



Steven J. Knapp

November 8, 1943 - April 22, 2025

Steven Jay Knapp was born on November 8, 1943, in Seattle, Washington, to Merlin Knapp and Louise Kalbach. He spent much of his youth outdoors, riding horses, practicing archery, and taking part in the Sea Scouts. He also found joy in music and became a skilled classical guitarist. During high school, Steve and a friend owned and operated a shrimp boat business, an early example of his entrepreneurial spirit. He graduated from high school in 1962.

Steve pursued higher education at the University of Washington for three years and spent a quarter studying abroad at the University of the Americas in Mexico City. As the realities of the Vietnam War era pressed closer, Steve sought a different path of service and adventure by joining the Peace Corps. After training in Puerto Rico, he was stationed in Venezuela—where a chance meeting would change his life forever. There, he met Jacqueline Bishop, the love of his life. They married in 1968 and began building a life rooted in faith, learning, and family.

Upon returning to Seattle, Steve completed his degree in Spanish Literature at the University of Washington in 1969. Together, he and Jacque attended missionary dental school in Tijuana, Mexico, and served as medical missionaries in El Pilar, Mexico. Their first daughter, Blanca, was born during this time. After returning to the United States, Steve pursued theological studies at Portland Bible College, where their second daughter, Susana, was

later born in Portland, Oregon.

Steve had a remarkable command of the Spanish language, a gift he used throughout his life to connect with Hispanic communities. In churches, gatherings, and everyday conversations, he offered friendship, encouragement, and the hope of faith through a shared language.

In 1975, the family settled in Kingston, Washington, near Steve's parents. Over the years, he worked in a variety of sales roles, selling everything from encyclopedias to cow milking machines. He also owned a small carpentry business, where his craftsmanship and attention to detail reflected the quiet artistry of a faithful builder. In 1984, the family moved to Muskogee, Oklahoma, to be closer to Jacque's extended family.

As his daughters reached their teenage years, Steve embarked on a new career as a truck driver with JB Hunt. He excelled in this role, becoming a trainer who taught countless new drivers not only the skills of the road but also the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle while traveling. He retired in 2005.

In retirement, Steve pursued hobbies he loved, including windsurfing and skiing, until Jacque's health declined due to Alzheimer's disease. With great devotion, he cared for her faithfully until her passing in February 2025. His unwavering love and compassion were a profound reflection of the vows they had exchanged so many years before.

Steve had an enduring love for books and was passionate about learning, especially in areas of health and medicine. He eagerly shared his knowledge with friends, family, and even strangers. He had a gift for conversation and a deep passion for biblical theology. His Christian faith was a cornerstone of his life and informed all that he did.

Steve is survived by his daughters, Blanca Allen and Susana Jackman; his son-in-law, Jeremy Jackman; and his grandchildren, Max, Sophie, Jonas, and Calen Jackman. He was also blessed with great-grandchildren, Malakai James and Emryn Ivy. He leaves behind his sister-in-law, Karen Franklin; his brother-in-law, Bruce Bishop, and his wife, Laurie; and his sister-in-law, Patty Bishop. He is also survived by his nieces and nephews: Chris Bishop and wife Natalie, Micah Bishop and wife Nikki, Ron Franklin and wife Shellie, Scott Franklin, and Erin Bishop.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Merlin and Louise Knapp, and his beloved wife, Jacqueline.

Steve's life was one of curiosity, compassion, and enduring faith. His legacy of love, learning, and service lives on in the hearts of all who knew him.

A celebration of Steve's life will be at 1PM, Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at the Presbyterian Church of Muskogee. Interment will follow at Greenhill Cemetery in Muskogee.

Cemetery Details

Greenhill Cemetery

1500 N. York Street
Muskogee, OK 74403

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **30**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Presbyterian Church of Muskogee
2000 Haskell Boulevard
Muskogee, OK 74403

Tribute Wall

KS

“ Condolences to all who loved this very special man. He will not be forgotten.

Kathleen Logan Smith - June 30, 2025 at 01:24 PM

RG

“ What an awesome Christian gentleman! He is a credit to the Kingdom of God, which he considered so honored to be a part of. His reaching out with encouragement, and providing for the poor was incredible. His example of caring for his lovely wife, Jacque, is exemplary. But he also expressed concern for all his family, and their spiritual welfare. Enjoyed talking with Steve about Christian apologetics and unmistakable proofs of Jesus's deity...and love!. It will be impossible to replace a friendship as grand as ours was.....Steve, tell Jesus hello for me! And Jacque too. Sincerely.

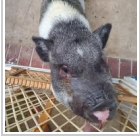
Raymond Grant - May 23, 2025 at 07:00 PM

JB

“ Jeanie beavers lit a candle in memory of Steven Knapp



Jeanie beavers - May 04, 2025 at 05:45 PM



“ I was privileged to serve as Jacque's Hospice Chaplain. In addition to many prayers, Steve and I had deep conversations over coffee as we talked about his latest book covering health and fitness, theological, and philosophical topics. He was a friend. It was a joy to get to know him, and thru Steve to know Jacque.



Alan McBroom - April 30, 2025 at 08:51 PM

AF

“ Andria "Ann" Fleming lit a candle in memory of Steven Knapp



Andria "Ann" Fleming - April 30, 2025 at 10:49 AM

RS

“ Ronnie & Shellie purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Steven J. Knapp.



Ronnie & Shellie - April 29, 2025 at 08:09 PM

RS

“ Ronnie & Shellie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Steven J. Knapp.

Ronnie & Shellie - April 29, 2025 at 08:09 PM

DD

“ Dianne Kalbach Dickson purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Steven J. Knapp.



Dianne Kalbach Dickson - April 29, 2025 at 02:53 PM

DD

“ Dianne Kalbach Dickson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Steven J. Knapp.

Dianne Kalbach Dickson - April 29, 2025 at 02:53 PM

PB

“ Patty Bishop purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Steven J. Knapp.



Patty Bishop - April 26, 2025 at 04:05 PM