



Steve O. Niswonger

April 21, 2013

Steve O. Niswonger, 58, of Cape Girardeau died Sunday, April 21, 2013, at his home. He was born April 16, 1955, in Cape Girardeau, to Chester D. and Thelma "Pat" Crites Niswonger. He graduated from high school in 1973 in Memphis, Tenn. He and Shirley J. Laurentius were married June 4, 1977, in Cape Girardeau. Steve began his career Aug. 1, 1978, as a uniformed patrol officer with the Cape Girardeau Police Department. He transferred to the fire department Dec. 15, 1980. He was promoted to captain March 1, 1987, and on Jan. 1, 2000, he was promoted to battalion chief. Steve retired as C-Crew battalion chief Dec. 17, 2010, after serving 32 years with the city of Cape Girardeau. He was a member of St. Mary's Cathedral. Survivors include his wife, Shirley J. Niswonger of Cape Girardeau; brothers Tom (Flossie) Leggett and Dan (Alice) Niswonger, and twin brother, Marty (Nancy) Niswonger, all of Cape Girardeau; mother-in-law, Rose Laurentius of Cape Girardeau; four brothers-in-law, Gary (Diane) Laurentius of Fruitland, Randy Laurentius of Cape Girardeau, Jim (Sherri) Laurentius of St. Louis and Rick Laurentius of Cape Girardeau; 13 nieces and nephews; and 17 great-nieces and great-nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Dale Niswonger; father-in-law, Alfred J. Laurentius; and brother-in-law, Ray Laurentius. Visitation will be from 4 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at Ford and Sons Mount Auburn Chapel, with parish prayers at 4 p.m. The funeral will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at St. Mary's Cathedral, with the Rev. Tom Kiefer officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery. Memorial

contributions may be given to the Steve Niswonger Scholarship Fund for training of Firefighters and First Responders, c/o First State Community Bank.

Tribute Wall

KJ

“ *The pain of losing someone you love can be overwhelming; I too know that pain. May your family find comfort as I have in knowing that our loving heavenly Father promises us that very soon he will 'wipe out every tear from our eyes, and death will be no more.'* (Revelation 21:4) *What a wonderful day that will be!*

K. Jackson - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Shirley, I am so sorry to hear of Stevie's passing! He was one of my favorite Niswonger cousins, with never a dull moment when he was around. Family get-togethers will never be the same. Please know that you are in my prayers! With love, Darlene*

Darlene Niswonger Curran - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *Steve, You was a mans man. You never knew a stranger. You always treated us like one of the guys. I will always remember working calls with you. I learned so much for you. RIP my friend. Until we see each other, you will be missed!*

Travis Sheppard - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *The Niswonger Family, A sincere sympathy to your family upon the passing of Steve. I (Jane) always enjoyed working with Steve at the Cape Girardeau Fire Department. My husband (Stan) and I also fondly remember our encounters with Steve at the El Torero restaurant. He was a special person and he will be missed.*

Jane & Stan Stough - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Prayers of comfort are being sent your way.

Jim Watkins - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Shirley, You have been in our prayers and thoughts. I always enjoyed chats with Steve as we would see each other coming and going over the years. Schedules have prohibited attending service arrangements. If you ever need anything, we're right down the street.

Mike and Alicia Scott - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ so sorry for your loss shirley,i know his babies will miss him.he loved those dogs so much, he always made me laugh when he would come to get them...always trying to pawn them off...i looked forward to his visits,he always made my day,what a great guy.

Danas Pet Salon - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Sending my condolences to the Niswonger family at this time. May a legend of angels surround you all with comfort and peace.

Belinda Lynn-Idol - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ My earliest memories of Steve are of he and his twin, Marty, pulling me through their bedroom window to go outside and play - faster than going down the hall to the door! They were two little boys full of joy then. We all got caught up in "life" and didn't spend as much time together as we should, but family time that included Steve always contained a glimpse of that inner spirit. I can't imagine the streets of Cape Girardeau without Steve passing through, headed somewhere in his pickup, with a smile and a wave for friends and family.

Louise Getts - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Dear Shirley, Tom, Danny, and Marty: I am so sorry for your loss. I met Steve, Marty and Danny through the Police Dept. I was a part of the Explores Post and back then Dad and Mom owned the Southern Cafe. You all ate with us. Steve will truly be missed and I was blessed to call him my friend for many year's. Please know you and the family are in my prayer's.

Lisa Sparkman - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Shirley, I'm so very sorry for your loss. If you need anything at all please do not hesitate to ask. You and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers. May you be wrapped in the comforting arms of our Lord.

Kris Hopper - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ So sorry for your loss. Shirley, I can't even begin to imagine how heavy your heart must be. My prayers are with you and the rest of the family. May God bless you all and comfort you with his peace during this time.

Mary Vickery - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ I thought so much of Steve. He was always so kind and thoughtful and polite. He was the kind of person you wanted to be around. He was a customer through the Fire Dept. of Auto Trim Design, where I work. He was also a first responder to my home 4 years ago when I had a serious medical emergency. I am so sorry for the loss of such a good man and to Shirley, who was a classmate of mine, I am deeply sorry for yours and your family's loss.

Tammy (Dale) Francis - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ So sorry for your loss! Steve was a wonderful man and neighbor!

Susan Hekmat - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ My heart is so sad to hear of the passing of Steve. I use to work with him at the city and he was so much fun to be around. He will truly be missed by everyone. My thought and prayers are with your family at this time.

Pam Davidson - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EW

“ My condolences to the family for your lost. We have been friend for a very long time and had mountains of great e mails over all the years. Steve was a great person and a wonderful friend. I will never forget and can not be replaced. Knowing Steve has made me a much wiser and more understanding man. For that I will never forget. May all find comfort GOD

Ed Woods - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Steve was a wonderful friend and co-woker for many years. My prays are with all of the Niswonger Family. I will miss Steve a lot. We had many good times together a the engine houses as well as off duty.

Dave Suttles - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

YR

“ I knew Steve and Marty from High School in Cape. My condolences to the family and I am real sorry for your lost. I know God will comfort.

Yvonne Ross-Young - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ Growing up, I spent a lot of time at Stever's brother Marty's house. Sometimes when Amber and I were bored we would walk down to the fire station to see what was going on. Uncle Steve would let us climb up in the fire truck and run around the fire house. We thought we were so cool. I will always remember his friendly smile and silly sense of humor. My deepest sympathy to the family. 'Uncle Steve' will be missed by so many. Rest In Peace.

Nicole Fratto - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM