



# Mr. Stephen Eric Ratka

FEB 2, 1965 - NOV 3, 2015



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## **Mr. Stephen Eric Ratka**

FEB 2, 1965 - NOV 3, 2015

**S**tephen Eric Ratka was born on February 2, 1965, in Houston to Frank and Julia Ratka. Stephen passed away unexpectedly on November 3, 2015. He was hard working, well mannered and humble. He was a jokster, famous for his ever-present bunny ears in photos. He teased anybody he cared about endlessly. He was a loving father and loyal and caring friend. Stephen was a Draftsman for S & B Engineering. He joined S & B at age 19. Typical of his character, it was the only job he ever had. Stephen loved golf, music, and his motorcycle! He was always at the Golf Course. He was a talented musician, but played his guitar mainly just for himself. He rebelled a little later in his life when he bought his motorcycle.

Stephen was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his son Erik Ratka and Erik's Mom, Norma Ratka, and Debbie Anderson who brought joy and love to him in the last precious years of his life. Stephen is survived by his brothers and sister: Frank and sister-in-law Donna; John and sister-in-law Gaye; and Teresa and brother-in-law Bryan. He is also survived by his Aunts Zelda and Linda, numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

The family will receive friends on Monday, November 9, from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM at SouthPark Funeral Home, 1310 North Main St., Pearland, TX 77581. The funeral service will be held on Tuesday, November 10, at 12:30 PM in the Chapel of SouthPark Funeral Home. A private burial will take place at a later date at SouthPark Cemetery.



# Events

**Mr. Stephen Eric Ratka**

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## Visitation

**Monday**, November 9, 2015

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM CT

**South Park Funeral Home and Crematory**  
1310 North Main Street, Pearland TX 77581



## Funeral Service

**Tuesday**, November 10, 2015

12:30 PM CT

**South Park Funeral Home and Crematory**  
1310 North Main Street, Pearland TX 77581



## Cemetery Details

**South Park Cemetery**  
1310 North Main Street, Pearland TX 77581

**(281) 509-9228**





## Tribute Wall

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DZ

**David Zepeda** sent a virtual gift in honor of Stephen.

January 21 at 3:47 PM



RM

**Reyes Mares** sent a virtual gift in honor of Stephen.

I will miss you my friend, thank you for all those golf lessons. I always tried my best to stay with you in golf and thanks to you I broke 82. You will be missed

November 10 at 7:16 PM



SS

**Sandy Sornson** posted:

You always had a smile and always made me smile with your words. I am blessed to have know you as a co-worker that I called a friend. I will always miss you my friend till we meet again!Sandy Sorenson

November 10 at 2:09 PM

TH

**Thomas** posted:

Steve, my friend, teacher, fellow golfer and bike rider. You will be missed greatly. To have had you as a friend has been a great honor. Thank you for sharing your time with me through thick and thin you never waivered and it was sincerely appreciated. God speed! Thomas Wourms

November 10 at 5:33 AM

LD

**Linda Duncan** posted:

Steve, you will be missed by many! I will always remember your smile, with a fun comment from you when I walked up. For every smile you gave away, I know you got one back!! You will be remembered, because friends are.Linda Duncan

November 9 at 11:34 AM



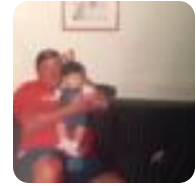
## Tribute Wall

**Mr. Stephen Eric Ratka**

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IA

**Isabel Ayala** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



When I was little, I remember being so excited going to Grandma's house. Not only to see Grandma, play with the bazillion toys there, or eat her coma inducing brownies - I was excited 'cause I got to play with Uncle Steve. Now, later on, I realize that when I was with Uncle Steve - I was "playing", but back then... Uncle Steve was my arch nemesis. After we hugged him and told Grandma and him what was going on - he would start teasing us, which led to me trash talking. Uncle Steve loved to tease everyone. I remember him picking up those toys at Grandma's and holding it high over his head, that always led to me jumping and climbing on him and later on we would be sprawled on the floor or the green striped couch. Him, laughing and talking with Grandma and Mom, and me, happy and flustered. Being "flustered" was one of my excuses for when I stuffed my favorite toy at Grandma's down my shirt when we were leaving :) , but alas, Mom always caught me. I was really looking forward to more of those times, Uncle Steve, but I will forever have memories of you and Grandma. Awesome, amazing memories, like the time you two came over for Thanksgiving. Grandma with her award winning ham and her yams with marshmallows. All it took was showing you our nerf gun for you to abandon the adult conversation and start a war zone with it. I'm glad I got to see you one last time at the Hospital. I was dealing with a lot of emotions and the first thing you do when you come to me is give me a fist bump. Thank you for that. No matter what, you managed to make people laugh. You and Grandma gave me a lot of joy when I visited you guys. The thought of you two bring a smile to my face. Thank you for everything. I'm going to miss you, Isabel

November 8 at 1:48 PM

TA

**Tina Ayala** shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Stephen, I wish there was more time. You were my uncle, but I never called you "Uncle" because, to me you were a brother. I went away to Singapore knowing that, when I returned, you would be there to tease my girls, show you care with a punch in the arm and a laugh. I am grateful for the week before you passed. The early morning talk with you and Debbie, the long hug when grandma passed. You will be missed Steve. But I will always have you in my heart and in my memories. To me you will always be the big brother that I looked up to and loved. There will always be the Sunday morning Kung Fu movies, hearing you play your guitar from the other room, the special trip you took to visit Hector and me in California. Know that Hector and I will keep an eye on Erik and keep in touch with Debbie. I love you Stephen. You and grandma were my family. Love Always, Tina

November 8 at 1:48 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Ratka family.

November 9 at 4:16 AM



**The Gbr Cat 3 Team** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Ratka family.

November 9 at 4:13 AM



**Vikki Kemp** lit a candle in honor of Stephen.

You will be forever in my heart! I will miss you deeply. Rest in peace my friend, Vikki Kemp

November 9 at 3:12 AM



**Todd Guillory** lit a candle in honor of Stephen.

Steve, I know you will be missed by many of us here at S&B and a few other places. You were always serious with your work but also knew how to make people laugh or smile. I also want to thank you for our early morning life talks like you were the big brother i never had. Only the good die young, peace and give them angels some laughs up there. Your friend, Todd Guillory

November 9 at 12:44 AM



**Margaret Rowland** lit a candle in honor of Stephen.

RIP, Steve you will be forever missed. Love you Margaret Rowland

November 8 at 4:26 PM





## Tribute Wall

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AP

**Andrew Patterson** sent a virtual gift in honor of Stephen.

I was one of the lucky people in this world that got to call Steve Ratka my friend and more importantly, I was called a friend by him. I'm going miss buddy. You were a great friend. I loved our golf outings and they will never be the same without you. You were the ring leader of our four amigos on our Sunday golf foursomes at Clear Creek. I will always treasure our time together. Our deep discussions about whatever was going in our life's at any given time. You were always there for me and never judged me. Thanks for being my friend.



November 8 at 3:36 PM

FV

**Forever In Our Hearts, Isabel, Sophia, And Victoria** sent a Fall Fantasia to the Ratka family.



November 8 at 2:34 PM

LV

**Love Always, Tina, Hector, Isabel, Sophia, And Victoria** sent a Care and Compassion Spray to the Ratka family.



November 8 at 1:48 PM



## Media

**Mr. Stephen Eric Ratka**

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Isabel Ayala shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

November 9 at 10:13 AM





# Media

**Mr. Stephen Eric Ratka**

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Tina Ayala shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

November 9 at 6:47 AM



Stephen and Isabel





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Stephen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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