



Steven Swenson

September 18, 1946 - September 22, 2009

Steven John Swenson, 63, Bismarck. The final “Swenson, party for one” table was called on Tuesday, September 22. Our world will be a little less colorful with the loss of this one-of-a-kind guy. A memorial service will be held at 3:00 pm Friday at Eastgate Funeral Service, Bismarck. There will be no visitation as cremation has taken place. Steven was born September 18, 1946, in Minot, ND, the son of Gwen and Rube Swenson. He graduated from Minot High School in 1964. His life work was as a computer programmer; Steven loved his job because of the mental challenge it provided him. He worked for the past 15 years at NISC in Mandan. Steven also spent time as caretaker of his ranch; he loved the land and the peace it brought him. His times spent there with family and friends were his best. Steven liked a cold beer, a good song, campfires, old westerns, the Green Bay Packers, the annual duck and goose hunts, baseball, and his babies. Grateful to have been part of his life are his wife, Barbara; his children: Sherry Peppers, and her children, Alex and Gabriella; Shona Marty Lenss, and their children, Megan and Connor; Michael Swenson; Stacy Olson, and her children, Joshua Heim, Erik and John Olson; Karen Lance Allard, and their children, Jessica, Rachel, Josie, Abbey, Samantha and Brittany Hieber; Jason Nichole Heim, and their children, Jackson and Logan. He is also survived by his sisters, Susan Swenson, Tok, AK, Shelley Swenson, Lincoln, CA, and Nancy Mattson, Topeka, KS; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and in-laws. He was preceded in death by his parents; and his brothers-in-law, Alan Mattson and Glenn Hauge; and

sister-in-law, Verna Hauge.

Tribute Wall

RM

“ Steve will be missed dearly. We,ve had alot of fun at the St. Valentines Day Massacre parties-quite entertaining!Ourprayers and thoughts are with Barb and the family.

Rick and Kathy Meuwissen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ I'm sure going to miss our occasional afternoon chats over a cold adult beverage! What a wonderful man. My prayers go out to you all!

Lynette Stenerson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ So many memories!!!Thoughts are will you all!Rich, Greg, Ki, and Abby.

Rich Swenson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ I am sorry of the loss of Steven. It was great he had a chance to see all of the family at the reunion. The family pictures were great. He lookes so peaceful and happy. I will always will remember him. Ellen

Ellen Swenson Cooke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ It was wonderful that we all had a chance to see Steve one last time this summer. Our condolences to Barb, his children and his sisters. You'll be in our thoughts and prayers.Jeff Swenson and Family

Jeff Swenson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Steven and I went to school together, all the way from grade school to high school. I always remember him with a big smile and always willing to try a little mischief to have some fun. I had not been able to attend any of our class reunions, so I missed the chance of seeing him at the 40th, and then to learn that he had passed away was very sad to learn about. He will be missed.

Richard Mellem - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ I have so many fond memories of Stevie that I can't even begin to list them, he was one of a kind and I will cherish all the hunting trips we took to the Swenson Ranch. I met Steve when I was bartending at Rockin 50's in 1991 and when I started working at NCDC in the fall of 1991 our friendship took off, I loved sitting with him at O'brians and playing bingo because he was so easy to talk to and we had the same crude humor, I spent most of my time laughing when I was with Steve which I think is what made him such a great guy, we will all laugh when we think of Steve: The hunting trips were awesome, I felt so honored to be one of his special guests at the place he liked to call home up in the hills in between Kenmare & Bowbells. It was never about the number of birds we shot but just being with good down to earth people that I can now call some of my best friends. Stevie now that your in a better place maybe you can help John Reed and myself become a little better shots, god knows we need all the help we can get: My son made 3 trips up to the ranch with me and absolutely thought Steve was the greatest guy ever, he treated him like one of the guys which sometimes got a little scary because he was only 11 when he started coming to the ranch: Barb and kids, believe me when I say Steve Swenson was one of the best men I have ever met, he wasn't perfect but none of us are and that is what I loved about the man, he was a straight shooter and there aren't many of them left. God Bless you Stevie I will certainly miss you but will never forget you!!!!

Dennis Freeman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ We wish to extend to all of you the peace that comes from knowing he is with God. We will miss him and remember him. Steve is now at final peace. My hope is that this time for morning will be a time for remembering. God with Steve, his family, friends, and all of us, Bob & Joy Soltis

Bob Soltis and wife, Joy Cushman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KJ

“ I attended school with Steve from the 3rd grade through high school graduation. I remember him as being very quick-witted. In grammar school he once wrote a humorous story about his role in his family. He read it aloud in class and I remember being very intent listening to him. His 'story' was that he was the only boy among several sisters but when the last baby was expected he was hoping for a brother. When it turned out to be another girl he packed his bags and ran away from home only to return soon after, as he had no where to go. In 2004 I saw him at our class reunion and recounted the story for him. He laughed and said when he was a kid he had wanted a brother to commiserate with but growing up he learned to REALLY APPRECIATE being the only boy among many sisters. We missed him at the reunion this past summer perhaps this explains his absence. He will be remembered fondly.

Kathleen Williams Johnson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ We will miss Steve in so many ways. We will miss his deep voice, his warped sense of humor, his intelligence, his smile, his witt and just Steve being Steve no matter the situation. Steve is the only person we know that used bar napkins as his programming coding sheets. He could always program circles around those "young whipper snappers" as he would call them. He was a good friend. Barb, we know you and your family will never replace the hole that will be left with Steve's absence, but you will always have the many memories. Our prayers go out to you in this difficult time. Bruce and Kim

Bruce and Kim Walth - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ We are so sad to hear of Steve's passing. We feel fortunate to have been able to spend some time with him in Rochester this past summer. The Swenson boys have so many wonderful memories of Steve from our boyhood days on the ranch in Minot. God Bless, David and Brenda Swenson Owatonna, MN

David and Brenda Swenson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ God bless all of you and yours, may God walk with you at this time. Steve was such a fun cousin when we were kids, I remember a lot of teasing of us girls when I stayed with the family in the summer times and also at the ranch. Remember the good times.

Terry SwensonGriffin - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ I have so many memories of Steve. We had dancing parties in his basement when we were in 5th and 6th grades. We thought they were pretty wild! My parents and his parents were friends even into their elder years as Gwen visited my mother a few times when they were in their late 70s early 80s. God bless his memory.

Bunny Varberg Solberg - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ What can I say about Steven?? I had known him for almost 30 years and can remember like yesterday the day I met him. It was at the NCDC Christmas Party, held after Christmas in January three days after I was hired. I was just a scared lil kid there with my new husband and did not know anyone. We were at the same table as Steve and he was introducing Barbara Jean to others and when he got to me all he could say was "and I don't know who the hell this is!" Needless to say that did not make me any more comfortable. But as the years progressed and we got to know each other in both the work and social environment, Steve became a very good friend and truly a well respected co-worker. We were even in the same club...the P.O.E.T.S. club I think it was called :-). I can only imagine the the "Heavenly P.O.E.T.S. meeting going on as we speak with Chris, Colleen and Steven. Rest in peace buddy and watch over the rest of us. I will miss your hugs and that sinister smile. Barbara Jean and family...our deepest sympathy and heartfelt prayers are coming your way. May God's peace be with you all. We will always keep Steven in our hearts.

Gail & Jim Anderson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Steve and I and our beagles grew up together. We both attended grade school at McKinley and graduated from Minot HS in 1964. While the miles and years carried us apart, we were able to catch up a little at our 40th HS reunion. You only had to meet Steve once to know and love him. He could always bring a smile to your face. I regret we didn't spend enough time together. Condolences and thoughts to his family and many friends.

Jay Guss - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ Steve was one of those guys you wanted to meet in the hallways at work because he always had a smile and words that could brighten your day. He would talk in that deep voice and maybe it was just me...but he seemed to have a continual twinkle in his eye. Steve never pretended to be something he wasn't. He was an intelligent man and I learned much about work and life from him. We will miss you Steve! P.S. When you run into Chris and Colleen, please say "hi" and give them a hug from us.

Gonzo & Cindy Levi - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ I love u sooooo much miss u

Josie Allard - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ Many days and yearsof joy are in my memory of you, Dear Steve. You are so loved; you will be missed by many. Sincere sympathy to the Swenson family.

bONI - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ My grandpa was the best! I had so much fun with him! He rocked. He used to give me the bissness all the time. He even had a nickname for me: Melvin. I LOVE HIM!!

Rachel Hieber - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RH

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Rachel Hieber - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ It has been a very long time since I have seen Steve but will always remember working with him. He was so good at his job. I enjoyed knowing and working with him the five years I was at NCDC. I was so sorry to learn of his passing. He will be missed. I pray that God will be with his family in the days to come and give them the strength needed to get through this time. That when anyone who knew him gather together they will remember the fun times. God be with you. Pat Klatt

Pat Klatt - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I did not know Steve, my wife Jennifer was a co-worker of his at NISC. I am a friend of Lance Allard and just wanted to pass my condolences on to the family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Joel & Jennifer Bird - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ I will miss Steve's deep voice and smile. Obrians won't be the same. My thoughts are with Barb and the family.

Cheryl Bulyca - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ My parents were friends of Gwen and Rube's for many many years. When I was you young I spent alot of time at their house. Shelley was my best friend. No matter what we were doing Steve always was teasing us or pulling pranks on us.

Mimi Shelver Cote' - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LO

“ Steve is and always will be one our FAVORITES @ Obrian's. Steve - My support and thoughts are with you, your family and friends. We miss you already. Take care and be safe on your journey!

Lisa @ OBrian's - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dear Barb, Sue, Shelly, and Nan, Steve razzed me in my youth and I loved every minute of it because he was the "Cool Older Dude." He seemed at one with himself, never loosing that quick wit of his and faced these last very hard years with such courage and class. Watching him inspired me. I WILL think of him often and when I do it will be with a big smile on my face. Big hugs to each one of you...with all my love... "Little" Deb

Debbie Mills Bakel - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ Steve was a one of a kind for sure. Always worth a good laugh or sometimes even a straight conversation. I enjoyed our visit a couple weeks ago, sorry i cant come to the farewell bash. do it up right girls just like he would for you. love you Steve, our thoughts and prayers are with you Barb and your family. Shelly and Nanette love you!

jodette - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ This is Weber, as Steven referred to me. I am so thankful to have been able to visit with him a few days before he went to heaven. What a guy, he will always be remembered with a smile. He was so forgiving with Shelley and I when we wrecked his car. Hee hee. Lots of great memories. My thoughts and prayers to all of you.

Carol and Bob Rudland - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ LeRoy and I send our deepest sympathy Barb, to you, your family, Nan, Shelly and Sue. We know the struggle that Steve has gone through and is now at peace. May God comfort you and bring you comfort at this time.

LeRoy and Carolyn Hagel - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JQ

“ Jon is a childhood friend of Mike's and spent a lot of time in "the basement" of the Swenson household. They also spent some time together up at the ranch. Jon's memories of Steve are fond ones. Our thoughts are with Mike and the family at this time. We are so sorry for your loss.

Jon and Jill Quijano - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Steve. We were good friends through High School. Kept in touch for a while, and like most other friendships, faded into memories over time as we went our separate ways in life.

Joel Pederson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ I will never forget the day that I was sitting on the couch with Steven, Barb, "Big Mike" & "Little Mike", 1998 and Steven told me that "I was OK in his book." Even though I always had a different name...I was told that was a very high compliment. I still think about it to this day. He was an amazing man, Steven Swenson. I wish I could have been there to say good-bye. The boys and I will be in town the beginning of October, and we'll stop by to say hello.

Courtney Engelhart - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ We'll miss Steve's quick wit, great smile and deep resonating voice! Happy hour won't be the same. Our thoughts are with you all.

Dave and Denise Hvinden - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM