



Stephen Dye,

April 15, 1977 - January 17, 2005

Mr. Stephen Randall Dye, Jr., age 27, of Pounding Mill, Virginia, died Monday, January 17, 2005 at a Kingsport, Tennessee hospital from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident in Kingsport. He was born in Richlands, Virginia and was a son of Stephen Randall Dye, Sr. of North Tazewell, Virginia and Mrs. Linda Ann Craft Dye of Richlands, Virginia. He was a lifelong resident of the Richlands area and was a 1995 graduate of Richlands High School where he excelled in all sports especially football and baseball. In 1999, he received his Bachelors of Education and Bachelors of Science Degree from Virginia Intermont College in Bristol, Virginia and was currently attending Radford University. Steve was a recreational therapist for the State of Virginia Marion Correctional Center in Marion, Virginia. He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Ralph and Florence Craft. Survivors in addition to his parents are: His Wife, Mrs. Wendy Hill Dye Two Sons: Dallas Cole Dye and Denver Chase Dye of the home. Sister, Carri Curry of Dry Fork, Virginia His Step-Mother, Mrs. Leeta Dye of North Tazewell, Virginia Paternal Grandmother, Mrs. Sue Gravitt and husband, Walter of Haleyville, Alabama Paternal Grandfather, Mr. Ralph Dye of Nauvoo, Alabama Funeral services for Mr. Stephen Randall Dye, Jr. will be conducted Saturday at 1:00 p.m. at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Chapel in Richlands with Rev. Carl Robinson officiating. Interment will follow in the Simmons Family Cemetery on Red Root Ridge near Raven, Virginia. Pallbearers will be: Chris Harrison, Terry Monk, Jr., Tony Cordle, Josh Hurt, Jamie Hurt, Elliot Joyce, James Day, and Doug Dye.

Honorary Pallbearers: Danny Curry, Donnie Hill, Staff and Faculty of Marion Correctional Center, Adam Collins, Wes Sparks, Jarrod Sparks, Bobby Keen, Shawn Lawson, Matt Hodock, Kevin Smith, Dennis Vaught, Members of the 1999 Virginia Intermont Baseball Team, Rish Johnson, Brian Cline, Chad Cline, Shawn Hill, Josh Hill, Jarrett Roberts, and Stan Imsand. Friends may call at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands after 6:00 p.m. Friday. Memorial contributions may be made to the Dye Children Educational Fund c/o Planters Bank 1155 Claypool Hill Mall Rd. Cedar Bluff, Virginia 24609.

Tribute Wall



“ *Stephen Dye,*

January 14, 2023 at 04:24 PM



“ *Stephen Dye,*

January 14, 2023 at 02:26 PM



“ *STEPHEN AND I LIVED IN THE SAME RESIDENCE HALL IN COLLEGE AND PLAYED BASEBALL TOGETHER AT V.I. FOR THREE YEARS AND EVEN THOUGH WE HAD OUR DIFFERENCES WE ALWAYS SEEM TO FIND A WAY TO GET ALONG. STEPHEN AND I SPENT MANY NIGHTS TOGETHER HANGING OUT WITH THE GUYS AND TRYING TO KEEP EACH OTHER OUT OF TROUBLE. I THOUGHT ALOT OF STEPHEN AND I PRAY FOR HIS FAMILY, ESPECIALLY HIS TWO SONS. I AM SURE STEPHEN WAS A GREAT FATHER AND HUSBAND AND HE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED.*

BRADLEY LEONARD - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to all of the family in the loss of Stephen.....May God's Love bring you faith and comfort as you deal with your loss...*

*Love and Prayers,
Jane Ellen Horton*

Jane Ellen Horton - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ *always a friend and will never be forgotten*

Scott & Sabrina Ball and family - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

FD

“ *We are so very sorry about your lose. If you need anything please feel free to let us know.... Your in our thoughts and prayers...*

Freddie, Shauna and Trey

Freddie and Shauna Dye - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TL

“ *We would like to send our thoughts and prayers to your family in this time of loss. We know what a wonderful person Stevie was, and how greatly he will be missed.*

Tim and Jennifer Lowe - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ *Wendy & Family,*

I just want you to know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. If there is any way that I could take way your hurt, I would. Be strong and lean upon God--he will carry you through.

