



Stephen Douglas Leonard

February 9, 1956 - November 12, 2004

Stephen Douglas Leonard, 48, of South Meriden, passed away on Friday November 12, 2004 after a short battle with cancer. Born in New Britain, February 9th, 1956, he was the son of the late Fritz and Alice Leonard formerly of New Britain and was also predeceased by his brother, William Cleveland.

Stephen is survived by his loving wife and son, Phyllis Fraychak Leonard and Michael Steven Leonard of South Meriden. Also surviving is a sister, Alice Leonard Manson and her husband Gary of South Meriden; and 18 nieces and nephews.

Public calling hours are Monday 4 to 7 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. The funeral and burial will be private at the convenience of the family. Donations in memory of Stephen may be made to the George Bray Cancer Center, c/o New Britain General Hospital, 100 Grand Street, New Britain, CT 06051. Please share a memory of Stephen with his family on our online guestbook by clicking on "GUESTBOOK" at the bottom of this page.

Tribute Wall

CT

“ *Phoe & Mike,
I can only imagine what you are going through. Please take solitude
in knowing that he will be sorely missed by many. One of the things
that brings a smile to my face when I think of Steve is his laugh. It
was the type that made you laugh- not at the joke he told but at
him... Phoe & Mike, I love you and you are in my prayers.*
Caryn

Caryn Tate - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *Phyllis and Michael, I am so sorry for the sudden loss of your
husband and dad. Remember when the loss becomes a memory
the memory becomes a treasure. My prayers are with you and your
family.*

*Love and friendship,
Judy Banack*

Judith Banack - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ Phee and Mike,

We have been so surprised and saddened by the loss of Stephen. He has been a part of our family for so long that it's hard to imagine him not here anymore. After the events of the last couple of days it's hard to single out only one fond memory.....but what immediately comes to mind are the tremendous bear hugs he gave and the corny jokes he'd either tell us or email us. Stephen will be greatly missed but he lives on in our hearts and memories. You both will also be in our hearts, thoughts and prayer now and always as you greive his passing. We love you.

Andy and Dori Nowak - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ Phee and Mike,

It is with a very heavy heart that I write today. Jim and I are still in shock over losing Steve. He was and will continue to be the biggest "Teddy Bear" around. He was always there to lend a helping hand when anyone needed it. We always loved being around him because he made you laugh even in the rough spots. He always got you through them. Jim remembers how Steve was the first one to test out "the Polish Canoe". I wouldn't go, but Steve did. That meant a lot to Jim. Even when they got together to go to the rifle range a few times. We recently were talking about the cruise you and Steve wanted us to go on and how much fun it would be. I will miss how he used to love to mess my hair and dig in my ear, because it never bothered me but it bothered everyone else when he did it. We are thankful we got to have that dinner together the other week. It is now more special to us than before. Steve was gracious and thankful that we came. We had a good talk that day. I know he was very worried about the two of you. I said we would be there for you. He even made it a point to let everyone know that the prayers were appreciated and I would go to school everyday and tell them how much he appreciated them and everyone is still praying for Steve. They want you to know they are praying for you and Mike too. You both are so lucky to have had Steve for the time you did. We are going to miss Steve so much but I will always remember the HUGS and the kind person he was. Thank you for bringing Steve into our family. It will be hard not to have him physically here. Our love to you both. Love, Pat

Pat - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ We have had many occasions for the Fraychak family to get together over the years and I have missed just as many since moving to South Carolina in 1996. Whether it was for holidays, weddings, high school graduations, or just plain old picnics, over the years Uncle Steve always made these afternoons enjoyable. I'll never forget all the years of good jokes, bad jokes, and memorable times. He sure made us kids laugh. He was there for every get together and he watched all of his nieces and nephews grow into respectable adults. As the holidays grow closer, he will be in my thoughts. Aunt Phee, Mike, my prayers are with you in this difficult time.

Love...Jamie

Jamie Fraychak - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ We were truly saddened at the loss of Steve. He ment a lot to all of us. I will miss our talks, from the light to the real serious issues. He always helped make sense out of situations when we couldn't. Shay is right, he did give the most awesome hugs! Will miss them as well. Phee, we will keep him in our hearts, and you and Mike will be in our prayers. We love you.

