PM



“ So shocked and saddened by your loss of such a sweet man. May your memories help you through this sad time.
Donna Thomas Ostermeyer - April 13, 2020 at 04:50 AM



“ Oh my! This was such a surprise this morning Anne! Sending you and the family peace and comfort during this time of sorrow! If I can be of help or comfort- please do not hesitate to reach out!
deanna white - April 13, 2020 at 10:17 AM



“ Anne, I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Steve. My heart goes out to you and your family during this very difficult time.
Martia Peterson
Martia Peterson - April 14, 2020 at 02:13 PM



“ I only just learned of Steve's passing, as weather conditions kept us from getting our newspaper until today. Although I haven't seen Steve in a number of years, we worked together when he initially began practicing law in Bristol. I found him to be a kind and caring individual to all those seeking legal advice. He later was a perfect fit for the Office of Public Defender.

For his family left behind, I pray for God's loving presence to comfort you during this most difficult time. My sincere condolences.

Phyllis Cowan

Phyllis S Cowan - April 14, 2020 at 08:56 PM



“ Dear Wallace family, we are so very sorry to hear this sad news. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and family. Greg & Chris Johnson
Chris Johnson - April 15, 2020 at 03:44 PM



“ Anne and family, I literally just heard about Steve’s passing. I am so sorry for your loss. He was a super guy and a great boss for over 7 years. May God bless you all. Rochelle Trent

Rochelle Trent - April 19, 2020 at 09:01 PM