*Love and prayers,
Toni*

Tonya "Toni" Johnson - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *Dye Family,*

I am so blessed to have not only known Stephen but have him as a friend. I have so many childhood memories growing up on North St. that include Stephen. He was a precious human being. My heart breaks for all of you. We could always stike up a conversation like it was yesturday. He was like another brother to me. Linda & Steve I just want to let you know what a fine person you raised. I hope you can find strength in knowing that he was blessed with such an awesome and full life. Stephen will be greatly missed.

Eve Bryant Sharp - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *Linda- I cannot express how sadden I was to hear about Stephen's death. I know how much that you loved him. He will be greatly missed by all. May God keep you strong.*

Johnny Mutter - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ *Stephen was a great joy to our lives. We have alot of very speical memories that we will never forget. We never got to know Stephen as a husband and father, but I know when he dedicated himself he went all out. The only memory I have of Stephen and Wendy as a couple was a brief phone call I had with her. HA! HA! We never got a chance to spend time with you Wendy but you will hold a special place in our hearts for loving Stephen. God Bless Wendy, Dallas, and Denver. We love ya, Pam and Sonny.*

Pam Gravitt Jackson and Sonny Gravitt - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ I had only met steve a few times through some friends of mine that i play ball with. They talked highly of him as a person and a friend. I am so sorry for your loss. May god bless you through your time of sorrow.

Robert Carpenter - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ We will miss you very much. You have always been an inspiration to my children as well as others. We love you and your family very much and wish everyone the very best during this time of sorrow. If anyone ever needs us feel free to call us anytime. God bless you!!

Teresa Dye Cagle and family - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ Steven....I didn't get to know you very well, but well enough to know you were a terrific guy with a heart of gold...We will miss you very much but I know that God needs you more in paradise...We love you.....

Kenneth & Patricia Dye - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

NS

“ Steven worked with us on the Residential Unit here. He had such a good sense of humor. He talked so much about his boys. I am so sorry it happened. He will be deeply missed.

Nell Shumate - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ My sincere condolences goes out to your family. I wish there was something I could say or do in this very difficult time. I will keep you and your family in my prayers and I will always remember our times "playin ball" with Stevie!!

Dr. Mark Oliver - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Steve & Linda and Wendy and Boys
Words can not express our deepest sympathy for the loss of this special young man. We are just so sorry. May God give you each comfort and blessings. We hadn't seen you for many years, but you never forget people you meet when your kids are into sports like both of ours was thur high school and college. Our prayers will be with you. May God hold you all in his hands. The Warner's
Jerry, Pat, Jerry J and Tammy

Jerry and Pat Warner - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ I just want to give my sincere condolences to the family. I met Stephen in college, as we had mutual friends in Derick & Brooks Cosgrove and some of the other VI Baseball players. He was a great guy and a lot of fun to be around. I don't think I ever saw him that he wasn't smiling...and although I haven't seen him in a few years, I know he will be greatly missed. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.
With deepest sympathy,
Jenny

Jenny Brown (was Lunsford) - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Wendy,
We love you. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.
Love,
Donna, Dusty, Betty Hunt, Debbie Lockhart, Lonnie Phillips, Betty Baker, Dr. Palmerton, Sandra Reynolds, Kelley Carr, Karen Crowder, Tammie Tran, Deb Robinson, Vicki Shelly, Lisa Sprinkle, Fran Brown, Hazel Ferrell, Kay Martin, Dr. Nottingham, Dr. Stavola, Dr. Amick, Debbie Hansbrough, Dawn Wilkerson

Debbie Painter - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ I wanted to send my deepest sympathy to the friends and family of Stephen. I had the opportunity to get to know Stephen when he attended Virginia Intermont College and found him to be one of the nicest individuals that I had met. He was friends with Derick Cosgrove and Ken Bowman and was always a pleasure to be around. I'm sure he will be truly missed by those of you who were closest to him. Please find comfort in the Lord that Stephen is in a better place. My thoughts and prayers go out to you today.

Blake Lunsford - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ Stephen was a terrific young man and he will be sadly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you.

Patricia Duncan - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ Wendy I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I can only imagine what you must be going through right now. My thoughts and prayers are with you. If there is anything that I can do please let me know.

Sherrie Dowdy - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ Just wanted to send our condolences in this time of loss our prayers are with everyone.

Gary and Sara Damron Jr - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ We will be praying for God to give you and your family strength during this sad time. May God be with you during your loss.

Jeff & Debbie Lester - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Remeber that Stevie's life represents things that are right with athletics and athletes, things that are right in this community, and things that are right in this nation. His striving to succeed and excel in sports while maintaining a friendly personality and not getting caught up in his local stardom are goals that all athletes should set and maintain. His helpfulness, kindness, and friendliness are all attributes that this community prides itself on and things this community are known for. Stephen exemplified these traits in an easy fasion. They were natural to him. Most importantly, his love for his family was tremendous. All too often in today's world, fathers show no feeling or emotions for their children. Stephen loved his kids like he was loved, whole-heartedly and unwaveringly. These are things that are a testament to our country. Stephen will be missed by all that knew him. He was an example of things that all men envy and all things that a man should be.

I grew up with Stephen as my next-door neighbor for about 8 or 9 years. After he moved, he made better friends, but we always had our ties. He never failed to say hi, he never failed to show interest in my life and in my family, and he never failed to be a friend. You are, and will continue to be, missed, Stevie. I can only hope that your boys can find you in their hearts and souls and that they can be every bit of the man you were. Rest in peace.

J.J. Fuller and Family - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ Stephen was a *VERY* special friend and he will be missed very much. My love to all of his family as they deal with such a great loss. He will always be remembered in my heart and in my cherished memories.

*With love,
Angie Nichols Boyd*

Angie Nichols Boyd - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ I am so sorry for your lose Linda and Steve. I am in Mosul Iraq if there is anything i can do let me know? Agian i am so sorry. May God help you in your time of grief!

Anthony

Anthony D. Holmes - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ Steven was a great person with a bright personality. He will be greatly missed by everyone. Goc Bless him and all of his family.

Angela M. Boyd - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AZ

“ Wendy, When Sis called and told me the news it was de ja vu all over again. My heart just breaks so much for you, the boys and all the family. If you should ever need anything I will be here for you. I know we dont get to talk daily, but I think of you so very often. You have my love, support and prayers always!!!! Remember what God brings you to he will bring you through. I love you and will keep you in my prayers today, tomorrow and always. Love ya girl,

Angie (Beacham) Zike - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Steve & Linda & family,
We were so sorry to hear of your loss. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you. One thing that stood out about you guys when we met you about 9 years ago, was that you both loved your son and that he loved you back. That is the best thing you can carry with you in this life and from reading about Stevie's accomplishments, you can see that love reflected in his life choices- wife and sons, co-workers, college pals & sports pals.

Rhonda Perry - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Our deepest sympathy and prayers go out to the entire Dye family. We are life long friends of Stephen and we will miss him greatly! Our prayers are with you.

Michael And Laura Maxwell - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Steve,

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Your friends at the Cedar Bluff Town Hall.

marilyn altizer - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Stephen will be sadly missed by lots who truly love him. Our prayers and sympathy goes out to his family and friends. Only with God's help will they be able to get through this trying time. We, as your family and friend, are here for you anytime, day or night. Lots of love and prayers.
Eva and Keith

Keith and Eva Reynolds - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ I am Honored to have known Stephen. He always knew how to make anyone smile, even when it was hard to smile. He was a friend to anyone and everyone and never had anything harsh to say. His kindness and his smile will forever remain in my heart. I cant imagine what his family is going through right now. But you must be so proud that he touched so many lives and had so many friends. My prayers go out to his family and close friends.

Anissa (Walls) Lee - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ We are so sorry for this whole families loss.Stevie was a great young man and will be missed by all.We didn't know his wife,but our thoughts and prayers go out to her and their children.To Steve and Linda...We pray god will give you peace.To us as parents we can't even begine to know your pain,because to lose a child must be the hardest thing in the world to face.But Stevie would want you to go on and be strong.God bless and be with you all.

Perry and Drema Coleman - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ We would like to thank everyone for their support, thoughts, and prayers. Stephen was a wonderful person, especially at being a father, husband, and son. He was a good athelete, but his best tribute was to be blessed with a wonderful wife and God's greatest gift, two wonderful boys, Dallas Cole and Denver Chase. We will miss him more than words can ever describe, but his legacy will live on through the lives of his sons. Wendy, you are a wonderful wife, mother, and daughter-in-law. We will miss him very much. Wendy, Dallas, and Denver, we love you. Dad and Leeta

Steve & Leeta Dye - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to the entire Dye family. I cant imagine the pain you must be feeling. Stephen was a wonderful caring person, with a happy heart. I have very fond memories of him, from the days of playing little league football for the Greenwaves, hanging out at the skating rink, and even attending church with him many times in high school. He was like a big brother to me and his smiling face will stay in my heart forever. No matter how much time passed between seeing each other, he still acted like it was only yesterday.
Even though we don't always understand why things happen, take comfort in knowing that Stephen is in a better place. My sincere thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Robin (Hale) Murphy - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Jeff O'Dell

Jeff O'Dell - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Wendy, Dallas, & Denver,

I just wanted you to know how much my heart breaks for all of you. I have never experienced a loss such as this; but, I could see the pain that you all were going through. If I could take it all away and make it better, believe me, I would. Wendy, you are a wonderful wife to Stephen & an incredible mother to Dallas & Denver.

We've known each other a long time, and brought each other through some tough times. You and those beautiful boys will make it through this one as well.

I have never seen you so happy as I saw you after you and Stephen got together. It was God's plan for you to go through the things before Stephen, in order to make a more perfect union of you and Stephen. Then it was also God's plan for Dallas & Denver to come along to brighten your lives. It was God's plan also for Stephen to learn Wiggles songs (even if he wouldn't have admitted it).

I so wish that you, Stephen, Dale, & I could have spent more time together. That will forever be a regret.

I loved him for him. He was a wonderful person. But even before I knew him - I loved him because you loved him, and because he loved you. Anyone who met him could see that a mile away.

He will always be with you! You will see him in Dallas & Denver. You will hear him in your thoughts. You will see him in your dreams. God will send him to you when you least expect him but also when you need him most. Neither God nor Stephen will fail you!

To Dallas & Denver: if you guys know nothing else, know how much your Daddy loved you and how much he loved your mommy! You all were his life!

I love you & your family so very much! You all are in my prayers!

Christy Lee - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ *The Virginia Intermont community mourns Stephen's death, and our sympathy is sent to his family.*

Merle W. Dickert - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ *May GOD hold you in his bosom and comfort you during your time of grief. Remember if we say "I feel all alone". GOD says " I will never leave you or forsake you", Hebrews 13:5.*

Randolph Phillips - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

M(

“ *Wendy, Linda, Dallas, & Denver,
Words can't explain the way that i felt the moment I found out Stephen had passed away. I can remember so many things about Stephen, from him playing football with his friends in my grandmas front yard, swimming in my grandmas pool, watching him play baseball and football, he was so talented at everything he did! I think his greatest accomplishment are Dallas, and Denver. And it breaks my heart to know that they will barely have any memories of their daddy, b/c they are so young. But hopefully Wendy and Linda will make sure they know their father and all that he did during his short time on earth! May God Bless you and comfort you and your family!*

Myra M. Shortt (Reynolds) - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Steve and Linda we are so sorry to hear of your loss. I have alot of very special memories of growing up, state baseball tournaments, sleepovers and just hanging out with Stephen. He was a wonderful person , it was a blessing to know him and he will be greatly missed. May God bless and comfort you in this very trying time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Jeremy and Bethany Collins - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ We are so sorry for this indescribable loss that you have encountered. Our hearts and prayers are with you. Wendy, we love you very much. I think about you constantly. I will see you very soon.

Please take care of yourself.

We love you!!!

Carey Smith - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ Linda & Steve,
I am so sorry for the loss of your precious son. I can only imagine your pain/disbelief. If I can do anything for you, please call me. You are in my thoughts and prayers.
The one thing I can say to hope to give you comfort is to remember “..to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.” He will never be forgotten. May the Lord bless you and be with during this difficult time.

Your Friend,

Linda Pendry

Linda (Whitt) Pendry - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ *Stevie - The Golden Boy Of Summer*”

When I think of Stevie many memories come to mind. I think of the little Dodger ball player who never liked being behind. But win or lose, the next day there he came, wearing his cap a little sideways and his face turning red. Waiting for Mr. Bill to sing... " Take me out to the ball-game. " So he could step out on that field and be a golden boy of summer once more. And as his family mourns their loss and in their darkest hour... remember Stevie has stepped on heavens golden shore. To a great ball field where he his a golden boy once more.

To : Stevie, Linda, Wendy & Boys and extended family, Our deepest sympathy.

Kathy, Studly, Jason Lawson & Family - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *You are in our thoughts and prayers. Our sympathy goes out to his loved ones. We loved Stephen he was such a nice man and will never be forgot.*

All our love

Brigette and Jimmy Brown

Brigette F Brown - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ To the family of Stephen,

I would like to express my deepest sympathy during this difficult time. It is hard to believe something like this can happen, but we have to put our faith in God and know that Stephen is in a better place. May God be with each of you and help you stay strong, live each day to its fullest in Stephen's memory.

Sincerely,

Emily Dye

Emily Dye - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ To the family of Stephen: I am truly sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of need. I knew Stephen when we were kids in elementary and middle school. My heart goes out to all of you. He was an exceptional person. God bless.

Amanda Gwaltney - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ Wendy,

I just want you to know how truly sorry I am about the loss that you have suffered. My heart goes out to you. Try to take comfort in the fact that you are and will be surrounded by family and friends who care deeply for you and will make every effort to help you through these days. I wish I knew better words to say. Again, I am sorry. Please take care and be well.

*...Charlie
RHS '92*

Charlie Epperly - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Stephen, You will be miss very much, You being dead is a hard thing to believe. And to his Father and mother I'm sorry to here about your son. And to stephin's wife and kids, I'm wan't to say also that i'm sorry for your loss.

Thank You.

Stuart Belton - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ This truly is a very sad moment in each of our lives, but Wendy we haven't a clue what you must be going through. We will always be there for you and the boys, we love you all so much. JJ and I returned home tonight from the service and he wanted to watch the game of Keen Mtn. and Wallens Ridge. We had a few good laughs and he was telling me about the first time he met you when he and Stephen were putting in many hours preparing for that game. We all had so many great times and good laughs together at the club. Stephen was truly a character. We love him and miss him, as he will never be forgotten. We are truly grateful for the time we had with you all, just not long enough. We thank God for the wonderful Mother and Father you have, Wendy they will always be there for you too. Steve and Linda were wonderful parents, they raised a wonderful young man that everyone loved. Remember that Steve and Linda will be there for you too. Never be afraid to ask anyone for anything, everyone loves you deeply and will continue to be there for you as long as you will ever need us. JJ said never worry about the boys learning to play ball, Papaw Steve will teach them just as he taught Stephen. Wendy, Dallas, Denver, Clarence, and Shirley, Steve, Leeta and Linda, may God keep you in his loving arms, give you peace and comfort through this time of loss. We love you all!

J.J. & Elaine - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Dye family I am greatly sorry for your loss. Stevie was always a great person to be around and will be missed. He always brought a smile to peoples faces. And you never seen him without a smile. My family's thoughts and prayer will be with the family.

Stuart Richardson - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ I only new Steve(Stephens dad), and if Stephen is anything like his dad, he will be truly missed. I think a lot of Steve, and my sympathys go out to him and the family.

