

Stephen "Steve" Eugene Balch

April 7, 1948 - July 8, 2023

The family of Stephen "Steve" Eugene Balch, age 75, announce the passing of his earthly life to his heavenly home on July 8, 2023. He will be fondly remembered by his welcoming smile and friendly conversations. He was a faithful member of the Luther Memorial Lutheran Church and a lifelong member of the Parrottsville Community.

He attended Parrottsville Elementary and High School, where he met the love of his life, Emma Lee. They agreed to go on their first date on April 8, 1965 because that was the date between their birthdays. After graduating high school, he attended East Tennessee State University until he joined the Air Force in 1970, serving until 1974. Upon finishing his military service, he began his teaching career in 1974. During this time, he also earned his Bachelor's Degree in Education at Carson Newman College. After serving his country, he continued serving the Parrottsville community to make it better for everyone by joining the Parrottsville Ruritan Club. He was an active member of the club since 1974 and was currently serving as the Smoky Mountain District Zone Governor and had previous distinction of Smoky Mountain District Governor and also Chaplain. He retired from the Cocke County School District in 2007 after working at West End, Northwest, and Parrottsville Elementary Schools. After his retirement he assisted at Costner-Maloy Funeral Home, where he had many fond memories and stories of growing up at the family business, formerly known as Maloy Funeral Home. He also served as a lay minister for his home church and other community Lutheran churches. He enjoyed

volunteering at the Bread Basket and Feed My Sheep. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and community.

He was a loving and devoted husband of 52 years to his wife, Emma Lee (Nease) Balch, caring father and father-in-law of Julie and Michael Reichert and grandfather to the joys of his life, Tucker and Isabel Reichert. Survivors also include his brother-in-law, Barry Nease, Sr., nephews Kent (Sharon) Nease, Barry (Kristy) Nease, Jr., Jon (Brandy) Nease, niece Leigh Anne (Josh) Hall, as well as great nephews, great-nieces, and a great-great-niece, cousins, Janice Barnes, Peachie Cody, Todd Cooper, Tye Cooper, Yvonne Fleming, Tim Heatherly, Danny McGaha, Loretta Roberts, and other special friends and family members.

He was preceded in death by his father, Cleo Balch, mother Marjorie (Baxter) Thornton, mother-in-law and father-in-law, Fred and Betty Nease and brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Norman and Jeanette Nease.

Pallbearers – Barry Nease, Jr., Jon Nease, Keary Nease, Evan Nease, Greg Nease, Tye Cooper, Perry Tate

Honorary Pallbearers – Barry Nease, Sr., Kent Nease, Todd Cooper, Alex Tate, and Members of the Parrottsville Ruritan Club

The family will receive friends from 4 pm – 7 pm, Tuesday July 11, 2023, with the funeral service following at 7 pm In Manes Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Norman Deal officiating.

Mr. Balch will lie in state from 10 am – 10: 30 am Wednesday, July 12, 2023, with funeral service following at 10:30 am in the Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Rev. Norman Deal officiating. Burial will follow in Luther Memorial Lutheran Church Cemetery, with Military Honors.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: Luther Memorial Lutheran Church Cemetery

C/O Jordan Shaver, 1342 Old Parrottsville Hwy, Parrottsville, TN, 37843

Family and friends may sign the guest register online at: www.manesfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements with Manes Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 11. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Manes Funeral Home Chapel
363 East Main Street
Newport, TN 37821

Funeral service

JUL 11. 7:00 PM (ET)

Manes Funeral Home Chapel
363 East Main Street
Newport, TN 37821

Lie in State

JUL 12. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
1865 Luther Memorial Rd.
Parrottsville, TN 37843

Funeral service

JUL 12. 10:30 AM (ET)

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
1865 Luther Memorial Rd.
Parrottsville, TN 37843

Interment

JUL 12 (ET)

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church Cemetery
1865 Luther Memorial Rd.
Parrottsville, TN 37843

Tribute Wall



“ *Manes Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Stephen "Steve" Eugene Balch*



Manes Funeral Home, Inc. - July 11, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *One of my favorite teachers as a kid at Northwest. He was always cheerful in the mornings, after his cup of coffee, of course. He loved his Darth Vader cup. :) I wasn't the best of students in my earlier days, but he, and Emily Ball, turned me around and made me realize I could do so much more. Thank you you Mr. Balch; I wish I could have told you a long time ago.*

David Ramsey - July 21, 2023 at 12:20 PM

SW

“ *I have to say that Steve was my favorite teaching partner. He knew when I was having a rough day, and I would barge in to his room... he would stop what he was doing, act like he was listening intently while nodding, then when I'd hush, he would say..."Feel better?" Then he go back to work. I love him dearly...Stellania White*

stellania white - July 18, 2023 at 01:19 PM

JF

“ Emily, Julie and all the family, we are very sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers. May God be especially close and comfort you in the days ahead. Love. to you all, James and Gail Frisbee

James and Gail Frisbee - July 14, 2023 at 02:38 PM

JF

“ James Gail Frisbee lit a candle in memory of Stephen Balch



James and Gail Frisbee - July 14, 2023 at 02:37 PM

CG

“ Emma, Julie, & family, so sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers to you.
Craig, Tonya, Brody

Craig Gardner - July 14, 2023 at 10:01 AM

TL

“ Thoughts and prayers for the family.

Tommy and Carolyn Lillard - July 13, 2023 at 02:00 PM

RJ

“ Emma and family My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family. I can't possibly understand what it feels like to you . But from my eyes you guys were so blessed with so much love and happiness in your life together and with your sweet family. I do know how hard it is to grieve someone it take time so take your time Love you my sweet friend.
Johnny Rita & Mark and Katelyn and Julia Jennings



Rita Jennings - July 13, 2023 at 08:13 AM

AN

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you...Edna Stokely

Annie Norwood - July 12, 2023 at 06:55 PM

TA

“ He was a kind soul.. prayers for Emma and family

Todd and Tammy Binkley



Tammy - July 12, 2023 at 05:54 PM

JT

“ Emma Lee I am so very sorry to hear about Steve. He was a very good person and wal always smiling. I want to tell you I loved your whole family. This was a shock to me. Pray for the rest of the family.



Jewelene Travis - July 12, 2023 at 03:03 PM

JH

“ We were very sorry to here of the sudden death of Steve. Your family is in our prayers. Jimmy and Judy Hensley

Judy Hensley - July 12, 2023 at 02:15 PM

JS

“ Our Deepest Sympathy
Doug and Joyce Shoemaker

Joyce Shoemaker - July 12, 2023 at 12:32 PM

CD

“ I will miss Steve's voice and accent. Friendly. Emma may your memories of your special life together give you strength to continue moving forward. Love you, Cheryl Dawson

Cheryl dawson - July 12, 2023 at 11:18 AM

MW

“ We remember Steve very fondly. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Emma Lee and the family.
Mackey Winter & family

Mackey Winter - July 12, 2023 at 09:12 AM

JS

“ You are all in our thoughts and prayers. May God bless you with many happy memories and comfort you with sweet peace.

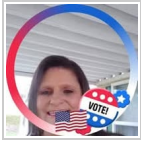


Julie and Earlene Strange - July 12, 2023 at 08:17 AM

BB

“ I am so sorry! I was heartbroken to hear of Steve’s passing! He was always such a joy to be around and every memory I have of him is a fond one! Sending all the love to you all!

Brooke Fullington Boggs - July 12, 2023 at 05:43 AM



“ So sorry great person and neighbor our prayers are with u love the Leon Smith Family



Buffy Accord - July 11, 2023 at 10:48 PM

TD

“ Emma, Julie, and Family
We were so sorry to hear of Steve's passing. Prayers for peace and comfort for all.
Terri & Tommy Denton

Teresa Denton - July 11, 2023 at 09:09 PM

CS

“ Emma and Julie, Sorry for your loss. Charlie& Patti Seehorn

Charlie Seehorn - July 11, 2023 at 08:21 PM

TW

“ So sorry for your loss. Sending prayers for the family.

Trudy Wright - July 11, 2023 at 06:17 PM

MH

“ So sorry about Steve. You all are in my thoughts and prayers. Love you Mrs. Balch and Julie.
With love,
Miranda (Alvey) Henry, Josh, and Hailey

Miranda Henry - July 11, 2023 at 05:56 PM

GM

“ Emma and family I am praying for peace and comfort. Gailm



gail metcalf - July 11, 2023 at 04:55 PM

LG

“ So very sorry to hear about Steve passing away. Keeping yall in my thoughts and prayers.
Lisa Giles

Lisa Giles - July 11, 2023 at 03:11 PM



“ 120 files added to the album LifeTributes



Manes Funeral Home, Inc. - July 11, 2023 at 11:04 AM



“ Our deepest condolences to Emma, Julie, the grandchildren, all the family and all those who loved Steve. He will be greatly missed by many. Praying the Lord will comfort you and give you peace. 🙏

Bettye and Jay Carver - July 11, 2023 at 10:28 AM



“ I am very sorry for your loss. He was a good man and a good neighbor to my folks. He will be missed. Swing low sweet chariot.

Michael Ottinger - July 11, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ Jerry and I are sorry for your loss. Prayers for the family.

Patricia Huff - July 11, 2023 at 09:56 AM

NR

“ Emma Lee and family, we are so sorry for your loss. We have fond memories of Steve on our bus trip out Mid-West. Prayers for your broken hearts. Dale and Nancy Raines

Nancy Raines - July 11, 2023 at 09:00 AM

DB

“ Steve will always have a special place in my heart and my love to the family. We shall see him again as believers.

donn berney - July 11, 2023 at 08:39 AM

SH

“ He was a good guy, he taught me to be a pretty good checker player.

Scott Hembree - July 11, 2023 at 07:36 AM



“ Steve was my good friend. We spent many years working at Northwest. He always had such a good sense of humor. He truly cared about people. Steve will be missed. I'm sending my prayers to Emma and Julie this morning.

Penny Ervin - July 11, 2023 at 06:30 AM

RL

“ Love & Prayers to all

Ronnie, Debbie & Andy Landers - July 11, 2023 at 12:39 AM

MK

“ So sorry for your loss Emma Lee & Julie. My heart breaks for you all and the grandkids. What I remember the most about Steve growing up was the smile that he always had on his face. He had a gentleness about him. Prayers for comfort in the days ahead. Hugs!
Love, Eric & Michelle (Cline) Knowles

Michelle Knowled - July 10, 2023 at 11:09 PM

JP

“ Sincere condolences and sympathy for the Balch and Nease families. Steve was a friend and classmate and will be greatly missed. I've lived in Georgia since 1972 but enjoyed seeing Steve and Emma Lee at class reunions. So sorry for your loss.

Judy Lovell Pearce - July 10, 2023 at 10:43 PM

JC

“ I will forever remember Steve. He was such a good husband, father, grandfather and a friend. He talked about his family every time I saw him. I am praying for you Emma , Julie and family. Love you all
Janie C

Janie Campbell - July 10, 2023 at 09:47 PM

CB

“ Our prayers & Condolences are sent to you all. Steve was a very kind man. So sorry for his loss & your broken heart.

Connie & Marsha Ball - July 10, 2023 at 09:26 PM

AW

“ Sorry for your loss. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers.
Love,
Brandon and Alex Welch

Alex Welch - July 10, 2023 at 09:15 PM



“ Pat Evans Larry Stephenson sent a virtual gift in memory of Stephen Balch



Pat Evans Larry Stephenson - July 10, 2023 at 08:43 PM



“ Steve always met people with a smile. He will be missed by all that he has touched. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Chuck Strange - July 10, 2023 at 08:35 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Stephen "Steve" Eugene Balch.



July 10, 2023 at 07:54 PM



“ So sorry my thoughts and prayers are with the family. Tommy and Geraldine Manis

Geraldine Manis - July 10, 2023 at 07:52 PM

JF

“ Emma

We consider ourselves fortunate to have known you and Steve for the past six years. Our prayers are with your family. The "old teach" always had a story for me, and I usually had one for him. Both of our stories were always 100% true. Rest in peace, friend, until we meet again.

Joseph & Joyce Fromme - July 10, 2023 at 02:40 PM

LB

Thoughts and Prayers for the Family and Friends Hollis and Linda Barrett and Family

Linda Barrett - July 10, 2023 at 08:52 PM

LB

Dear EmmaLee and Julie, We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Steve was such a friendly, kind man with an ever constant smile. His was definitely a life of service to others; we need more people in this world like him! We're so thankful for the promise of Heaven, our eternal home where there will be no more goodbyes. We haven't seen y'all in several years, but have such fond memories of your family and your impact on both our lives and our children. May God bless and comfort you.

Larry & Kathy Brooks - July 11, 2023 at 10:54 AM

DG

“ Darrell and Tina Guinn purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Stephen "Steve" Eugene Balch.



Darrell and Tina Guinn - July 10, 2023 at 11:13 AM

JM

“ My friend and coworker for many years at Northwest School. You sure will be missed, “Old Teach Balch”. You were loved by many but nothing like the love you and sweet Emma shared. I know she will miss you terribly, but your precious daughter Julie and her babies will take care of your Emma for you. So got rest high on that mountain, brother, til we meet again. Jan McMahan

Jan McMahan - July 09, 2023 at 06:17 PM

DO

“ Emma Lee, Julie, and All:
We are shocked and heartbroken. Steve was just a special guy, one who left us happy to have run into him. He took such pride in his family, but also expressed true pleasure in hearing about someone else’s grandson! He set us all an example of a man devoted to his family, church, community and friends. Rest in peace, dear friend, and may angels walk with your family in the coming days.

Duay and Kay O’Neil - July 09, 2023 at 06:11 PM

JM

“ A “true” teacher and friend. Taught me how to ride a bike, drive a tractor, truck, shoot a rifle, throw a football, baseball, shoot a basketball and other things to many to name. After teaching me he would beat the “dickens”out of me.

Loved him so much.

John Miller - July 09, 2023 at 04:59 PM

MJ

Steve was a great friend. Many years of fun times. May our Lord provide the much need comfort to Ema, Julie and grand babies. Going to miss you my friend.

Mike Johnson - July 09, 2023 at 11:17 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Stephen "Steve" Eugene Balch.*



July 09, 2023 at 04:58 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of this. Steve was a good man, and influenced many young lives. My prayers lifted up for you.*

Ray Fancher - July 09, 2023 at 04:27 PM