



Steven Thomas Stamos

July 10, 1954 - August 7, 2025

In Loving Memory of Steven “Steve” Thomas Stamos - A man after God’s own heart – husband, father, friend, and servant leader.

On August 7, 2025, the Lord called home Steve, a man whose towering presence was matched only by his unwavering faith, his fierce loyalty, and his generous spirit. Standing 6’5”, Steve was a giant in stature, but an even greater giant in love, character, and faith. He lived fully, gave freely, and walked humbly with his God until the very end.

Born on July 10, 1954, in Chicago, IL with a builder’s hands and a servant’s heart. Steve poured his life into creating, restoring, and nurturing—whether it was crafting beautiful homes (including two for his own family), building a treehouse that became the heart of his children’s childhood memories, or shaping stronger communities through his work in development and urban planning. His construction knowledge was second to none, but it was his integrity—his insistence on doing things right or not at all—that truly set him apart.

A man of faith and conviction, Steve’s walk with the Lord was the anchor of his life. His faith deepened when he gave his life to Christ at a Cal Thomas event—a decision that shaped every step thereafter. He lived out the words of 2 Timothy 4:7-8: “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have

kept the faith.” Steve encouraged others to trust God fully, often reminding his daughter to grow into a Proverbs 31 woman and urging those around him to stand firm for their beliefs, justice, and peace.

A devoted husband and father, Steve’s greatest joy was his family. He and Denise built a marriage centered on faith, mutual respect, and unshakable commitment. Together, they navigated life’s highs and lows with courage and grace. To his children, Michael and Kristin, he was the ideal dad—present, encouraging, and truthful, even when the truth was hard to hear. He coached their teams, ran races by their side, and cheered them on in every season of life.

Steve believed in loyalty and was a loyal friend and steadfast neighbor. Once you were his friend, you were his friend for life—distance and time made no difference. From his college basketball days (where he earned the nickname “Frankie” for his good-natured lumbering stride) to neighborhood gatherings in Pilot Point, Steve cultivated friendships marked by laughter, generosity, and a mischievous twinkle in his eye. He was the life of the party, the undefeated cornhole champion, and the king of the poolside dance. He could make anyone feel at ease, whether over a cigar with friends, a shared project, or a Hallmark movie he pretended to be watching for the first time.

He was an athlete, mentor, and servant. From triathlons to long cycling miles, Steve approached athletics with discipline and joy. He mentored students through Urban Land Institute clinics, volunteered with Meals on Wheels, and worked tirelessly to improve his community. He loved the ranch lifestyle, the Chicago Bears, his famous gumbo, and Bloody Mary’s, and above all, using his talents to serve others.

A legacy of courage and hope, Steve faced his battle with pancreatic cancer with extraordinary courage, enduring great pain with the hope of recovery and

an unshakable trust in God's plan. He never gave up—on himself, on others, or on his faith. His final months and days were marked by resilience, deep conversations about eternity, and a readiness to meet his Savior.

Steve leaves behind his beloved wife Denise, his children Michael Steven (Michelle), Kristin Anne (Jon Luke) Scally, his grandsons Jon Augustus "Gus" and Thomas Layne and brother-in-law Terry (Tonya) Tennison, and countless friends and loved ones whose lives he touched.

Steve believed that life was meant to be lived fully and freely. To honor Steve's memory, plant a tree, help a stranger, cook for someone in need, adopt a rescue dog (a boxer if possible), or try something new with joy. Most importantly—tell your loved ones you love them and encourage them to believe they can accomplish whatever they set their minds to.

Steve's own words remind us:

"Don't sell your saddle. Be fully engaged. Have faith in your abilities. Keep pursuing your dreams."

Though Steve's earthly race has ended, his example will continue to inspire. And for those who share his faith, this is not goodbye—"it's see you at supper time." 2 Peter 3:8-9 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends. With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years is like one day.

Private services are being held to honor Steve, and a Celebration of Life will be held in "Steve's Way" on Saturday, September 13, 2025 from 2:00PM-7:00PM at a private location. Online condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Terri Slay and Slay Memorial Funeral

Center.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP 13. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM.

Private location

Tribute Wall

DC

“ I met Steve when he was a client of Masterplan. He was already regarded as a Hall of Fame client. Everyone on our staff loved him. Steve, you are missed. Rarely is there an opportunity to combine work with friendship. I'm glad you made the time for it. I think of you often--and fondly.

Dallas

Dallas Cothrum - February 11 at 12:51 PM

JL

“ Steve—my dear friend.
We met in 1996, 2 weeks after moving to Southlake from California as I was Looking for a basketball game, and we met with his shoulder crushing my chest and my legs flying in the air. What a greeting at Solana. Ya, we loved that game. I enjoyed. Ring his team mate much more than guarding him!

Our families enjoyed many times together.

And then 20 years ago my dad performed Steve and Denise's wedding. Such a blessing. Steve and Denise. A true power couple!!!

His passion for life and building stuff was amazing. Steve was Genuine. No guile. A rare trait these days. His love for Jesus, family, Denise, and others is how I will remember Steve forever.

My chest has recently healed from our initial meeting almost 30 years ago. Now my chest (heart) hurts for other reasons.

Blessed memories always. We will see you on the other side.

John Lerohl - September 13, 2025 at 03:04 PM

BJ

“ I loved Steve Stamos. It began when we met at LMU in the fall of 1972 as I tried to guard him in dorm basketball. Together we laughed (and drank!) in dorm rooms, ate in the Terrance Room, played intramural bball with Bru, Murph and Dan and worked as RA's. In the ensuing 53 years, we visited and texted and emailed and phoned. And it always felt like no time had passed...we were still back in our late teens, and we acted like it!! As everyone knows, Steve was a HUGE personality who lived life to the fullest. And those of us who knew him were the beneficiary of his spirit. For the rest of my life, I will treasure the day that Lynn and I got to spend with he and Denise at their home last October, watching the Dodger playoff game while he wore his Cubs hat! I am grateful that that will be my forever memory of him. I was lucky to call him my friend, and I miss him dearly. Love, Brian Johnson

Brian Johnson - September 12, 2025 at 08:15 PM

BB

“ Out of all the AMAZING group of individuals that I have had the pleasure of making connections with through my relationship with Dallas Athletes Racing, “Big Steve” will probably be one of the ones’ I will cherish the most! He certainly will go down in DAR history as the loudest and most influential! Whether it was him looking the other way when the Bowermans would (always) show up late for a race, or hearing & seeing his seemingly endless positive energy when it came to supporting and encouraging all the athletes over the years who came through his transition areas, Steve was a guy who inspired me to treat others just like he did! He made me want to be a better person in every possible way, and, once I started working directly with him as an employee of DAR, that’s when I really thought, “ When I grow up, I want to be just like “Big Steve”!!! I can almost guarantee that his (literally and figuratively) larger than life presence will be present at every DAR event moving forward, and I, for one, will miss him dearly and myself, and my wife Lindsay, will pray for him and his family as they move forward in life!

R.I.P. Big Fella!!

Brad, Lindsay, and Transition (the dog) Bowerman

Brad Bowerman - September 01, 2025 at 09:17 AM

KM

“ I had the privilege of knowing Steve because of his daughter Kristin! I always remember him as calm, collected, caring and with a demeanor that wanted you to stay accountable on your own. He coached me and the girls and basketball and had the power of making you want to be your best by the encouragement he provided. Few times he lost his cool but if he did, the refs and everybody else would know 😭 I took his teaching with me into coaching myself. He lead by example & I was able to coach in front of his wife in west Texas one time. Full circle moment! Steve & Denise always welcomed me with open arms & allowed us to be kids in a safe environment. I will never forget the time we (didn't 😊) order pizza to their elegant party they were at, I'm convinced Steve always knew though. It was that grin as he asked what we had been up to all night. I will cherish the lesson, memories and strength that Steve taught & do everything I can to be there for his precious girls! Love to the family!

karli moore - August 28, 2025 at 07:34 PM

MW

“ Second try at this. Steve would get a kick out of me messing it up the first time. 😊 Steve was my next door neighbor in Hickory Creek. We would yell jokes at each other over the fence almost daily. He always made my day. If I ever needed his help, he was there before I could ask. When it was time to relax, have a beer, some laughs and a cigar, we smoked nothing but the best. When he decide to "fatten up" my dog, he would throw peanut butter treats over the fence when I wasn't home, and laugh and tell me about it later. What a guy! I love you and will miss you big guy.

Martin Wesley - August 20, 2025 at 05:21 PM

LB

“ I met Steve while working for Denise at Curantis Solutions. The first thing I noticed, besides his height, was his love for Denise. It was a privilege to witness their loving relationship. I pray that God will provide comfort to all who loved him.

Lu Anne Bourland - August 12, 2025 at 01:38 PM

TT

“ To my Brother-In-Law Steven Thomas
We little knew that morning
God was going to call your name
In life we loved you dearly
In death we do the same
It broke our hearts to lose you,
You did not go alone
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.
You left us beautiful memories,
Your love is still our guide,
And though we cannot see you,
You are always by our side.
Our family chain is broken
And nothing seems the same
But as God calls us one by one
The chain will link again.
Thank you Steve for your sharing your shining light with us.

Terry Tennison - August 12, 2025 at 04:27 AM



“ I played basketball with Steve’s daughter Kristin in High School. He played a role in a BIG shift in my character that I still tell so many people about to this day.

Steve was our volunteer coach for a basketball tournament. It was a close game and I was playing very sloppy and bad so Steve took me out. I felt like I still needed to be in so when I came off the court I missed hitting his hand and rolled my eyes. We lost. When the game ended, my dad grabbed me from behind the neck and said that I was going to apologize to him. I was so embarrassed. I walked over to him and apologized. He hugged me and just hugged him back and cried. There was no embarrassment or shame, just unconditional love. I knew even when I had shown such an ugly part of myself, he loved me just the same. I would see him now and again for years to come and he always made me feel welcome and loved.

Thank you for your love and forgiveness... for being like Jesus! And showing us all what it looks like. I am heartbroken for Kristin but know that God’s plan is far greater than any plan we can orchestrate for ourselves. Love you Coach!

Sarah Loveless - August 11, 2025 at 11:54 PM

AL

“ I met Steve only a few months ago at a small group at church. Within a short time I felt as though I knew him my whole life. I quickly learned that he had cancer. One day in the group someone was asking for prayer request and they asked Steve if he had any prayer needs and he said “I am covered”. What a testimony!
Alan

Alan - August 11, 2025 at 09:12 PM

MH

“ My professional life required significant air travel and I was away from our Trophy Club, Texas home just about every week. During one of DFW's terrible ice and snow storms, I recall my wife letting me know Steve had coming over to our house to check on her and our pets.

The weather was so bad Steve slipped on his way back to his house which was just across our street but, he just wanted to make sure one of his neighbors was ok and to let her know if she need anything to let him know.

That was Steve, a very good neighbor as well as a very good and loyal friend. We miss our neighbor and friend, we mis his smiling face and always good humor and, we mis those mid week work breaks where we shared a good laugh with Denise and him while enjoying a nice glass of the bubbly.

Tonight, we will raise that glass to our friend Steve.

Michael and Sandra Hickey

Michael Hickey - August 11, 2025 at 04:51 PM

PB

“ Steve was a founding Urban Land Institute member bringing the project-based educational model called UrbanPlan to the Dallas Fort Worth area and was an integral volunteer in the program for over 20 years. Especially known for his role as the no-nonsense Mayor in the mock City Council sessions, he challenged countless high school and university students, as well city officials, to better understand the conflicting priorities and tradeoffs of smart urban growth. We'll save a seat for him at the City Council table.

Phillip Bankhead

Phillip Bankhead - August 11, 2025 at 03:25 PM