



Steven Gerald Cates

October 25, 1956 - February 24, 2024

Steven Gerald Cates 10/25/56 to 2/24/24

Steve was a big man, in both stature and heart. He was a good human who left this life too soon!

He will be remembered as a loyal husband to his wife Katie, a fun and protective big brother to his sister Mary Ann, and a wise and loving father to his daughter Oceanna.

He was a kind and outgoing friend, an impressive high school and college athlete, an avid gardener, a friend and rescuer of animals, and an outspoken believer in doing the right thing.

Steve was always ready to step in and help friends and strangers alike.

He grew up in Southern California, surfing and hanging out with the Van Halen brothers as teenagers, playing music and “King of The Mountain”. He was a fun uncle to his niece, Kristen, and nephew, Timmy. He loved being a great uncle to Lola, Lennon and Naomi.

His favorite place was Northern California, where he graduated from Humboldt State University, and put his great “radio voice” to use as a DJ named “The Rocker”. Humboldt is also where he met the mother, Lynne, of his only daughter Oceanna, who carries his fiery spirit and passion for helping animals. He met his wife, Katie in 1993 and they spent nearly 3 decades

together; an enduring love and companionship till his last day. He leaves behind his wife, daughter, and grandson, Theodore, who has his eyes and appreciation for good rock music, his sister Mary Ann, and her two children Kristen and Timmy. He continues on to walk in the afterlife with his mother, Gayle, and father, Gerald, and many rescued animals.

He had a successful marketing career, owning his own company and began many conversations with “I hate to say it...”

He lived to tell some incredible tales, he beat the odds against death 3 times, and he leaves a legacy of loving his family passionately. He will be missed and his name will continue to be spoken for generations. He believed in the power of knowledge, history, and loved the beauty in the world.

His ashes will be spread at his favorite beach in Northern California later when his family has a celebration and remembrance of his life.

You can play your music a little too loud now.
Rock out in heaven, Daddy.

Steve would ask in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to ASPCA and World Wildlife Foundation, plant a garden, and call your loved ones.

Cremation arrangements have been entrusted to McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee. Memories, condolences, photos, and videos may be shared with the family on Steve's Tribute Page of our website. www.mcclendon-winters.com

Tribute Wall

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“ He was one who always had a story to tell. Every year as he made his way into our clinic he always had time to talk and tell Susie and I all kinds of stuff including his next adventure whether it was somewhere he had been or how his business was doing. He is one that will be remembered. I worked at Okmulgee Vision Clinic for many years and Steve and Kate became regulars.



Janette Johnson - March 14, 2024 at 12:10 PM