



Mr. Stephen J. "Steve" Powers

March 15, 1957 - September 14, 2024

NEW HARTFORD – Mr. Stephen J. “Steve” Powers, age 67, after leading a blessed life, went home to the Lord following an unforeseen health episode on Saturday, September 14, 2024.

Born in Utica, NY on March 15, 1957, Stephen was the son of the late Edward J. “Brud” and Elizabeth “Betty” (Girvan) Powers. He began his education at Blessed Sacrament Grammar School and went on to graduate from Notre Dame High School in 1975. He furthered his education at Utica College of Syracuse University where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in Accounting and was proud to have been Valedictorian of the Class of 1979.

In 1980, Steve met and grew to know the love of Mary Ann Jabour, and they were united in marriage two years later, 1982. The two were best friends who shared a unique love, and filled their home with laughter and joy.

Steve became a Certified Public Accountant. He started his career at Stillman and Barone, later becoming partner at a new firm, Barone, Howard, Hilton, and Powers. His career eventually led him to his current partnership operating as Hilton and Powers CPAs, P.C. His clients became dear friends, he was passionate about his career and conducted his business in a way that cultivated relationships that lasted a lifetime.

Steve was a showman. He always had a story to tell and left you with a lasting memory in your heart. Clever and quick-witted, family and friends gravitated to him. For those qualities he was beloved.

One of his greatest joys was entertaining a house full of people. He was confident in preparing almost every dish, carefully following the recipe, sometimes so meticulously that it delayed dinner till 10 p.m.

When he was brought into Lebanese culture, he was given a Lebanese cookbook by his late mother-in-law, which he used as his “bible”. He utilized his incredible culinary skills when hosting family; occasions he referred to as “Jabour-a-thons”.

Steve was also a film buff. He loved reciting lines from his favorite movies, working them into common conversation; though he sometimes would need to be corrected by his lifelong friend, Joe Kane, or his son, Chris, who are both film buffs in their own right. He also enjoyed hiking in the Adirondacks with his two sons which was more to have a long conversation than for physical fitness. He would sometimes retell the plots of Twilight Zone episodes as ghost stories, which the boys would only realize when he later shared his love of the show with them.

Steve’s father, Brud, was his hero. Whenever he was in need of strength, he would remind himself that his personal problems were nothing compared to Brud’s military service. To him, a flooded basement paled in comparison to an amphibious landing on a beach in Normandy.

Steve was so proud of his family. Watching his sons grow into the men they are today was one of the great joys of his life. When he welcomed his first grandson, Jack, into the family his whole world changed. He would purposefully wear his “Promoted to Grandpa” t-shirt and insist that you

compliment him on it.

The community was well served by Steve. He gave his time generously as part of many local organizations and charities. He was also an active member of St. Louis Gonzaga Church where he could always be found counting money at fundraising events. His personality and dependability made it easy for the clergy, deacons, and his fellow parishioners to love him.

Steve is survived by his adored wife, Mary Ann; sons and daughters-in-law, Christopher “Chris” and Julie Powers, and Andrew “Andy” Powers and his wife Olivia McDaniel; cherished grandson, Master Jack Edward Powers; and siblings and their loves, Suzanne and Bob Read, Dr. John and Mary Kay Powers, Daniel and Julee Powers, and Jancie and Mark Williams. He held close to his heart the memory of his brother, David Powers, who preceded him. His loss is also felt by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; and in-laws, Connie Neupert and Ed Ozog, Beth and Joe Servello, Teresa and Rick Blank, and Anthony Jabour. Steve had a multitude of friends who enriched his life, especially Joe Kane, a lifelong friend, comrade, and confidant, who was incorporated into the family, loved, and known to all as “Uncle Joe.” Steve was additionally predeceased by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Anthony J. and Marion (Eddo) Jabour.

The Powers family would like to extend their gratitude for the kindness expressed to them by the New Hartford Police Department, the ER staff at Wynn Hospital, and Dr. Timothy LaFont. A heartfelt thank you is also extended to Father Boutros El Hachem, Deacon Paul Salamy, and Deacon Peter Hobaica.

Visitation will be held on Saturday morning, September 21, 2024, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at St. Louis Gonzaga Church, 520 Rutger St. Stephen’s funeral

service and Celebration of Life will commence at 10:30 a.m. at the church where the Divine Liturgy of the Faithful Departed will be celebrated by Father Boutros El Hachem. For those unable to attend, the service will be livestreamed at <https://www.facebook.com/ascensionvideo/>. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery. In lieu of floral offerings, memorial contributions in Steve's honor may be made to St. Louis Gonzaga Church online at www.saintlouisgonzaga.org/giving, the Rescue Mission of Utica online at www.uticamission.org/donate or the Veteran's Outreach Center online at www.veteransoutreachcenter.org/ways-to-donate; envelopes will also be available at the service.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2727

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 21. 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Louis Gonzaga Church
520 Rutger Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-6019

Funeral Service

SEP 21. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Louis Gonzaga Church
520 Rutger Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-6019

Tribute Wall

KF

“ Thoughts and prayers to his wife and family ❤️🙏 Steve and I went to Blessed Sacrament School together; never was a dull moment! Many laughs and surprises 💔 RIP Steve and watch over your family ☐

Karen Mannino Fellows - September 24, 2024 at 08:24 PM

BM

“ Bernadette McDaniel lit a candle in memory of Mr. Stephen J. "Steve" Powers



Bernadette McDaniel - September 23, 2024 at 10:39 AM

BM

“ We are so sorry to hear of Steve's passing! He was a great neighbor and will be missed by the Mathias household. We always enjoyed chatting with him, he always could make us laugh! We very much appreciated the times he'd yell at the drivers, or during town meetings, who ran that stop sign or flew by. We know he will be missed by many.

Brian & Carly Mathias - September 21, 2024 at 09:55 AM

BJ

“ My daughters and I extend our deepest condolences to you all! Steve once gave me a picture of himself for a storyboard.. wasn't it a joker from a deck of cards! But that was him. He lit up every occasion. MaryAnn, Andy and Chris he will always be with you. Suzanne, John, Dan and Jan..et al he would add..our hearts go out to you. A good man who will be missed. We aren't able to attend services unfortunately but know I will have you all in my prayers. Cousins Bridget and Shannon and Shelby

Bridget Powers Johnson - September 20, 2024 at 03:08 PM

TR

“ When I needed a job he took me into his awesome little office. Steve was the boss everyone would love to work with on a daily basis. Told use all the funniest stories. He made the office full of laughs. I feel blessed to have known Steve. Our loss is heavens gain.

Terry Rothdiener - September 20, 2024 at 10:58 AM

MO

“ Maryann, my sincerest sympathy to you and your family. I remember him being such a nice guy. Lots of fun. You are in my prayers. Maryann ouimette

Maryann ouimette - September 20, 2024 at 09:10 AM

JS

“ My heartfelt sympathy to Steve’s family. His passing is a great loss to us all! It was one of my most rewarding and enjoyable experiences at the Rescue Mission to have Steve and his good friend, Tom Delluomo, on our “Gourmet Guy to the Rescue” as a faithful participant and committee member. Steve and Mary Ann raised two wonderful sons. I will always fondly remember how loving and caring they were to my husband, David, and me. May God bless and comfort you and know that we lovingly share in your loss. Jenette Sanders



Jenette Sanders - September 20, 2024 at 07:11 AM

FA

“ My sincerest condolences and prayers for the loss of your beloved Steve. I grew up with Steve in Cornhill and went to Utica College with him and he became a great friend to me. Even though I live in Florida now, I still trusted Steve with my family’s taxes every year and he treated us like family! His fees were always more than fair and when I questioned him on so low the fees were, his comment was “You get the James Street special price” Steve was a gem of a friend and I will miss him sorely. May his memory be eternal. AMEN



Fred Ajaeb - September 19, 2024 at 07:58 PM

KL

“ Maryann and family, Our deepest condolences on Steve’s passing. I personally will miss our conversations and joke sessions. May you rest in peace my friend. Regards, Kevin and Michele Laffey.

Kevin Laffey - September 19, 2024 at 02:20 PM

PS

“ Steve was quite the character, I remember calling the house 1day and Steve answered, I was on the phone with him for over an hour we talked about everything, I have never laughed so hard, my side was hurting and I was laughing so hard I was crying! He was that kind of guy that could always make you laugh. He will be deeply missed! He was a joy!

Pat and Fred shone - September 18, 2024 at 03:59 PM

JB

“ I join the Community in mourning the loss of my confidant, business advisor and friend, Steve. He was all about the balance of fun...and the rest of it all! For over 40 years Steve's wit and counsel balanced so many of us in the business community. A trusted C.P.A. with a sense of humor can save your life in business, and Steve guided my family for decades. Mary Ann, Christopher and Andrew, your wives and now his grandson....Steve always spoke of all of you with such glee! His love of family always shone through.
To all of you, my very deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences. The rest of us will long remember all he did for his friends and clients.
....and remember the last candid conversation with him and smile.
May his memory be eternal.

john brown - September 18, 2024 at 12:34 PM

JB

“ Since the early 1960s, I was Steve's friend. His entire lifetime, he was always the SAME person. Every comment on this page is so true. Years ago, I had a "few" Fed/State tax issues. Steve drove me (in his stick shift Jeep) to the downtown offices to resolve everything. Never charged me. He truly was a GREAT friend to all of us. 67. Not very fair when you do everything "right" and lose decades of future happiness.

Jay L Bloom - September 18, 2024 at 07:52 AM

TA

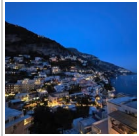
“ *I fondly remember .Steve as one of my outstanding accounting students and my very heartfelt condolences to his family.*

Tartaglia Anthony - September 18, 2024 at 05:51 AM

TK

“ *We will miss you Steve. You always brought joy to any gathering with your stories. Our love goes out to Mary Ann and your beloved family.*

Terry Abdoo King - September 17, 2024 at 08:44 PM



“ *My Dad, Tom Bonfiglio loved Steve*

Donna Bonfiglio - September 17, 2024 at 07:37 PM

DK

“ *Steve was our friend, neighbor and accountant. Tax time was always fun, what should have been maybe an hour visit, turned into two with all the stories, laughter and jokes we told (his were always better than ours). We'll miss honking the horn to bust 'em on him as we drove by, and the times we'd stop and talk. The world seems less funny now.*

Dave and Adriana Kane

David and Adriana Kane - September 17, 2024 at 07:31 PM



“ Steve’s pal, brother in arms, partner in crime, and old time bestie, Joe Kane, introduced me to Steve years ago. I was very quickly usurped into Steve’s orbit and shared his love of movies, history, storytelling, and most importantly, the absurd side of life. I called him Stevie, after the character in Deer Hunter, and always greeted him in the voice of Michael. Stevie, Joe, and I along with my childhood counterpart shared an informal forum where we shared all of these things on a regular basis. I don’t think there was a week that went by where one of us did not share some strange event, nonsensical observation, or a movie scene, which always triggered a cascade of quotes or reenactments. I often called Steve mid day to share some crazy story or current event. Even after I received the terrible news of his passing, I still reflexively thought “Stevie’s gonna love this one...”. Such was his hold on all of us. I will miss him terribly. RIP my friend. I’ll see you on the other side!

Bob Lobley - September 17, 2024 at 07:29 PM

HW

Steve was a High school cohort in after school activities. Never getting in trouble, but pushing the envelope. Though we lost contact after graduation (more so after college) he was never someone I could forget.

May you be at peace Steve!

Harold Wick - September 17, 2024 at 09:05 PM

RZ

I have know Steve and his Dad Brud since I was a teenager. After college worked with His Dad at Utica First Insurance for 25 years. Steve came to work for us during his College years and I truly enjoyed seeing him work beside his Dad. There were no finer gentlemen nor harder workers. The CPA business in Utica got a gem when Steve went on to the Accounting business. May they both rest in peace.

Richard Zick - September 20, 2024 at 12:25 PM

MB

Maryann and family; I was saddened to hear about Steve's passing. Never anything but a wonderfully nice person to be around. My deepest condolences to you.

Mark Bonavita

Mark Bonavita - September 21, 2024 at 11:45 AM

JD

I knew Steve for a brief time through a childhood friend. For a few years we would be texting or emailing some the funniest and in some the most childish things we could think of, whether from our childhood, old shows, or just from feeling like we were 12 or 13 again. I cried for my loss and well as the loss we all felt in our hearts. I have no doubt Steve will have a happy audience in heaven. I look forward to reuniting with him in the not so distant future, along with Joe & Bob. My condolences to the Powers family.

John Daleo - September 22, 2024 at 03:38 PM