



## Steven Lee Pellinen

March 4, 1953 - June 25, 2024

Steven L. Pellinen passed away on June 25, 2024 after an 18-month battle with glioblastoma.

Steve was born on March 4, 1953 in Superior, Wisconsin. He grew up in Wentworth, WI and then Silver Bay, Buffalo, and Hutchinson in Minnesota. He graduated from Hamline University and received his master's degree in engineering from the University of Minnesota. He was a founding partner of the civil engineering firm, Hansen Thorp Pellinen Olson (HTPO) until 2000 when he started a solo practice, Pellinen Professional Services. His last few working years were spent contentedly as a senior design engineer at Emmons and Olivier Resources (EOR).

Steve's favorite pastime was Scrabble, to which he devoted many years as a club and tournament player, director, and president of Word Game Players Organization (WGPO).

Always the dreamer and problem solver, he was admired for his vision, equanimity, and dedication to whatever cause or project he took on. He loved nature and baseball.

Steve is survived by his wife, Lisa Odom, sons, Andrew and David, daughter, Elisabeth Olson (Jeff), and five grandchildren. He is also survived by his ex-

wife, DeNise Pellinen, and siblings, Herbert (Candace), Nansi Castillo (Ken), and Kristen Larsen (Rick).

There will be a celebration of his life at Washburn-McReavy in Edina, MN on July 27 at 11:00 a.m, visitation at 10:00 a.m. There will be a private reception held by the family at their home after the service. Donations to Habitat for Humanity in lieu of flowers.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Edina Chapel  
5000 West 50th & Highway 100  
Edina, MN 55436

## Memorial Service

JUL 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel  
5000 West 50th & Highway 100  
Edina, MN 55436

# Tribute Wall

NA

“ I remember riding in the bus to wrestling matches and talking to Steve the whole way. I'd ask him how he managed to lose 2 lbs in a few hours to get to his match weight. He told me 'sugar cubes'! As far as I can remember, he never missed his weight goal. He was a very intelligent yet humble young man.

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**Nancy Popp Anderson** - August 31, 2024 at 11:14 PM

SJ

“ I knew Steve for many years through scrabble. He was a wonderful opponent and ambassador for the game. Most importantly he was an incredible friend. He will be dearly missed.

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**Scott Jackson** - August 10, 2024 at 09:27 PM

LS

“ Steve was my first cousin (his dad and my mom were siblings) and his family and mine spent a lot of time together when we were young. With my 2 brothers (Ed and Dean Salo) and Steve and Herb, I was one of the “boys”. We had wonderful, memorable times together, getting into all kinds of mischief. Steve was thoughtful and kind, had a great sense of humor, and a wonderful smile. Unfortunately we lost touch over the years. I was fortunate to spend some time with him last fall. The world lost a beautiful person.

*Libby (Salo) Stupak*

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**Libby Stupak** - July 25, 2024 at 05:42 PM

JM

“ Steve and I shared a lot of time together at EOR. He was an amazing engineer, who one time on a site where the pipes weren't going to work, suggested an inverted syphon. The contractor and I both looked at each other with a big "what"? I took him aside and asked did you just make that up? He laughed and went over and drew it up on a clipboard and we built it exactly as his drawing. It's on the same site as the picture that Britta included, which was incredibly challenging. I too, am incredibly grateful for the time that we were able to spend together. Steve is one of my heroes.

Jay Michels - July 23, 2024 at 07:32 PM

BH

“ I had the pleasure to work with Steve at EOR for the last few years of his career in civil engineering. He was such a kind and knowledgeable mentor and friend. He was also the most creative engineer I've met. I will be forever grateful for the time we spent together.



Britta Hansen - July 05, 2024 at 11:56 AM