



Walter Stephen Rodgers

May 18, 1944 - September 26, 2023

Funeral Service Link:

<https://paulblagay-171.my.webex.com/wbxmjs/joinservice/sites/paulblagay-171.my/meeting/download/672207d31df0405883f36bb128a22816>

Our beloved father, Walter Stephen Rodgers, passed away at home in his children's loving embrace on Tuesday, September 26th at the age of 79 – enduring 'til the end.

He was born to Walter Charles Rodgers and Eva Eliza Van Seters, on May 18th, 1944 in Salt Lake City, UT. Steve grew up in Sandy and attended Jordan High School, where he went on to join the United States Navy at the age of 17. He was honorably discharged as a Yellow Shirt, serving on the aircraft carrier, the U.S.S Shangri La.

After he was discharged, he moved to Kansas and found work with Hercules, making missiles for the U.S. Government, while also working as a golf professional at Alvarado Country Club.

Years later, he returned to Utah, the place that he loved most. He continued his work with Hercules until he began the work that would mean the most to him for the next 50 years, as an insurance agent for American National. During his time with American National, he became a qualifying member of

the Million Dollar Round Table as well as being a part of the Presidents Club. He made many lasting relationships with clients that turned into lifelong friends. His devotion to his clients was present until the very end. Dads goal was to “work until he dropped.” A promise that he lived up to.

Our Dad had a deep love and respect for golf and was an avid competitor and member of the UGA. He competed in weekly tournaments, twice qualified for the Utah State Amateur, and was Club Champion of the Westridge Men’s Association. He continued playing golf, always by USGA rules, and never passing up an opportunity to rake a bunker or fix as many pitch marks as possible. Dad’s goal was to always leave it better than he found it, which applied to all aspects of his life.

Steve was a meticulous craftsman who could build and fix anything. From a young age, he always had a deep love for model airplanes. He built museum quality remote control scale model aircraft, which he did with precision and passion. His biggest accomplishment being his 1/3 scale J-3 Piper Cub. Dad remarked many times how much he loved working with his hands. Anything that needed to be fixed was done above and beyond ordinary repair.

Dad was always a spiritual person, a man of faith and his word. He knew deep down that he would find his way back to the LDS church at some point in his life. In 2019, he was re-baptized, his priesthood blessings were restored, and he received his temple endowments. Family has always been important to Dad, and this was his way to ensure that his family would be together forever. He was a man of service his entire life, and even though he never served an LDS mission, his life mission was to serve others.

From 1966-1980, Steve was married to Barbara Johnson and from 1983-2013 was married to Janet Boston. He was always grateful for the years and memories made during this time as it gave him his wonderful family. Dads

ultimate pride and joy came in the form of his children: Barbara, Stephen, Kate and Hannah. He loved being a dad and did everything in his power to give his children anything and everything. Dad was our biggest cheerleader while also being our harshest critic. Dads' motto was 'Show me, don't tell me'. This has been deeply ingrained in all his children. He instilled many values of hard work, respect, determination, and punctuality. He always told us that we can do whatever we put our minds to and expected us to give 110% in everything that we did.

Dad – your abrupt passing has left a major void in all our lives that will never be filled, but we know this too shall pass. You made a lasting impression and left an incredible legacy for us to continue. We will forever miss your unique humor, your comforting words, your consistent reliability, your infectious laugh and contagious smile. We promise to always honor you by living our life to the fullest while seeing each day as a blessing.

He will be greatly missed by his sisters Carol, Kay, Karen and his brother Ken; his daughter, Barbara Rodgers (Greg); son, Stephen Rodgers (Lexie); daughter, Kate Rodgers (Paul); daughter, Hannah Otteson (Matt); grandchildren, Juniper Poppy & Arlo Silas, and his dachshund Honey Badger.

Preceded in death by his parents Walter Charles Rodgers and Eva Eliza Van Seters; his best friend Al Simonich; and his two dachshunds Charlie and Lola.

Services will be held Saturday, October 7th at 11 am in the Roseboro chapel in Sandy; 9800 South 1880 East Sandy, UT. All are invited to attend the viewing at the Roseboro Chapel on Friday, October 6th from 6-8 pm and Saturday October 7th from 9-10:30 am prior to the services. Interment will be held at Larkin Sunset Gardens in Sandy; 10600 South 1950 East in Sandy, UT

Cemetery Details

Larkin Sunset Gardens

1950 East 10600 South
Sandy, UT 84092

Previous Events

Viewing

OCT **6**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Roseboro Chapel
1880 East 9800 South
Sandy, UT 84092

Viewing #2

OCT **7**. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

Roseboro Chapel
1880 East 9800 South
Sandy, UT 84092

Funeral Service

OCT **7**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

Roseboro Chapel
1880 East 9800 South
Sandy, UT 84092

Tribute Wall

NW

“ My heart goes out to the family. I’m so sorry for your loss. I’ve known Steve since I was a kid, he would stop in and see my father and I to discuss model airplanes. He was always smiling and had the funniest jokes to say, he loved to laugh and we loved laughing with him. I was honored to tour his workshop a few times. We both love the model airplane hobby and his talent for replicating scale realism was incredible. He loved sharing the projects he was working on. Later in life we also golfed together. I was lucky enough to play with him and his son Stephen. Those two were quite the team. Steve was so proud of his children and would mention their accomplishments proudly.



Unfortunately I was not aware of his passing and regret not reaching out more often. I’ll miss his humor and our talks about airplanes. I’m glad to have known him and glad he was a part of my life.

Nathan Wise - January 04, 2025 at 11:19 AM

BL

“ I met Steve in my twenties playing in the City Am at Bonneville. By the second day he was insuring my car and 30+ years later he was still my guy. I would tease him; how does an insurance man not have a cell phone (!), but somehow he was always on top of things. I’m going to miss him. Condolences and love to his family.

Brent Lloyd - October 13, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ **Walter Stephen Rodgers**

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM

KM

“ I lived across the street from Steve for about 15 years. When I moved to Sandy in 1981, he was the first one to welcome my family to the neighborhood, immediately had us all laughing, and then sold us our first (of many) insurance policies! We talked often, about cars, RC planes and golf... and played a few rounds of golf, but not nearly enough. He was a great friend, and I'll miss him.

Keith McCord
North Salt Lake

Keith McCord - October 04, 2023 at 02:09 PM

CN

“ I work in the home office in Springfield and was blessed to have worked with Steve over the years. I loved his humor and considered him a friend. Many years passed without contact, but we were able to reconnect recently via phone. It was like no time had passed and we picked up right where we left off. May the Lord provide your family a special blessing during this difficult time. I know Steve will be keeping watch over you. Much love to you all!

Cindy J Norman - October 03, 2023 at 02:42 PM

MO

“ Steven was named after his father. My father, also named Walter (Hirschi) especially loved him and looked out for him. Steven worked for my dad for awhile when he was young on dad's brick laying jobs. We played together as young cousins. He was funny and fun. I haven't seen Steve since we were children. Condolences to his family. I am proud of Steve and all that he accomplished in his "short" life. We send our love. Margot

Margot Hirschi Van Orman - October 03, 2023 at 01:35 PM

TO

“ Steve was our insurance agent for 30+ years. From the very first time we met him we instantly became steadfast friends. He was a compassionate, loving and caring man, but his outgoing personality was his gift. We shared so many great calls together filled with friendship and laughter. We will miss you Steve. Our love and thoughts and prayers are with your family. Love you Steve 💕



Tom and Jeanne Ogden - September 30, 2023 at 07:54 PM

PS

“ Steve, I'm sure Al is happy to have you near him again. We loved you much, Phyllis Simonich

Phyllis Simonich - September 30, 2023 at 03:01 PM

S

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Serenity Funeral Home - September 29, 2023 at 03:17 PM

KC

*I remember Steve as a fun and funny cousin. He was a bit of a rascal and full of life and sometimes mischief. But all in good fun. He had a wonderful laugh and great smile!
I know he will be missed by many.
My sincere condolences to all his family.
With love, Kallee Harvey Cooper*

KALLEE COOPER - October 10, 2023 at 12:11 PM

SE

*To a man who gave us so much love and attention, you would think we were family. We just heard of Steve's passing. The world lost a beautiful soul on September 26, 2023. Condolence to Steve's beautiful family, whom he shared with us. Steve was our friend and insurance agent for 50 years. He wrote our auto policy in 1977.....and he loved and took care of us like family. Steve, you will be missed immensely, you always gave us great advice. Rest in Love,
Balinda and Sonny (Reed) Earl.*

Sonny and Balinda Earl - April 01, 2024 at 10:47 PM