Adam, Leigh and Chace Collins - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

WD

“ First I want to thank each and every person that has called, emailed, or visited. My boys and I greatly appreciate your love and support and I know that Stephen would be proud. Now, I would like to let you all know what a wonderful husband and father he was. We all knew how tough he was but when it came to his boys he would but aside his "tough boy image" just to make them laugh. I believe he even knew a few Wiggles songs by heart! He was my best friend, my protector, my provider, and my lifetime companion and NOTHING will EVER change that! He would be amazed at the love he has spread and could never imagine in a million years that he touched so many lives with his wonderful personality, his incredible smile, and his irresistable charm. I felt so blessed and honored when he asked me to marry him and I feel so blessed now to be honored to have had his sons Dallas Cole and Denver Chase. With all my love
Wendy Dye

Wendy Dye - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ *Stevie was always a great friend to me. Whether it was little league or high school, I knew I could always count on him to make me laugh. I know that he will be missed greatly by all that knew him. Wendy, my heart goes out to you and your dear boys. You guys are in our prayers.*

Howie Boyd - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

VR

“ *Steve and Linda,
I am so very sorry for your loss. I know how both of you treasured Stephen. It was obvious from watching you that he was the light of your lives. I can't begin to know what the loss of a son feels like. I don't know Wendy or his sons, but please know that all of you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Valerie Rose - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Stephen was a great guy. He would do anything to help anyone. He has touched so many lives in so many ways and will always be remembered. We all have a part of Stephen with us and a story to tell about him. For me my memories of Stephen will be (when we were younger) teaching me to drive a clutch and (as we got older) seeing him at the football games with his son. Stephen will be greatly missed. My love and prayers go out to you Linda, Steve, Wendy and the boys.*

Angie Lamie - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ We first met Dye as a new recruit for the V.I. Baseball team. It quickly became evident that he was a little different than most. He was willing to do what ever it took to reach his objective, whether it meant personal sacrifice or simply enduring pain. He never backed down from a challenge, either on or off the field. It is clear that many people knew him as a great athlete, but he was a special person too. There was a lot more to Dye than athletics. The truly special thing about Stephen was his approach to life. Dye did not have the ability to do anything half way. If he decided he wanted to do something, he took his "all or nothing" attitude and went full speed ahead. He wanted to be the best athlete, the best student, the most popular, and the best friend. Mediocrity was not an option. These things definitely set him apart as a person, but what was really special to us was his friendship. After Dye left school, he lived with us for a while. During this time, we got to truly experience what it meant to have Stephen as a friend. Through good times and bad one thing was always constant. If you ever needed anything, Dye would do what ever it took to try to help, your problem was his problem. He always had a coi smile waiting to make you feel better. To Steve and Linda, words can't express the way we felt about your son. To his wife Wendy, and children, Dallas and Denver, though we never really had the chance to meet you, please know that you have become part of our family and that we will try to be there for you the way Stephen was there for us. We love and miss you Dye!!!

Ken and Shannon Bowman - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ I am so very sorry to hear of Stephen's death. I am a long time friend of Stephen's and we shared many wonderful memories. We played baseball and football together from the time we we're old enough to know how to play. Stephen was a great guy and I'm sure he was a wonderful father and even though we lost touch with each other once life made it's call, I will miss him dearly. I know that Stephen is with the Lord now, and he will be watching over his family until they meet him in heaven. If you can hear me Stephen when I pray, I always loved you like a brother. I am sorry I could not be there for the service, as I am currently called away to serve my country, but you are all in my thoughts and prayers. My wife and I send our deepest sympathy, and hope time heals your pain.

Kevin Wayne Mabe - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ I will never forget you. You will be missed.

Kerri M. Bennett - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

J(

“ My family and I wish all of you the deepest sympathy. I can't begin to imagine what any of you are going through right now. Stephen was such a great guy. Wendy, be strong, I know your boys will help you get through this difficult time. To Stephen's parents, I never met you, but I am deeply sorry for your loss. I will have all of you in my prayers.

Jessica Stone (Kilgore) - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ STEVE, LEETA, LINDA, WENDY & BOYS, I AM SOO SORRY FOR STEPHEN. HE WAS A GREAT FRIEND AND PERSON!! IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST LET US KNOW! YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS. STEVE AND LINDA YOU DID A GREAT JOB RAISING SUCH A FINE SON! LOVE LISA JOEY AND NICHOLE

LISA BELTON & JOEY LAMBERT - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KN

“ *Death is never easy for the family and friends, even when it is enevitable. My heart is filled to overflowing due to this tragic loss. I wish I could take it away, but I can say that I want to be part of your grief for two reasons. One, Steve is my neighbor in every sense of the word. Not only did we live near each other, but we had talked and shared and that makes us neighbors in this world. Next, I have been in the home of Wendy, her parents, and her siblings and was made welcome and a part of the family. For this reason, I do share the loss. Steve was a good man and although I did not have the opportunity to know him for very long, I was appreciative of what I saw and heard. Please know that I share in your grief and will always look for him to go by my house so I can wave. It is not easy to let go of those you see on an almost daily basis. My only hope in consolation is that he is a flower in the garden of God and I hope his eternal bloom never fades.*

Please call me if I can do anything for any of you.

Love, MIKE

KRISTY ANDERSON NORTHERN - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Wendy, having just met and married my best friend in the whole world, i can't imagine your loss. My prayer is that God will send grace and comfort to you and your family. When you lost your brother in x-ray school, I felt so bad for you but I admired your courage and faith. You trully know what it is to lose those you love. I'm so sorry for you. Cling to your faith and love your boys for the gift they are. With deepest sympathy, Carrie Spivey

Carrie Willis Spivey - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ Linda and Steve I am very sorry for your tragic loss. To Stephen's wife I am also very sorry for you loss as well as your kids. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Embrace the love and memories and keep them dear to your heart.

Mona Vinson - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Linda, Wendy, Steve, Dallas and Denver
I can only imagine what you are going through. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. If there is anything i can do please let me know. Stephen was a GREAT NEPHEW, i did'nt know Stephen like I should have. Wendy & Boys I know we have'nt had a chance to meet yet, but I know you all were the world to him. I'm sorry I could'nt be there in your time of need, but believe me my heart and soul were with you all. The lord works in mysterious ways and we will never no why. God Bless and I Love You All

Brenda Counts - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ *My family and I wish you our deepest condolences in this time of loss. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.*

Greg

Greg Reynolds - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *Wendy and boys,
This is to express our sincere sympathy to you and the boys during this very difficult time. Stevie was such a lively, friendly, special young man who many times went out of his way to assist me in my job duties as Warden's Secretary. I will never forget his smile and friendliness. My husband and I will continue to pray for each of you during this difficult time. (We are Bethany Bryant's parents).
We also are remembering Stevie's Mom in prayer.
May God bless you and strengthen you in His love and peace.*

Creed and Andrea Bryant - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ It has taken me almost two weeks to find the courage to write something. Here it goes.

Stevie, I love you. You are my big brother. You are my crutch. I have your picture on my desk. Wendy's and the boy's. I use to take time for granted but now I don't. This is so hard for me. I miss you so. I almost lost my son. I cannot imagine what Linda, mom, and dad are feeling. I know you are saying "what are you guys doing? I am okay." I feel as though a piece of my heart is gone. We will go on but we won't forget. Stevie, you and I made alot of memories. You will be in my heart forever. You will live on through my two beautiful nephews. They worshipped you. Wendy, you know how much I love you. They say the good die young. They do. It should be the best die young. He was a good football player and baseball player, but he was the best dad, husband, son, brother anybody could ever have. My heart is with you everyday Stevie and I am and will always be very proud of you. I love you.

Darri Curry - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Our prayers and thoughts are with the family.

Aaron Fuller - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

“ To Linda Steve and Leeta;

I can not imagine the pain and loss that you are feeling. Stephen was a part of my life for only a few short years. I can remember his "cocky" little smile and dimples the first time I met him at the Library Pub. He had just started to date Wendy and I came in town to check him out. The moment that Wendy fell in love with Stephen is the moment he became family. I know you have a ton of memories as he grew up...the sweet young boy full of mischief...the great hometown athlete....and the most important memory I have is of the young man Stephen turned out to be. Stephen always gave it all in everything I saw him do. From working in the restaurant for Mom and Dad to rough housing Dallas and Denver in the living room floor. He loved each of you and was challenged to make sure that you each knew that. His family knowing that he loved them and feeling secure in a challenged situation was important to him. He never wanted any of you to feel unloved by him. He was a loving friend and husband to my little sister Wendy, a good and tender Daddy to Dallas and Denver and a great friend to many. I know you are proud of the man your son turned out to be. My prayers are with you all.

To My Mom and Dad;

I know the two of you are also feeling a great loss. This is the third time you have faced this kind of tragedy. I know it is hurting your hearts watching your daughter trying to grasp onto life as hers has been ripped from her. I know it's hard thinking of the future for Wendy and the boys. I know how much you both loved Stephen and I know how much he loved you. I hope you will find comfort in the little faces that reflect his life. I know the two of you will help Wendy and the boys through this...that's what this family does! I love you!

To Carri;

I too have lost a "brother"...that is what Stephen considered himself to be to you. I can remember him telling me that you were his "sister"...not by blood but that wasn't important. He loved you and wanted only the best for you. He would have defended you to the

end if needed. I know the two of you had a very special bond and love for each other and I know you will miss him. I will miss him too!

Deona Cline - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

“ To my sweet little nephews;
Your Daddy was a very special man. He loved the two of you so very much. He was very proud to have two fine boys he had hoped for a whole ball team. Your Daddy loved to take you each to the barber shop and play rough with you....it will make you tougher. I see so much of your Daddy when I look into your tiny faces. The puckered lips and dimples that show when you smile and I even get to see the "Dye" fits occasionally. I know as you grow you will become fine young men as your Daddy was. I am proud to be your Aunt D and I will be here to help you remember the wonderful Daddy you had and will miss.

To Wendy;

To you my sweet little sister. This is the hardest one for me to write. I do know how you are feeling and how hurt and scared you are. I know the fears that you have about raising Dallas and Denver without Stephen. I know how the loneliness of not having Stephen's touch, his voice to comfort you or his strength to make things okay. I know that you are tired of people saying you have to be strong or that things will get better...I know you want to curl up somewhere and forget about the world and wake up to the fact that this is only a bad dream. I wish it were that easy. If I could protect you from this hurt and make it okay I'd do that. I want you to know that Stephen will always be here for you....if it's in the way a cloud follows you along the highway, or a calm breeze that comes out of no where or if it's the tender way Dallas' hands feel when he touches your face to tell you not to cry. Stephen will always be there. Dallas and Denver will grow up and as they do they will have traits that will keep reminding you of why you fell in love with Stephen. Stephen loved you as he had loved NO ONE before. He gave you two beautiful boys to help fill your life with hope and joy. He will never be forgotten. I am so fortunate that you and Stephen allowed me to share in the birth of Dallas. He was such a proud Daddy...the two of you did great. I smile every time I think of that day. I missed Denver's birth but the pictures again tell it all. Stephen was a good man and the two of you have encircled yourselves with great friends

and co-workers. They will ensure that you and the boys are looked after. I know they will check on you and the boys and help out when needed. I know they will put their pain aside and think of what you must be going through and do the right thing. Your true friends will not disappear into the woodwork as days, weeks and months go by. They will do what Stephen would have done had it happened to one of them. You are fortunate that you have such friends and co-workers to lean on. Sis the loved you two had is not common and should be cherished. Be proud of that man...the one you laid beside, the one that shared your dreams and fears, the one that made you laugh and smile, the one that really liked the "EMPTY BOXES" and the one that loved you for you! Sis no one can do this for you...you have to take one step at a time each day! If you let him God will help you, have faith and remember God will not give you what you can not handle. Lean on your family and friends and you do not have to be strong alone. I love you and I will be here for you...and the boys!!

Deona Cline - January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM



“ *I woke up this morning with only one thought on my mind, Stephen Dye. Dye and I were good friends in college and so when I heard the terrible news, I was heart-broken for his wife and kids. I went to the funeral and said my goodbyes to Dye, but today I couldn't seem to get him off of my mind. Only after looking up his obituary on this website did I realize that today marks the one year anniversary of his death. I feel like Dye is telling me that he is in a better place and that he is at peace. I hope that this is a comfort to his wife and kids because I can not begin to imagine how difficult this has all been on you. Eventhough we have never met, you will be in my thoughts and prayers. I love you Dye and I will never forget you.*

January 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM