



Kenneth Gene Stacey

June 24, 1944 - May 22, 2022

Kenneth Gene (Stace) Stacey, of Fort Collins, passed peacefully in the caring hands of Pathways Hospice, on May 22, 2022, after a brief battle with lung cancer.

He was born June 24, 1944, in Sterling, Colorado to Rose and Harold Stacey (both deceased), the youngest of five children. Siblings Vernon Behrend, Rosemary Behrend Morgan Hosier, Alberta Behrend Fitts Jappert and Henry Behrend preceded him in death.

The family moved from Sterling to Lyons, Colorado, then to Commerce City, Colorado, and then to Fort Collins, where Stace attended Lincoln Junior High and Fort Collins High School, graduating in 1963. He worked at Continental Manufacturing in Loveland shortly after graduation, and then worked with his father as a hod carrier, where they did plaster work at CSU. In 1966 he was hired by the City of Fort Collins Light and Power Department as an Apprentice Lineman, working his way up to a Lineman, and then to Line Crew Chief. He retired in 1996 due to a disability.

Stace met Hilary Jeanne Stevens in 1968, and the couple married on May 9, 1970. They would celebrate 52 years of marriage before he succumbed to his illness. The couple had no children.

Throughout his journey, Stace enjoyed woodworking in his shop, riding his Harley, listening to music of many genres, and watching sports of all kinds, particularly Avalanche and Eagles hockey, having held season tickets to the Eagles games for several years. He and Hilary also loved road trips, visiting friends and family in California, Texas, Mexico, Iowa, and Pennsylvania. A salmon fishing trip the couple took to Vancouver, British Columbia, was a particularly memorable one for him.

Stace's passion, however, was caring for creatures of many kinds, including three exotic birds through one chapter of his life. Throughout his 77 years, he was rarely not accompanied by at least one very well-cared for, much loved dog.

Those who knew him well – long-time school friends, work friends, new-found friends, and family – will miss among other things, his gentle and generous spirit, his easy laughter, and his GREAT tacos!

Ken Stacey is survived by wife, Hilary, and their beloved, loyal Schnauzer, Josie.

Hilary would like to thank everyone at Station 5, Poudre Valley Hospital, Pathways Hospice, and Goes Funeral Home who provided kindness, understanding, and comfort during this devastating time.

A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Commemorations may be made to The Larimer County Humane Society or Pathways Hospice in c/o Goes Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall

MS

“ *Mark and Dani Smith*

I worked with Ken on the light and power line crews at Ft Collins for about 20 years. Everyone wanted to work on 'Stacey's' crew.

It was a serious job that we all took seriously, but Ken's sense of humor and commitment to doing a safe job made the hours go by quickly. Though I didn't get to meet with Ken much after he retired, when we did cross paths, we always had a huge laugh about the 'old days'. I will always remember Ken and those times, and it always brings a smile to my face.

mark smith - June 10 at 10:22 AM

JA

“ *Dear Hilary,*

We will miss our dear friend. We've shared a lot of good times. Most recently when you, Stace and Josie made the road trip to Galveston. All of the hilarious stories of when "Kenny and Jimmy" and the guys were in high school. Thoughts of Stace always include his puppies - or birds. Any critter in his care lived a charmed life.

Stace, thank you for the memories. And Hilary, our thoughts are with you now and always. We are hoping all the years of love and memories bring you peace.

*Love,
Jim and Debbie*

Jim and Debbie Angell - June 07 at 05:42 PM

DM

Well said!

Dennis Miller - June 07 at 10:27 PM

DM

“ *There is so very many memories I have of my great friend it would take days to record them. Stacey was a bmf from 6th grade all the way until I Left FoCo to Chicago for school at 19. One that stands out is when my mom died shortly after graduating from FCHS, he was there for me as a friend and comforter. We rode mOtor scooters together, ate together, worked together at laughed together (he could make anyone laugh). He will be missed. Sorry I couldn't spend more time with you. Say hello to my mom dear friend. Rest in peace. Love you too Hilary.*

Dennis Miller - June 07 at 06:24 AM

DA

“ Hilary -- I'm not even certain we ever met. But Stace and I were 1963 classmates at Fort Collins High. I always remember him as 'a very good guy to pass some time with.' Our paths crossed very seldom, even though we both continued to live here in Fort Collins. I trust your memories over your 52 years with Stace will bring you both joy and comfort.

Dave Brown

Dave - June 05 at 09:40 PM

AE

Hilary,
Ken was just a real confidante to me when I was a kid. We talked for hours and since I was so much younger he listened and helped me sort through many things. As neighbors we just respected each other. I loved his family too.
So very many good memories and always loved seeing you both at El Burrito. It made me feel like we were a community of friends even though the town was growing. May you find good ways to carry on without him. If there is a future service the Arthur girls would love to attend.

Ann Everitt.

ann everitt - June 07 at 09:02 PM

JB

Dear Hilary,
In the years that I lived in Ft. Collins you guys were my best friends. Our friendship continued for the close to 35 years since I left. I loved Stace's sense of humor. The 3 of us laughed a lot when we were together. I remember one terrible time when we laughed when shouldn't have. You were over for dinner and my basset hound, Gatsby, was asleep on the couch. Stace wanted to give him a kiss. I told him that I didn't think that it was a good idea to surprise a sleeping dog. But he kissed him anyway and Gatsby bit his nose. You and I thought it was funny until we saw how bad the bite was. You had to take him to the emergency room. There are many more memories including your trip to Stockertown to visit us. I know you feel lucky to have been married to such a great guy for as long as you were. Stace was equally lucky. You are always in my thoughts. I hope the pain eases soon and that you find peace and joy remembering the happy times.
I love you my dear friend, Judy

Judy Bauer - June 23 at 12:14 PM