



## Steve Van Beek

November 11, 1981 - October 10, 2021

Steven “Steve” Mark Van Beek, age 39, of Royal Oak, passed away on October 10, 2021. Steve was born on November 11, 1981, in Holland, Michigan.

Steve embraced life with a passion and commitment that shone through in his devotion as a father to Henry and Anna and as a husband to Erin. Steve was most at home as “Daddy,” a bastion of love and peace and joy to his children. His legendary hospitality and generosity toward his family and in giving them joyful experiences will never be forgotten. Steve took to everything he did with unmatched energy, and with a curious and intelligent spirit for striving to be (and often being) the best. An incredibly competitive person, at everything from baseball and board games, to cornhole and Dutch shuffleboard, Steve was also the first to include others in the action, starting up games and activities for not only his own kids, but with his many beloved nephews and nieces. The joy he had in those moments was matched only by the joy he instilled in others. Steve’s faith inspired the way he treated everyone, with the love, generosity, and grace modeled by his Savior Jesus Christ. Steve also had an enthusiasm unknown to mankind for his beloved Michigan Wolverines, and that shared passion was a source of connection with so many friends and family. Go Blue!

Steve is remembered lovingly by his son Henry, his daughter Anna, and his

wife Erin; his parents David and Vonda Van Beek, his parents-in-law Steve and Debbie Plant, his brothers Harold (Kara) Krol, Daniel (Jennifer) Van Beek, Mike (Elizabeth) Krol, David (Mindy) Krol, Michael (Leanne) Van Beek, Tom (Tera) Krol, and Matthew (Joanna) Van Beek, 19 nieces and nephews, as well as aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. Steve was preceded in death by his beloved mother, Laurie Van Beek, and by his grandparents, Carl and Lois Van Beek and Jay and Necia Wesseling.

Visitation will take place on Thursday, October 14, from 2:30 p.m. until time of celebration of life service, 3:30 p.m., at First Congregational Church of Royal Oak, 1314 Northwood Boulevard, Royal Oak. Livestreaming of the service will be available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-R0BgoYggJg>. Interment to follow at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, October 15, 2021 at Georgetown Cemetery in Hudsonville.

No flowers please. In lieu of flowers, donations in Steve's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society. <https://www.cancer.org/involved/donate/memorial-giving.html>

Share a memory at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 14. 2:30 PM (ET)

First Congregational Church of Royal Oak  
1314 Northwood Boulevard  
Royal Oak, MI 48073

## Funeral Service

OCT 14. 3:30 PM (ET)

First Congregational Church of Royal Oak  
1314 Northwood Boulevard  
Royal Oak, MI 48073

# Tribute Wall

ND

“ I'm so very sorry to hear of Steve's passing... Steve was a mentor and leader in my journey as a credit union employee and compliance officer and will always be remembered for his wit and expertise. Rest in peace, my friend.. God be with you.

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**Nancy Drollette** - October 31, 2022 at 09:05 PM

KB

“ I am so sad to learn of Steve's passing. As a credit union employee, I often benefitted from his expertise shared in seminars and articles. His topics were always timely, and even if I missed a presentation, the material he provided was sufficient to educate on its own.

*I am sorry I never had the opportunity to interact with him on a personal level, and I would like to extend my condolences to his loved one.*

*“When we lose someone, we love, we must learn not to live without them, but to live with the love they left behind.” - Anonymous, shared by @peacefulmindpeacefullife*

*Kate Blanchard*

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**Kate Blanchard** - May 07, 2022 at 10:36 PM

MH

“ I just learned of Steve's passing and am so saddened but his premature passing. Steve and I shared a passion for helping credit unions with compliance issues. He reached out to me occasionally for feedback and I could rely on him for the same thoughts and prayers go out to his family. He will be missed.

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**Mary Lou Heighes** - November 10, 2021 at 01:16 PM

KW

“ I was so sad to hear of this news - Steve was such a beautiful soul and so kind, I worked with Steve and Erin at NAFCU and it truly was a family atmosphere. He was always going above and beyond to be kind to all of his coworkers and friends and always willing to go out of his way to help anyone he could. Sending love and prayers to Erin and the family. Let's go Blue! <3

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**Kristina Wells** - November 07, 2021 at 08:30 PM

BA

“ It is so sad to hear about Steve leaving so early, such a tragic news. I also has shared the apartment with Steve during my studies in Hamburg, Steve (together with his dear friend Mike) were the first two American friends I have ever met, and I always felt so fortunate to have been their flatmate. Steve was super gentlemen, kind, brave, life-loving and the most supportive friend you can ever ask for. I have only beautiful memories from those days.



It is so hard to believe that such a kind soul like Steve, who has never hurt anyone throughout his life, always kind and loving, has left us so early. I feel so sorry for his loss, and sending with great sorrow my deepest condolences to his wife and kids who lost such a precious and dear father.

May his soul rest in eternal peace,

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**Bashir** - October 25, 2021 at 12:51 PM

SG

“ Steve was a stand-up guy. For the past twelve years we worked together in the credit union industry. The consummate professional, genuinely kind, engaging, a colleague and who I considered a friend. He often talked about his family. - especially the kids as they came along - and about football. Such sad news; he is already sorely missed. Yet he left his mark in this world and all the lives he touched and made better for knowing him.

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**Steve Gorrie** - October 22, 2021 at 09:28 AM

DV

“ Erin, Henry and Anna--I can't remember a time when I didn't work with Steve in my credit union career. He was a trusted advisor and an amazing person. He loved sharing stories about the adventures of his family and sharing pictures of his children. I was blessed as a person to have crossed paths with Steve and Topside Federal Credit Union was honored and benefitted from our professional affiliation with him. Our family is praying for yours.

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**Dora Vogel** - October 19, 2021 at 10:54 AM

AR

“ Lets go back to 2006. I was a 20yr old Indian girl going for her EMLE masters second term to Hamburg, Germany. It was a very cold evening when I reached the building. I entered my flat. Its then that i learned that I will be sharing the flat with Steve, Mike & Bashir. I called my family back in India to let them know of my safe travels & told my mom that i will be sharing the flat with 3 boys. She was in shock ;) & said I should request for my flat to be changed. I am so glad I didnt, or else i would have never got to know steve this well. I was the little princess of that flat. All 3 boys took great care of me. Made sure they kept the flat tidy. Let me handle the kitchen groceries but always helped me to carry the bags. We shared the most beautiful 3 months in that flat & our flat was the party flat where all other friends spent most of their time. I remember how every morning we all went to university together. The endless metro rides. Our weekend trip to Berlin. The memories are endless & I doubt I will be able to share all my emotions in this post. Steve & I had not spoken for years as one just gets busy with life. You have gone too soon my friend. You will be missed & will always remain in my thoughts. Sharing two photos from 2006. To Steve's dear family, please remember you have a friend in India. I can be reached on artibhatia215@gmail.com, 00919810827760. Love & regards, Arti



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Arti - October 18, 2021 at 10:44 AM

JK

“ My sincere condolences to Steve's family. He was one of my first "teachers" when began my career as compliance officer. He was praised me for my work and often called me to discuss the issue at hand. I remember the weekend he got engaged to Erin. After moving, he periodically emailed me pictures of the kids and proudly told me stories of what Henry and Anna was up to at the time. He loved his life, Erin, Henry and Anna so much. I will miss him tremendously.

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**Joyce Johnson Keehan** - October 15, 2021 at 09:35 PM

DB

“ My condolences to Steve's wife, children, and entire family... I didn't know him well but I knew him well enough to know he will definitely be missed. I had just met Steve this past spring playing softball with the FCC team. He always had a smile and a joke... just an all around good guy, not to mention he was a pretty good ball player too. I'm glad for the time we played together all tho it was much to brief.

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**Dennis Brozowski** - October 15, 2021 at 08:24 AM

SA

“ *It was a very cold and snowy day in Hamburg. I was feeling down and heartbroken. Steve suggested to go out for coffee. It turned out to be one of the happiest days in my life. We had a snowballfight, we laughed so hard. A picture taken that day ist still hanging in my room. Steve was a great friend, he just knew how to cheer people up.*

*We drove from Italy to France, the car broke, twice. He managed to fix it. Of course he did. That trip and the months after in France are just blessed memories.*

*I feel so lucky to have had him in my life.*

*Sara*

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**Sara** - October 15, 2021 at 05:08 AM

JL

“ Steve was one of the closest cousins in age to me, and I have very fond memories with him from a young age when they visited us in Seattle. Being the only girl in with my two brothers and cousins dan, mike, Steve, and Matt was an adventure!

As adults, I was great getting to connect with Steve periodically. When I moved out to Maryland as a travel nurse, and Steve was living in DC, he made a point to come see me, and then showed me and a friend around the DC area as well. I got to meet Erin as well when they were dating!

Steve let me crash at his place when I was returning from Europe and in between travel nursing jobs.

Last year Steve reached out when he was going to be in the Seattle area to see about meeting up. Unfortunately I wasn't living in Seattle that year so wasn't able to see him.

Steve will be missed greatly! As I remember aunt Laurie after many years, I will also continue to remember Steve lovingly.

Prayers to all the family and friends.

Joy Vander Linden (cousin)

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**Joy Vander Linden** - October 14, 2021 at 03:58 PM

SK

“ My heart goes out to your family. I worked with Steve occasionally as a webinar host for him and he was always so wonderful to work with. I pray that his family finds peace and healing.

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**Sidnie Kane** - October 14, 2021 at 11:33 AM

BR

“ Prayers to you all, Erin, Henry and Anna we have never met, but Steve was a speaker for our company. We would always chat before the presentations began and I loved hearing about his family. He was so proud of you all! Love and prayers as you travel this difficult road.

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**Brook** - October 14, 2021 at 10:29 AM



“ In our flat in Hamburg, every country would prepare a dish from their home country. Steve and Mike went all in on US night! BBQ sauce and chicken wings were serious business. Attributes had to be perfect, music ON and the whole protocol on conversations during US night, games/ matches players and all. He was this beautiful balance between the responsible soul, fired up when talking about matches and always in for a party or a dinner or a trip...budha smile! We always said the girl that would get to marry him would be treated like a princess! I am sure he was a great father and husband. Our sincere condolences to his wife, children and family. Can't believe you went so soon Stevie, keep us a dish of chickenwings and a tap of beer open up there, ok! Meet you on a sundaymorning after a night out at the sunrise! Jill (EMLE Hamburg) Hugo & Morris

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**Jilly Root** - October 14, 2021 at 10:21 AM

AL

“ Steve was one of our(many) cousins in or around Michigan. I always appreciated that Steve would reach out to us when he was in the Seattle area. We had a chance to visit and share a meal with Steve and Erin and I recall noticing he always had a smile or grin while we spent a bit of time together.

*I will miss the occasional banter and rivalry we had over the the universities of Washington and Michigan football teams via text and am sad we couldn't follow through with sharing seats at previous or future contests of those teams.*

*Our thoughts and many prayers go out to the Van Beeks, family and friends.*

*Love from Aaron, Kristen, Adrian and Iris Vander Linden.*

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**Aaron Vander Linden** - October 14, 2021 at 12:22 AM

DC

“ I have known Steve for quite a long while through our shared credit union compliance and legal journeys. We were professional colleagues, but we always found time to chat about our lives, his kids and mundane things like the weather (which is similar in MI and upstate NY where I live) and vacations. I am profoundly saddened by this news. My prayers for peace go up to God for Steve's family, particularly his wife and kids. May they find peace and comfort in the coming days.

*Donna Chardeen*

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**Donna Chardeen** - October 13, 2021 at 02:21 PM

KM

*Erin and family. I am deeply saddened to learn of Steve's passing. We were professional colleagues as well as keeping in contact to talk about how you and the kids were doing. Always love the emails showing how much the kids have grown. My prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Keep the memories close to your heart and know he will always be watching over you and the kids.*

Kathy Milich - October 14, 2021 at 07:28 PM

FT

“ *I considered Steve a friend as well as a colleague. He was always very helpful to me over the many years we knew each other, whether a formal legal question or just some informal dialogue between a couple of lawyers. He was extremely wise beyond his years, was well-known and respected in the legal community, and was just so very friendly and helpful. I did and will always look up to Steve. I extend the most sincere and deepest condolences to his family and friends, and to the Howard and Howard team of professionals for this great loss. He left his mark, and he will be missed.*

*Forrest Troutman*

Forrest Troutman - October 13, 2021 at 01:52 PM

IB

“ *I work with Steve at Howard and Howard. I didn't interact with him very often, but when I did he was always so pleasant to work with. I am so very sorry to hear of his passing, I am sending my sincere condolences to all of his family. I will miss seeing you in Accounting, Steve.*



*Inge Bluford*

Inge Bluford - October 13, 2021 at 12:25 PM

GM

*Hi Erin, I'm Guy McFarland & writing this tribute on Maxine, my mom's behalf, We were both at Steve's Celebration of Life service, but mom couldn't stand in line at 97 to pay our condolences to you, Henry & Anna. As you remember, mom bought Henry a piggy bank. Mom had a wager idea, of sorts for the Michigan / Ohio State football game. Steve said, I don't want to hear anything about betting on the game. Mom said, now hear me out. If Michigan wins, I'll feed the PIG & if Ohio State wins you have to feed the PIG. The only one who wins is Henry! Steve said, I kinda like that. Mom & I are truly saddened by the sudden passing of Steve. Blessings to you & family. Guy McFarland*

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**Guy McFarland** - October 15, 2021 at 04:00 PM

NW

*So sadden by Steve's passing. He was such a gentleman, possessing a wealth of credit union regulatory compliance knowledge, which he readily shared with me, every time I consulted with him. I only had a professional connection with Steve, but I could sense through our many years of emails and telephone calls, that he was a kind soul, and an outstanding human being.*

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**Neige White** - October 22, 2021 at 10:39 PM