



Steven Arthur Durdan

November 20, 1949 - October 17, 2016

Steven Arthur Durdan, 66, passed away at home in Philomath, Oregon. He was predeceased by his parents, Donald and Maxine Durdan.

He is survived by his sister, Luanne (Sugar) Durdan (James Hauck).

Steve grew up playing every sport all through school. Steve graduated from CHS and attended OSU (Sigma Nu). He graduated from Portland State University. After a short Army stint he was honorably discharged in 1970. He was also trained to make dental appliances and worked in McMinnville. He worked as a fishing guide in Klawock, Alaska for seven seasons, always serving Beanery coffee to his clients. He retired early due to injuries and was happy in his little house on the Mary's River. He had coffee with the "boys" everyday at the Philomath cafe. His passions were hunting and fishing, which he did every year.

Thank you to his loyal friends who have supported him, especially this past year.

Tribute Wall

CP

“ I was married to Steve for a short while in college and was crazy in love with him. I never felt the same way about any one ever again. I am heart broken to hear of his death. He will never be forgotten.
Candy Plummer

Candy Plummer - December 30, 2018 at 09:32 PM

ML

“ I just found out about this, a year later. So sad to hear about Steve. We dated back in the late 80s and I even flew up to Klawock for a week to visit him when he was a fishing guide. We had some great adventures in Alaska and in eastern Oregon. Rest in peace Steve
❤️

Mary Lucas - December 02, 2017 at 03:02 PM

GD

“ Got the sad news yesterday of Steve's passing...we were friends in College and during our years after school in Portland where we roomed together along with some of our OSU classmates as we started our careers...after moving to Atlanta in '84 I continued to stay in touch with Steve during my visits back to Portland and Corvallis for OSU football games, some occasional golf and getting together with the guys....spoke with Steve each year at this time to wish him a Happy Birthday and catch up as our birthdays were just a month apart....I knew he was struggling with his health these past few years and could only give him encouragement that we were all thinking of him and wishing him the best.....he was a good friend all these years and he will be missed....my condolences to you Sugar, friends and family....your in our thoughts and prayers..

Rest in peace buddy.....

Greg Dieffenbach OSU '71.

Greg Dieffenbach - October 27, 2016 at 08:04 PM

SL

“ I first met Steve playing pickup softball in Central Park. We later played football for CHS and my fondest memory is throwing a downfield block and watching him run 80 yards for the TD, against McNary H.S. Last spoke with him at the Portland Sportsman Show, several years ago. My condolences to you, Sugar, friends and family. - Sonny Larsen

Sonny Larsen - October 24, 2016 at 01:45 PM

DE

“ Steve was in my pledge class at Sigma Nu. Our fathers were Sigma Nu's together in the 40's. My dad's nickname in the fraternity was "Hammer" and Steve called me "Tack". I appreciated his friendship as I learned what it was like to live away from home for the first time. One of my best memories was when he took my down into the morgue of the DeMoss-Durdan mortuary. Today I live just two blocks from where that building and I think of Steve when I walk by it. The photo here is of our pledge class taken at the Sigm Nu house in the fall of 1968. Steve is in the third row, third from the right. I am sitting in first row far right. I send my fraternal condolences to Steve's extended family. Love, Honor and Truth. Sigma Nu's forever! Doug Eaton



Doug Eaton - October 20, 2016 at 12:09 PM

SD

Thanks, Doug. Steve never wore glasses then! Lots of Sigma Nu's in our family. They are working to reopen the chapter. My cousin's husband, Steve Langenberg and Coy Scroggins are working on it. I appreciate your thoughts. Sugar Durdan

Sugar Durdan - October 20, 2016 at 12:15 PM

CI

Hi Sugar:

I haven't seen you or Steve in years but I do remember the fun times we had playing golf and softball at Central Park back in the day.

BTW, once when I was working at the Democrat-Herald in Albany the day after Thanksgiving I ran into your mother and sister shopping at a store, the name I can't remember. I got some quotes from both of them, but then your mother said I couldn't use any or their photo because she didn't want the store owners in Corvallis to know they were shopping out of town.

I am thinking of you.

Cathy Ingalls

Cathy Ingalls - October 20, 2016 at 12:39 PM

BF

I haven't seen Steve since our college days but remember fondly the great times we had together. I would always think about him on my returns to Corvallis for football games and wonder what he was up to. We certainly had a lot of fun in the house together. My condolences to his family. Bob Fuller

Bob Fuller - October 20, 2016 at 03:14 PM

BL

Sugar,

We are so saddened to hear of Steve's passing. We saw him at Safeway several times and always had a great time talking about the "good old days". He was a friendly and sweet guy. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Barb and Steve Locey

Barb Locey - October 20, 2016 at 10:41 PM

CD

Dear Sugar,

It has been years since I last saw Steve. As a neighbor and friend of my brothers we saw him very often while still in our younger years. Mom and I were so sorry to hear this morning of Steve's passing.

*Thinking of you.
Chris Dalgas*

Christine Dalgas - October 21, 2016 at 02:49 PM



Steven was one of my best friends help me start my business and made it possible for me to become successful in my dream I'll never forget him he will be missed

Shawn Oliver - October 21, 2016 at 05:30 PM

JB

I had the best Alsea River fishing day of my life courtesy of Steve. Knew him since the late 50's when we used to play football in Central Park. He is missed.

John Brassfield - October 22, 2016 at 12:18 PM

RD

*Dear Sugar,
I am keeping you and your family in my heart and prayers during this time of loss and transition. I hope you can draw comfort from memories and knowing Steve is in peace. Blessings, Ruth Sitton (DeMaio)*

ruth demaio - October 22, 2016 at 01:58 PM

RM

Dear Sugar,

*I'll always remember the wonderful times Steve and I shared growing up together from grade school through high school. His cheerful personality and his love of life and the out of doors will be missed. -
Richard Meredith*

Richard Meredith - October 24, 2016 at 03:01 PM

TM

I did not know Steve in his earlier years, although my brother, Scott was a brother at Oregon State.

My time with Smokey started in Alaska, in the 1990s at Fireweed Lodge where Smoke was the lead Guide. He helped me learn area and we had to many great days to count. Steve was a mans man. He was in his element weather hunting or fishing, he was at his best.

After numerous injuries incurred from playing sports to commerical fishing he retired to his beautiful home he never forgot his old friends and was always ready to make a new friendship. Condolences Sugar, we all will miss him.

Tim Marshall - October 24, 2016 at 04:53 PM

SM

Dear Sugar & Family,

My sincere condolences for your loss and you each have my prayers for comfort, understanding & peace. Like Doug Eaton, I was in Steve's '68 pledge class (2nd row, 5th from right in the photo). Unfortunately, we lost contact with each other following graduation but I am quite saddened to learn of his passing. Steve was always an active member of our class and one of my fondest memories is of how our initiation brought a group of relative strangers together quite closely. I will never forget his initiation name, abbreviated as D7 (and all the words are useable in mixed company too!) His was the longest and we had to memorize everyone's name during initiation. It was a challenge! He remains fondly remembered.

*Sincerely yours,
Steve Mawdsley*

Steve Mawdsley - October 25, 2016 at 09:29 AM

JC

What I liked best about Steve was the value he put into educating the people he met, and knew. When I first met Steve, I was introduced to him by Rick Greenough, his cousin. I was impressed with Steve's vast knowledge of the outdoors. I remember going on a fishing trip with Rick and him on the Little Deschutes River in Oregon (1973). At the time, Steve had a severe fracture on his right tibia and fibula and wore a knee-high plaster cast. Not deterred from fishing, Steve ignored his broken leg, and began fishing, often wading out into chin deep water. We fished about six hours catching our limit before Steve's leg began to bother him; not only that, his plaster cast, once water borne, became a white glob of mush that hung limply around his ankle. Steve, obviously in cursing pain, took a twelve-inch Bowie knife, and cut his plaster cast off. Two hours later, Steve was in immeasurable pain.

We drove Steve back to Corvallis in a state of teeth-grinding-agony. Rick and I took Steve to Good Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis where that evening Steve's broken leg was reset in yet another plaster cast.,

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When I visited Steve a few days later at his home, he laid supine in bed; his broken leg propped up on a pillow. Steve was his usual self, upbeat and happy, and was still enthusiastic about the fishing trip.

"You got to admit," said Steve, "that kind of fishing will never stand the test of time. You'll never catch fish that bright, or feisty, or spirited ever. Best to take a picture in your memory of it because you'll always smile when you think of it."

John D. Curry - November 07, 2016 at 11:01 PM

RW

I find myself thinking about Steve lately and some of life we experienced together. As evidenced by these testimonials he rarely just had a friend, but, mostly close friends that came away loving him. He was special in the way he made you feel special. Once you met him, and we're lucky enough to get to know him, you knew you'd never forget him. I was a couple years older and was in the Sidma Nu Chapter when Steve was pledged. He was one of the best and one of the good ones. I find myself thinking about him, mostly wishing I had got to see him those final years. His smile and nature were golden and, as you all know, unforgettable,! Rob Wall

Rob Wall - May 07, 2022 at 03:05 PM