



Mr. Stephen Joseph "Steve" Peplinski

July 3, 1954 - November 10, 2024

ILION – Mr. Stephen Joseph “Steve” Peplinski, age 70, passed away on Sunday, November 10, 2024, at Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, after a valiant battle with Stage IV pancreatic cancer. At the time of his passing, he was surrounded by his loving family.

Born in Utica on July 3, 1954, Stephen was the son of the late Joseph J. and Catherine M. "Kay" (O'Grady) Peplinski. Steve attended Notre Dame High School, where he earned the nickname “Pep” and enjoyed playing football and embarking on “adventures” with his school buddies, many of whom remained lifelong friends. Steve honorably served our country in the U.S. Navy.

Steve later attended the University of Steubenville in Ohio, where he met the love of his life, Barbara “Barb” Klotz. The couple married on June 13, 1992, and together they welcomed two daughters, Danielle Marie Peplinski (31), and Ashley Anne Peplinski (29). Steve and Barb shared 32 loving years together prior to his passing.

Steve’s life was filled with many chapters and adventures, but his love for his family and friends remained at the forefront. Steve enjoyed working in the paint department at Jay-K Lumber in New Hartford, until his retirement, where he met some amazing people that became his “Jay-K family.” Steve also

enjoyed music, camping, golfing, watching football, spending time with friends, and working on his beloved home.

People gravitated towards Steve's magnetic personality and sense of humor. He was beloved by everyone who met him. His family meant more to him than anything else in the world, something he proudly and always mentioned. He was an outstanding father, husband and grandfather who loved watching his granddaughters, Ivana (the Gee) and Aldijana, grow up. Outnumbered by the women in his immediate family, Steve affectionately referred to them as "his girls" and wouldn't have had it any other way!

Steve is survived by his loving wife, Barb; daughters, Danielle Marie Peplinski, and Ashley Anne Peplinski; granddaughters, Ivana Pajazetovic, and Aldijana Pajazetovic; brother and sister-in-law, Joseph and Terry Peplinski, nieces and nephews, Nicole Peplinski, Celeste Peplinski, Joseph and Danielle Peplinski, Michael and Rebecca Peplinski, August Klotz, Alyssa Klotz, Jack and Harley Jones, and Benjamin Jones; in-laws, Birgit and Corey Jones, and Andreas and Darlene Klotz; and brothers in all ways besides blood, Lindsay Wyckoff, James McCoy, and Gerry Gonzer. Steve's life will continue to be remembered and celebrated by the countless friends who had the privilege of knowing him.

A Memorial Gathering in Stephen's honor will be held on Monday, November 25, 2024, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Stephen's Memorial Service and Celebration of Life will commence at 6:30 p.m. at the funeral home. Military Honors will be conferred by the U.S. Navy. For those unable to attend, you may be present virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88692044130>. Memorial contributions in Stephen's honor may be made to the Hirshberg Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research online at <https://pancreatic.org>; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. In tribute to Steve, please remember to tell your loved ones how much they mean to you.

This obituary was lovingly written by Stephen's family.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

NOV **25**. 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Memorial Service

NOV **25**. 6:30 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

IV

“ We all miss him so much, and we will always miss all of the memory's with him.

ivana - March 31, 2025 at 09:15 AM

TL

“ I will never forget those days being around him and Gerry, we had interesting talks, loved music together, and worked high up on roofs we propably had no business being on, i know he loved our Lord, and he certainly loved life down here, i was saddend to hear of his passing, my deepest condolences to his family, and friends who knew him well.

Tony LaPorte - January 01, 2025 at 06:15 PM

RO

“ To Barb, Danielle and Ashley...I am truly sorry for your loss!
Dick from former Candy store

Richard Orilio - December 02, 2024 at 01:40 PM

SG

“ Condolences to the Peplinski Family from a fellow ND "Juggler" and St. Francis de Sales. RIP

Stephen Graham - November 22, 2024 at 11:44 PM

SS

“ Stacey, Rick, Roseann, and Adam Smith planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Stephen Joseph "Steve" Peplinski.

Stacey, Rick, Roseann, and Adam Smith - November 21, 2024 at 06:00 PM

SS

“ Stacey, Rick, Roseann, and Adam Smith purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Mr. Stephen Joseph "Steve" Peplinski.



Stacey, Rick, Roseann, and Adam Smith - November 21, 2024
at 06:00 PM

T1

“ The alumni of Notre Dame Class of 1972 purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Stephen Joseph "Steve" Peplinski.



The alumni of Notre Dame Class of 1972 - November 20, 2024
at 07:27 PM

SP

“ Sending love & prayers, Nicole Peplinski planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Stephen Joseph "Steve" Peplinski.

Sending love & prayers, Nicole Peplinski - November 20, 2024 at 02:46 PM

SP

“ Sending love & prayers, Nicole Peplinski purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Stephen Joseph "Steve" Peplinski.



Sending love & prayers, Nicole Peplinski - November 20, 2024 at 02:46 PM

FC

“ From, El & Cass planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Stephen Joseph "Steve" Peplinski.

From, El & Cass - November 20, 2024 at 08:15 AM

FC

“ From, El & Cass purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Mr. Stephen Joseph "Steve" Peplinski.



From, El & Cass - November 20, 2024 at 08:15 AM