



David McPherson

March 20, 1957 - March 31, 2020

On Tuesday, March 31st, 2020, David McPherson, 63, passed away from a rare complication during a routine dermatological medical procedure.

David was born March 20th, 1957 in Durham, North Carolina where he enjoyed a childhood filled with love from his parents, Jane and the late Dr. Harry T. McPherson, Professor Emeritus of Medicine at Duke University, and his three siblings. He attended high school at Charles E. Jordan High School and quickly became a tennis star, eventually rising to the top spot on his team. David graduated from University of Richmond in 1979 with BS in Sociology and was an active member and social chairman in Phi Gamma Delta, where he was proudly the campus representative for Stroh's, sparking a lifetime love of sales. After graduation, he settled in Midlothian, VA. While there he began his career at Pfizer, where he worked for 30 years, showing up each day with his pressed suit, shoes freshly shined, and a crisp red tie. In his years at Pfizer, he earned countless awards and accolades for his tireless work, including being inducted into the Pfizer Hall of Fame in 2010 of which there are only a few hundred other recipients of this honor out of tens of the thousands on the sales team. After working hard each day, David committed himself to an extensive workout that usually required running at minimum 8 miles. His dedication to health was steadfast, even finding the time around weddings, birthday celebrations, and even once during an active hurricane.

One of the standout milestones in David's life was entering into a loving and caring marriage, nurtured by God, with his soulmate June McPherson in 2009. David and June celebrated a life with three children and a close circle of friends, filled with countless parties, travels and life events. The joining of their souls filled the last void in each other's lives. From rocking in chairs listening to the waves hit the sand, watching sunrises and sunsets from the deck, walking hand-in-hand on the beach and experiencing all the romance life has to offer, June and David lived their own fairytale life.

Aside from an avid love of exercise, David enjoyed traveling with close friends and family. He was blessed to retire in January 2018 and spent much of his first years of retirement abroad visiting the Caribbean, Greece, and Europe, including his homeland in Scotland. In addition to his travels abroad, David loved spending time with his wife and family at their beloved homes in Sunset Beach, NC and Bonita Springs, FL. In Florida, David finally found the time to enjoy multiples rounds of golf a week and would watch others play from their lanai that overlooked the first hole. In North Carolina, David could be seen in the wee hours of Thursday mornings walking the east end of the beach scouting for new turtle nests as part of the Sunset Beach Turtle Program. His love for the beach and philanthropy didn't end with the turtle program, he was a member of Sunset Vision and the Bird Island Stewards program where he would lead nature walks and advocate on behalf of Sunset Vision.

Anyone who had the pleasure of meeting David would immediately know that the only things stronger than his work ethic were his compassion, kindness, and selflessness. He never entered a room of strangers without leaving with a group of new friends, their stories, and a cheerful smile. David was never hard to find at a party – he was always the one surrounded by a crowd, recalling stories from his recent travels and cracking a joke or two. Conversation came easily to David, and yet we find ourselves in a place where there isn't a word that accurately describes how bright his light shone.

David is cherished by his wife of 11 years, June McPherson, his three stepchildren Shaver Deyerle (Janelle), Holli Balzer (Austin), and Kati Deyerle, by his mother Jane McPherson, siblings Rhett McPherson (Elaine), Mary McNulty (Marty), Leslie Hadley (Mark), his nieces and nephews Spencer, Harrison, Gavin, and Olivia. David is also survived by his first grandson Wade. He was so excited to be “Pappy” to Wade and looked forward to building sandcastles, teaching him to play tennis, and riding around on a golf cart – laughing all the way.

In lieu of flowers, we encourage everyone inspired and touched by David’s life to donate to the Sunset Beach Turtle Watch program online or by mail to: Sunset Beach Turtle Program, P.O. Box 7745, Ocean Isle, NC 28469.

Due to the status of the COVID-19 virus, a celebration of David’s life will take place later this summer in Sunset Beach, NC.

Tribute Wall



“ *David McPherson*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *I was shocked to hear about David's passing. Even though we haven't been in contact with each other much since college days I have very fond memories of us growing up together. We spent many days water skiing , swimming or sailing together all over Kerr Lake. We even spent a summer together looking for work at Kerr Lake so we could ski everyday. Dave always had a positive attitude and was fun to be around. May God bless and comfort the family during this trying time. I'm saddened but feel blessed to have known Dave for so many years. Mike Hamby*

Mike Hamby - April 15, 2020 at 09:11 PM



“ *Such a fitting obituary to a beautiful soul. My heart goes out to Jane, June, the family, and all of his friends. God bless you all.*

Lisa Glover - April 05, 2020 at 06:10 PM



“ *There are no words to Express the sadness and shock of Dave's passing. I saw Dave nearly every day running along Sunset Beach. We would wave hello to each other or stop for a chat. We often compared the trash we collected on the beach noting that if we each collected three items each day the beach was sure to stay pristine!! Dave will be missed in so many ways by so many people. I am one of them*

Leslie Woodin - April 05, 2020 at 05:42 PM

CL

“ Such a wonderful obituary. I was shocked to read this yesterday! I catered Dave’s lunches for several years when he worked at Pfizer. He always tried to have a little extra lunch to take with him. It was such a compliment! We kept in touch on FB after he retired. He and June did some many wonderful things and he was really enjoying his retirement! My heart is broken. Please let me know if there is anything I can do for the family❤️🙏

Carrol Longest - April 05, 2020 at 01:47 PM

LC

“ I am so saddened to hear about David. The obituary is beautiful and perfect. I’ve known David for 15 years and he has always been such a wonderful person. I will miss his visits and phone calls. Let me know if we can do anything for you.
Lee Chaney

Lee Chaney - April 05, 2020 at 09:31 AM

BI

“ As his neighbor growing up, I always remember hearing the basketball bouncing on the driveway through the woods. Sometimes the bouncing of the ball was a good accompaniment to his brothers bagpipes. David was very active but always polite and attentive to people. A often rare quality of teens at the time. He was a true sportsman and gentleman. He was a neighbor and a friend and will be missed.

Baxter Sapp III - April 04, 2020 at 11:17 PM

LB

“ *Such a beautiful obituary! And it precisely describes the David we knew in Clarksville VA. So sad he was taken so young. We have enjoyed traveling with Dave and June vicariously through their great Facebook postings. He will be much missed by all.*

Lise Burnett - April 04, 2020 at 10:55 AM