



## Stephen Lee Lortz

September 7, 1949 - April 23, 2017

Stephen Lee Lortz, 67, of Anderson, passed away on April 23, 2017 at St. Vincent's Anderson Regional Hospital. He was born on September 7, 1949 in Anderson, Indiana.

Stephen grew up in Anderson attending Roosevelt Elementary School and graduating from Madison Heights High School in 1967 where he was in the band. He attended Anderson University before being drafted into the US Navy and served for 6 years on the USS Pogy working on nuclear reactors and submarines. He attended Whetstone Christian Church in his younger years and was attending Park Place Church of God.

He was known for his love of Biblical Theology Studies, his good sense of humor and heart for teaching. He loved his pet dogs and cats and was a model train enthusiast.

At various times held jobs at Best Buy in Castleton, Border Bookstore at Keystone Fashion Mall, The Game Preserve in Broad Ripple, The Wizard's Keep in Muncie, Walden Book Sellers and Calendar's Kiosk in Anderson and was a teacher at Summit Academy in Zionsville. He was also made miniature sculptures and was a artist, role-playing game developer and participated in GEN-CON.

Stephen is survived by his loving spouse, Elizabeth Jean Lortz; daughter, Genevieve Wilson; granddaughter, Savannah Wilson; siblings, Leatha (Robert) Lemen and Nancy (Michael) Hoggatt; nieces and nephews, David (Christine) Lemen, Alice (Daniel) Kleinschmidt, Gloria (Mark) Arthur, Anna Warmuth, Ruby (companion, Chris May) Bethke, James D. Hoggatt, Aimee (Scott) Zabinski and several great- nieces and nephews, including Ashley Hamilton.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lee E. and Atha C. Lortz, and brother, Kurt M. Lortz; and nieces and nephews, Matthew Lemen, Sarah Mendez, and Michelle Hamilton.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Park Place Church of God on May 2, 2017 at 2:00pm.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Cystic Fibrosis Research or local SPCA.

[www.loosecares.com](http://www.loosecares.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

Park Place Church of God  
501 College Dr.  
Anderson, IN 46012

# Tribute Wall



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Stephen Lee Lortz.*



May 02, 2017 at 08:47 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



**genevieve** - April 28, 2017 at 11:58 AM



*This was taking during my visit to Indiana this January. We just had an amazing conversation about religion and life.. and he was so happy that day.. it really shows in this awesome picture of him. :) -Genevieve*

**genevieve** - April 28, 2017 at 12:08 PM



*A caring creative and caring soul. I am sure you are up their talking to god about the finer points a of world creation*

**jon cook** - May 01, 2017 at 10:42 AM

JT

“ Steve and his brother Kurt were so dear to all of us that sat with them for many hours in college at the student union (the Talley) at Ball State. They were our older, wiser brothers. I remember Steve always being very kind-- even though he had a wicked sense of humor. He will be missed.



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**Jo Thomas** - April 26, 2017 at 11:53 PM

RR

“ We will miss you and your wonderful spirit but our Lord has brought a great conversationalist into his embrace. There is that much more laughter in heaven tonight! Farewell and...Arghh!

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**Ray Redecker** - April 26, 2017 at 05:11 PM

NI

“ Mr. Lortz,  
It was you, my biggest cheerleader, who helped me navigate the violent seas of theological study. It was you, my single peer, with whom I found a military comrade, a political ally and a spirit-filled radical. It was you, my friend, who invited me into your world of laughter, compassion and family. Because of you, I have come to love your wife Elizabeth, your sister Nancy and Kitty Bob. Anchors aweigh my friend; fair weather and following seas. Until I get to the Heavenly Shores ,,,  
Your friend,  
Nicki

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**Nicki** - April 26, 2017 at 10:18 AM

PD

*Thank you, Steve, for caring friendship. I will always remember how you read my chapters, giving very helpful suggestions. Especially when I was telling more of my story, you gave me most helpful feedback. I reworked my paragraphs. Your helpful criticism and affirmation meant so much. Echoes of Mercy, Whispers of Love was finally finished! Your time here seems too short, but I'm so thankful our paths crossed. My love and prayers are with you Elizabeth and Nancy. With Letha and Genevieve, all the family.*  
*Pauline Doty*

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**Pauline E Doty** - April 26, 2017 at 06:55 PM



*Thank you, Steve, for your patience and kindness to me when I was a loudmouth know-it-all who knew nothing. You, Kurt, and another guy were the only three people in Anderson who ever tried to understand what I was trying to say. I relished those evenings the four of us would travel from one nerdy venue to another, discussing the events of the day and even loftier notions.*

*Sadly, with your passing the "Fairlane Lectures" have now gone silent.*

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**Mark Lindamood** - April 27, 2017 at 11:46 AM

PH

*Anyone who spent time hanging around in the attic at the Lortz house will never forget how great those days were. The whole Lortz family shaped my life for the better and words cannot express how much I miss all of them. But the good times will never be forgotten.*

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**Paul "Mr. Natural" Hamilton** - April 30, 2017 at 09:37 PM



*I was so happy to see Steve and his wife, Elizabeth, when they came to visit our church, Circle of Friends Wesleyan, not so long ago. When he stood up and spoke during the sharing time, I recognized him from long, long ago. After the service we chatted about old times: his service on a navy submarine, his time as an art student at Anderson College. We laughed about the way he won a religious art contest back at AC. It was an abstract modern sculpture project he had already completed. He added gloves with nails through the palms to opposite sides of it and entered it into the contest. I heard that there was quite a bit of discussion among the judges as to the controversial nature of the sculpture, but he still won first place anyway.*

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**Larry Kardatzke** - May 02, 2017 at 08:47 AM



*Farewell to my childhood fishing buddy and lifelong good friend. It was always fun to be with Steve and our fathers on those early morning fishing odysseys, and it was a pleasure to spend time with all his family members through the years. To his family, we are sorry we could not be with you at the memorial service but please know we feel your loss, too, and our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

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**Doug Vermillion** - May 02, 2017 at 07:20 PM