



## Stephen Alexander Welsh

May 14, 1938 - May 14, 2020

Stephen Alexander Welsh, 82, passed away peacefully at home on his birthday, May 14th with his wife at his side. Stephen was born in St. Louis Missouri, one of two children of Kendall Reiser Welsh and Margaret Alexander Welsh.

He earned his bachelor's degree at University of Miami (a loyal Hurricanes fan) and completed his master's in business administration at Washington University in Saint Louis. He was father to two sons with Marjorie Welsh, Stephen and Eric Welsh.

Stephen rose through the ranks as an executive at Ford Motor company for 30 years, during which he spent time living in Paris, Brazil and Mexico, where he acquired a love of Mexican art and history and seeing the world. Subsequently, he settled in Detroit where he met his second wife, Martha Goodloe.

Following their marriage in 1997, Stephen moved with Martha to southern California, where he served as Chief Financial Officer for Nissan North America. The couple acquired a home in Manhattan Beach and enjoyed life together near the ocean. Following his tenure at Nissan, Martha and Stephen retired together to Naples, the home base from which they traveled across Europe.

Members of the Audubon Country Club may also remember Stephen as an expert bocce ball and croquet player and a less expert sailor of electric sailboats. Stephen stayed committed to his bocce ball teammates through his recent illness, recently requesting ambulance transport from the hospital to he could watch his team play in the semi-finals.

Stephen worked hard, loved life, and had many hobbies and interests. His family fondly remembers his wit, sense of fun, and appreciation for good food and wine. He was a doting father and step grandparent who took pride in sending interesting gifts that were (almost always) a hit. He wasn't able to fully enjoy his birthday cake, but as of this writing, his family was able to share it together in appreciation of his time with us after singing Happy Birthday one last time.

Stephen is survived by his wife, Martha, son, Eric, his niece Margo Fanning, and his nephew Michael McGilaway. The family is having a small private ceremony for him locally and will later bury him in his home town with his parents and grandparents as he wished. He will be missed.

# Comments

---



“ Now into its fifth decade, our friendship with Steve was richer and deeper than ever. Whether in-person or over the phone, there was this wonderful comfort and joy of interacting with Steve. And no one has ever brought more humor to the table. The stories are legend, the one-liners unlimited, and the laugh-till-you-cry episodes unending.

Our mutual friend in Portugal, Jose Maltez, said it quite eloquently yesterday: Steve was a man that "fills" a house or as we say in Portuguese, "um homem que enche uma casa". It refers to special people who bring with them, almost permanently, a sense of humor, joy, love of living, honesty, sincerity and faith.

Steve was an unforgettable friend. We were all so blessed to know him.

Jim and Julie Eggleston

Jim and Julie Eggleston - May 19, 2020 at 01:19 PM

---



“ A message of condolence from the UK;

"Another good guy gone."

Bob Friedlander

ROBERT FRIEDLANDER - May 19, 2020 at 01:15 PM

---



“ I didn't know Steve very well at Ford, but had some nice exchanges at the Naples Ford coffee gatherings. I am so motivated by all the long-time, genuine relationships so apparent from the Ford group -- and the very impressive obituary - that I would like to offer my best for his lasting legacy and memories for the family. God Bless.

Lee Miskowski  
(retired Ford Vice-President)

Lee Miskowski - May 18, 2020 at 07:54 PM

---



“ My condolences to you all!

I worked with Steve at Ford Tractor in Michigan after I returned from my overseas tour in France. He had the knack of leaning back in his chair and placing those big size 13 or 14 shoes on his desk - quite the sight! As the organizer of the FTO Annual Reunion here, I will tell those gathered and have a moment of silence for our deceased colleagues. Regards, Mike Brennan

Michael Brennan - May 18, 2020 at 05:14 PM

---



“ I worked with Steve In Michigan and Paris. We collaborated professionally, there was respect, but weren't particulalry close.

At retirement we both elected to live full-time in Naples, Florida where we reconnected.

Our enjoyment of good wine, selected restaurants, great discussions/jokes and exploring the Everglades kindled a friendship with he and Martha of some eighteen years.

I shall miss him in our life. He will be often in my thoughts and prayers.

Peter Gough - May 18, 2020 at 02:56 PM

---



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Stephen Alexander Welsh.



May 18, 2020 at 02:49 PM