Anne & Paul - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ I was deeply saddened to learn of Stephen's passing. For twenty or so years, I had the privilege of being his dentist. Stephen followed me from Unionville to Avon and then to a second office in Avon. For that I feel honored. We shared a common interest in cars, and that was what we talked about when he was in a position to speak. Steve especially loved his GTO's or as he referred to them, "goats". I will miss him as do all his family and friends.

With Deepest Sympathy,

Shelly Hausman

Sheldon Hausman - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ I will never forget my Uncle Steve, he was a person who I could relate to and talk to. Whenever there was a family get together I would sit and talk to him about everything, he would give me advice on problems that I wasn't quite able to figure out, he treated me just like he would anybody else, not like a child. This is just one out of many memories that I have of my Uncle Steve. Will always remember you, Love Eric

Eric - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ Of all the memories that I have of Uncle Steve, I think that I would say that my favorite is when Uncle Steve would take me to the doughnut shop and let me have whatever I wanted. We would spend hours there talking with his friends. Now that I am older, I find it funny that I still go to have coffee with my friends and we also spend hours chatting and catching up on the latest news ect.... I will miss Uncle Steve but will never forget all of the good times that we shared. Lots of love and prayers Danielle, Mike, Steven and Johnny.

Danielle - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Dear Phee,

As I read other memories people had about Steve, I began to think of the memories I had of him and wanted to share those too. Was your first "date" with Steve the one up at Smith School? Remember I went up there with the two of you? Looking back, I think Mom and Dad used me as a chaperone. I was so bored. That's probably one of the reasons I didn't date much as a young girl! I already reminded you of the MANY times I was so mad at you and Steve because I was waiting to do dishes so I could go out after dinner, but you and Steve were on the phone "forever," so I had to wait. In high school, Steve used to work on some of the teachers' cars. One teacher was Mr. Kern who I'm pretty sure was an alcoholic and couldn't wait for the school days to end. He really liked Steve. Steve would come up to the classroom now and then and ask Mr. Kern if I could go to Bess Eaton with him to have a coffee. Mr. Kern would let me leave History class to go with him! You weren't there, of course, because you had already graduated high school. In my twenties, Steve was a great confidant and friend! He did have a way of putting a humorous twist on some of life's difficulties. In my thirties, I realized Steve was my brother, not my brother-in-law. He was in our family for most of my life. I love Steve very much. My greatest memory of him will be his great hugs!

*Love to you and Mike,
Shay*

Shay - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ Phee and Mike,

Bill and I will remember Steve's sense of humor and his joy in making people laugh. Nothing can prepare you for a tragedy such as this, but just know that your friends are here to love and support you.

Laura Griffin - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NS

“ We are sorry for your loss, you are in our prayers

Nancy and Maria Simonetti - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ i guess this has hit me very hard i can't emagin what you are all going through. i will never forget all the memories at food bag that i had with him. the one that sticks out most is when i had broken down there and of all the people that were there hs was the one who jupned in and helped me. he was an awesome man this shouldn't have happened to him. its very unfortunite that it happened. i also remember the day i begged him to take me on the bike and finally he did we went out for a short ride and thats when i fell in love with motorcycles. i'm now going to go get my license this summer. i am very sorry and i wll miss him along with all of you
kristine

kristine caco - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ If you spent any amount of time with Stephen you know the room or car was soon full of laughter. Steve and I developed a friendship as teens and into our early 20s. We fixed and broke some cars together. Mainly, our own cars.... because no one trusted our mechanical expertise at the time.

Steve made you feel special and was interested in any person on any level. The only requirement he had of you of course was that you had a sense of humor, didn't take things to heart and had the ability to roll in laughter. Never-ever be serious - he would not allow it. And we never were.

I am forever grateful that I was able to spend a day with you recently my friend. Drinking coffee all day and being silly. That was a gift from above. You always made me feel like a member of your family.

Well enough of listening to me. You have some talking or listening to do with Ma.

Be at peace my friend -

Patrick Buden

Patrick J Buden Sr - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ To Phyllis, Michael, Alice and the family of Steven Leonard:

I'll start by saying that I was Steve's best friend from first to sixth grade at Lincoln School. We became friends because of a shared sense of humor and mischief. We walked to and from school together since I lived a few blocks away on West Main Street. We'd usually stop by Carlone's to buy penny candy. Or we'd go into the Fire station 4 for a drink of cold water or even slide down the pole if the fireman were away. Another favorite was to go under the bridge and walk the railroad tracks. We'd play in the yards of each others' houses. Alice may remember me as the kid with the glasses. My family moved away after 6th grade and we lost touch after a while. I remember going to his Father's wake and how much he appreciated me being there. Looking back, I appreciate that he was my good friend once, and we shared lots of laughs and boyhood adventures.

Please accept my sincere regrets.

Steve Reed

Steven Reed - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Phyllis...I was so sorry to read about Stephen. It has been a long time since we worked together in SNET part-time maintenance admin. on Deerfield Lane. I hope you and your son are coping as well as possible. Please accept my deepest condolences and know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and Michael at this very difficult time.

*With deepest sympathy,
Mary Alice Kavanaugh*

Mary Alice Kavanaugh - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ First off, my condolences to Aunt Phee and Mikey... as well as everyone else that loved him.

He will be missed dearly. There isn't another man around that could make you laugh at your weakest moments. He did that for me, often. I am so glad I went to CT to see Grammy before she passed, and so very sorry I didn't get to make another trip before his passing, I had no idea it would happen this soon. I am happy for him that he didn't suffer, like my father, but yet still wish there would have been more time. I am most grateful to him for many lessons learned - the past few years we kept in touch through emails, as I live in FL. It was the best way to communicate. He would give me the words of wisdom, and make me deal with the root issues. I will miss you dearly.

Here is a portion of an email he sent to me not too long ago...

"I know Gram will be happy to see you and I totally understand how you feel about seeing her before the end. The funeral part is formality and there is nothing you can convey to the person at that point. So I do know the feeling."

I can't be there due to my medical situation, but as he stated in the above words, he knows I loved him. I am thankful I saw him recently, just not recently enough. You will forever carry on in the hearts and minds of every ones life you touched. See you when I get to the gates... I love you!

Patty Simpson - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Phyllis & Michael,

Please accept our heartfelt sympathy for the loss of your husband and father. We will miss seeing him working on the cars as he so loved to do. Please don't hesitate to call on us for help, or just perhaps to be there as a friend.

We will keep you in our prayers.

Mr. & Mrs. Barry M. Eichenauer & Daughter - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Steve was a very dear person to me, he was more than just a brother-in-law, he was my friend. He spent an entire summer with us when he was a teenager and we grew very close. He always took on the job as my protector, he wanted to protect me from anything that was not good. Steve was good loving man and will be sorely missed.

Cheryl

Cheryl Cleveland - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LO

“ Phee and Mike,

Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you and the rest of the family in this time of sorrow. Though we cannot be with you physically, we are with you in spirit. We will keep everyone, including Steve, in our hearts during this difficult time, and always. Love to all.

Linda & A.J.

Linda & A.J. Ouellette - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ Phee, we're sending you our deepest sympathy for your loss of Steve.

Our love, Aunt Dolores and Dave

Aunt Dolores and David - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ *Though the physical distance between us was far – there was no doubt uncle Steve kept each and every family member close to his heart. I cherish the time we shared together and some of the lessons I learned from him early on that continue to lead my life to this day. The most important thing he taught me was that if you do good things for others, good things will happen to you! Uncle Steve was in Florida at the time, I was six years old and spending the weekend with my dad. He was lying on the floor and made a comment that his back was bothering him. The others in the room scattered like roaches in the light so I told him I would rub his back. Though a six year old knows nothing about massages, he made me feel as if I had done some good. The next day he said – “because you did something nice for me, I’ll do something nice for you.” That day, just he and I went to the movies and I had never felt so special in my life!*

I remember a telephone conversation about six years ago – I was telling him I was getting a divorce and just a few days later he was on a plane to Florida. My emotional pain quickly changed to physical pain as he had me laughing hysterically the entire visit. He had a way of making me laugh even when I didn’t think I could – his humor was extremely contagious! Our time spent together was limited – but each and every moment was filled with humor, love and compassion. I will always look back on my memories of uncle Steve and laugh - the way he would want us ALL to do!

Laurie Cleveland - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM