



## Steven Case

June 21, 2009

Case, Steven K. A loving husband, father, friend, scientist and entrepreneur, died tragically at the age of 60 on June 16th in a plane crash. Likable, genuine, approachable, generous - Steve's gentle demeanor and dry sense of humor disguised the extraordinary talents and achievements of the man his family lovingly called the "cool nerd." He possessed a rare combination of technical skills, business savvy, drive and humanism, which led to extremely successful academic and professional careers and personal life. He was loved and respected by business colleagues and friends around the world, yet despite his success, remained approachable and genuine to all. He grew up in Oshkosh, WI, graduated from the University of Oshkosh in 1971, obtained a Ph.D in physics from the University of Michigan in 1976, and had a Fulbright Fellowship in Germany before becoming a professor at the University of Minnesota in 1979. In 1984, he founded CyberOptics Corporation, an internationally known hi-tech company. Steve was the kind of man who went above and beyond for family, friends and colleagues. He was passionate about life; he enjoyed traveling the world, large format photography, teaching, solving the most complex engineering challenges, and sharing experiences with his family and friends. Steve is survived by his wife of 36 years, Beverly Caruso; daughters, Kristen and Jessica; sons-in-law, Aaron Brosam and Daniel Brandt; granddaughter, Ava, all of St. Louis Park and Minneapolis. Also survived by mother, Ilyeene Case of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, mother-in-law & father-in law, Hilda & Joseph Caruso of Niagara Falls, New York; siblings,

Randy (Beth Ann Hamilton) Case of Cross Plains, Wisconsin, Bruce (Suzanne) Case of Verona, Wisconsin and Catherine (Bob Campbell) Case of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He was preceded in death by his father, Charles R. Case of Oshkosh, Wisconsin; his grandparents, George and Helen Case and Kenneth and Velma Eilerts. Services will be held Monday, June 22nd at 2 PM at Golden Valley Lutheran Church, 5501 Glenwood Avenue, Golden Valley. Visitation one hour prior. Steve and his family supported efforts to end homelessness and domestic violence. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Cabrini Partnership's "Leading the Way Home" Campaign, 1025 6th St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414 or Tubman Family Alliance, 3111 1st Avenue South, Minneapolis MN 55408. Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ Steve, It's been two years, tonight, since you died. Last month, I was finally able to hang your picture, in my studio. You are my source of inspiration. You were my teacher and role model throughout life, and you continue to be so, even after your passing. I "created" your ashes. You and I have so many simple memories known only to the two of us. I collected images of approximately fifty, burned them, and placed them in the ground underneath Grandma and Grandpa Case's headstones, here in Oshkosh. I love and miss you, ever so much. Cathi

~

Catherine Case,

Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Contact Me

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**Catherine Case** - June 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Dear Bev, Jessie, and Kirsten, It has been a year since Steve's passing, but all of us at Juki still feel the loss keenly. In the last few days I have been working hard with several CyberOptics people on Sentry, Steve's last great concept and project. So many memories have flooded back during this work. I am happy to report that great progress has been made and we see a great future for this idea. How thankful all of us at Juki are that we had this man as our partner and good friend. I hope you take comfort in all the good memories until the day when we will all see Steve again.

~

*Bob Black,*

*Genoa, Nevada*

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**Bob Black** - June 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ *Beverly and family, I am so sorry about your loss. Steve sounds like an amazing guy. Thinking of you in this difficult time. Karen Grabow*

~

*Karen Grabow,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Karen Grabow** - July 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Ilyeene and family, I was so sorry to hear about Steven. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Barb Ferrier from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Oshkosh*

*Contact Me*

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June 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Dear Case family and friends, Please accept my deep sympathy on Steve's death. I knew Steve for nearly 40 years, interacting with him at various optics conferences. I was always impressed with Steve's love of life, his great sense of humor, his intelligence and creativity. His many contributions to the field of optics and optical measurements are legendary. He will be greatly missed by all of us who knew him. I will be praying for God's comfort for all of you as together we grieve.

~

*John Walkup,*

*Danville, California*

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**John Walkup** - June 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Dear Bev, Kristen and Jessie: It is difficult for me to express the sorrow and sense of loss I feel. Steve was a great mentor to me as I struggled through my graduate student days as well as all through my professional career as he was a model to combine the family, academics and business. I still remember the old baby crib (used by Krsiten and Jessie) that Steve gave me - both Alicia and Jason grew up in it - and now they have both graduated college - how time flies. It seems like just yesterday when Jeff and I were developing the first CyberOptics sensor...I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.

~

*Richard Kim,*

*Phoenix, Arizona*

*Contact Me*

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**Richard Kim** - June 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ *Jessie, Jason and I were sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. We're thinking of you and your family as you are going through this difficult time.*

~

*Kristi (Beck) Wahlman,*

*Minnetonka, Minnesota*

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**Kristi (Beck) Wahlman** - June 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Dear Family, Friends, and Co-Workers of Steve I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to you during these tough times. I met Steve about a year ago when I started working at Crystal Airport and he was always a customer you were happy to hear was coming in. Being a fellow pilot myself he and I were both getting our Instrument Ratings around the same time and I always enjoyed talking to him about flying or whatever else came up. He was a great guy and a pleasure to have around and Crystal Airport will not be the same without him. My sympathy once again. Best Wishes,  
Matt Childs

~

*Matt Childs,*

*Roseville, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Matt Childs** - June 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ *Jessie and Family, Our thoughts and prayers go out to your family during this very difficult time.*

~

*Ben and Jen Hershey,*

*Buxton, North Dakota*

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**Ben and Jen Hershey** - June 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ *Jessie, My sincere condolences go out to you and your family during this difficult time. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

~

*Asha Patel,*

*Boston, Massachusetts*

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**Asha Patel** - June 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ *Jessie and Family, I am so sorry to hear about your loss. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time.*

~

*Ami Patel,*

*Overland Park, Kansas*

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**Ami Patel** - June 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Kristen, I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your dad. I remember how kind he was when we had sleepovers so many years ago, and how he would be around in case we needed anything at all. My heart just aches for you. You are in my thoughts and prayers, Jayme Forstrom Fanucci*

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June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ *Bev, Kristin and Jessica*What a tragedy! I loved spending time with you and Steve during the 'early years'. Your holiday parties were really special. Although it's been a long time since we've seen each other, somehow the Case family's events continue to filter our way. I am unable to attend the service today and for that I'm very sorry. My thoughts are with you all.

~

*Becky Riddle,*

*Minnetonka, Minnesota*

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**Becky Riddle** - June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jessie, Bev and Kristen,*It is with great sadness that we heard about your dad/Steve's death. Please know that all of us at the School of Social Work send our thoughts and prayers as you grieve his loss and celebrate his life in the heart of your family. Remember that you are part of our family and that we are here for any support we can offer.*UST/SCU School of Social Work*

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June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Case Family - Sara and I were very saddened to hear of the loss of such an important person to you all. Our hearts and minds are with you as you deal with such a horrible tragedy. Please know that our prayers are with you all as we remember Steve. Brian, Sara and Ethan Buffie*

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June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *The IPC, its staff and members, extend our sympathies to the Case family for your loss. Steven was truly an industry leader and visionary.*

~

*Tony Hilvers,*

*Bannockburn, Illinois*

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**Tony Hilvers** - June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ *Beverly, Kristen, and Jessie, I was so sorry to hear about your loss. Just know we are thinking of you. We have not seen each other for several years but I do remember what a generous individual he was and would do anything for his family and friends. Linda Ewing and Jamie Olson*

~

*Linda Ewing,*

*St. Louis Park, Minnesota*

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**Linda Ewing** - June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM

WP

“ Dear Case family, I knew Dr. Case by name as a colleague of my father's, but met him personally and memorably once in the mid-80's. It was a winter weekend and I was in the Engineering Library studying. I went on a short break, during which the U was abruptly closed due to heavy snowfall. I returned, coatless, shoeless, and bookless, to find the library locked and not a soul around. Lucky for me, I found Dr. Case hard at work in his office. He tried all of his many keys to open the library for me, none of which worked. So, he very generously offered to stop his own work for the day, and drove me home to my door. I remember well his kindness and sense of humor in this somewhat comical situation. I'm very sorry for your loss and wish you strength and peace of mind.

~

*William Peria,*

*Seattle, Washington*

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**William Peria** - June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“*Kristen, Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you or your family. The child office is making a donation to Tubman in place of flowers. (Psychiatry Dept.)*

~

*Jennifer Janacek,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Jennifer Janacek** - June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry I could not be with you today I do hope that all of you are leaning on God's shoulder today. Then all will reconcile itself. It is just to bad that as we all got older we grew so far apart and the family get togethers stopped. I do miss all of you. You are all in my prayers at this time. Love and caring thoughts. Connie Kraemer

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June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I worked at Cyber from 1994-99 on the production floor. Even as the company grew, Steve always had time to stop and talk to employees. As I'd walk by his office I could always stick my head in and say, "Hi Steve." He always took the time to respond and ask how things were going. I appreciated his gentle spirit and his love for the company- AND it's employees. He was a very kind and giving man and will be greatly missed. Peggy Polinder

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June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *Beverly, Kristen, and Jessie, I was just stunned by the news of Steve's passing. He was one of the kindest and most considerate people I have ever known. His honesty and integrity in business were an example for all. God's blessings and comfort be with you at this trying time.*

~

*Bob Black,*

*Genoa, Nevada*

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**Bob Black** - June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ *Bev, Kristen, Jessie, and family, Although it's been many years since we've seen each other, I have so many fond memories of holidays and celebrations together when Kristen, Jessie, and I were young. I am so sorry for your loss.*

~

*Stephanie Webster,*

*Rochester, New York*

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**Stephanie Webster** - June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *Bev, Kristen, and Jessie, Although it has been many years since we've gotten together, Diane and I have many fond memories of days in Ann Arbor and your overnight stops when we lived in Columbus, OH. Steve was the one who introduced me to darkroom photography. I'll think of him as I complete our digital family photos. May our Lord comfort you in your time of great grief. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

~

*David & Diane Schmueser,*

*Fort Mill, South Carolina*

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**David & Diane Schmueser** - June 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ I worked at CyberOptics from 1998 through 2004. During this time I learned how much Steve loved his family and how proud he was of his daughters. I can genuinely say that Steve was the most well rounded person I've ever met - highly intelligent, well spoken, a caring people person, the list could go on. I am so very sad for the loss his passing represents to his family and all who's lives were touched by him. I consider myself fortunate to have known him and brushed lives with such a gifted person. My blessings and prayers to all who knew and love Steve.

~

Tami Netz,

Little Canada, Minnesota

*Contact Me*

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**Tami Netz** - June 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ My deepest sympathy to Steve's entire family. His passing is certainly going to leave a terrific void in our Case family as well as in the lives of all who knew him. There are so many wonderful childhood memories, much laughter and some shared tears. My prayers and thoughts are with you.

~

*Debbie Sydejko,*

*Houston, Texas*

*Contact Me*

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**Debbie Sydejko** - June 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bev, Kristen & Jessie, We are so terribly sorry for your loss. Steve was a generous & loving husband, father, neighbor and friend. Our prayers and thoughts are with you during this awful time. Amy, Jenny, Bill & Stephanie Coombs*

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June 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bev, I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your husband. The shock and sorrow of your loss must be overwhelming for you. I want you to know that you are in my prayers.*

~

*Cyril Kennedy,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Cyril Kennedy** - June 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ We've known Steve for over fifty years -- from the days when he was in Sunday school at Bethlehem Church in Oshkosh. There was none finer.

~

*Anita and Herb Gaede,*

*Hudson, Wisconsin*

*Contact Me*

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**Anita and Herb Gaede** - June 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

L(

“*Kristen, My thoughts and prayers are with you & your family. May you find peace and comfort with your memories of your dad. With heartfelt sympathy,*

~

*Laura Miller (Boone),*

*St. Francis, Minnesota*

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**Laura Miller (Boone)** - June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of grief. May your memories bring you comfort.*

~

*Mary Weigel,*

*St Louis Park, Minnesota*

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**Mary Weigel** - June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ *Jessie & Family, We are so saddened and sorry to hear of the sudden loss of your father. May you find some comfort during this difficult time knowing you have many friends and family that are thinking of you and praying for you all.*

~

*Lindsey & Nick Tibesar,*

*St. Louis Park, Minnesota*

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**Lindsey & Nick Tibesar** - June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Beverly, Kristen, Jessie and Family, It is hard to comprehend your loss and the depth of your grief. Please know that we are sending prayers of comfort and healing. Jessie - Lindsay especially sends her love, remembers well the warmth and hospitality of your family. If there is anything we can do, please do not hesitate to ask. With our deepest condolences, Lindsay, Terri, Mike Kinneberg*

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June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KO

“*Jessie and family, I am so sad to hear the news of your dad and husband. I remember a halloween when we were in grade school. Jessie and I were carving pumpkins and I cut my finger and he was very comforting and helpful. I want you to know you are in my thoughts and prayers. He will always be with you!*

~

*Kerry O'Brien Orth,*

*Plymouth, Minnesota*

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**Kerry O'Brien Orth** - June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“*My thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of grief. Steve was my colleague in the Electrical Engineering department with his office across mine. We were good friends and he was one of the nicest persons that I had the privilege to know. I am deeply saddened by the sudden loss of a dear friend. Pat Kumar*

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June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Please let me know if I can help in any way.

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*Diane Skoglund,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Diane Skoglund** - June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Beverly, Kristen, Jessie and Family, Words can not convey the sorrow I feel for all of you. I remember all the fun and laughter we had years ago in Ann Arbor and the wonderful friendships since that time. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Linda Matich Lang

~

*Linda Matich Lang,*

*Pinckney, Michigan*

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**Linda Matich Lang** - June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jessie & Family, I am very sorry for your sudden and untimely loss. Please know you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. John Dooley*

~

*John Dooley*

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June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Kristen, I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad! At such a special time in your life with your graduation having to bear this loss must be horrible. My heart, thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in this very difficult time. Bonnie (Psychiatry Office)*

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June 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM