



Stephen Tanner

March 19, 1948- April 23, 2013

U.S. Air Force 1967 - 1971

Personal:

Stephen W. Tanner (Steve) was born March 19, 1948 in Omaha, Nebraska. Steve spent most of his early life in Youngstown, Ohio. Steve is survived by his wife Karen Pullin and brother, Scott Tanner. Steve has two daughters from a previous marriage and 2 step-daughters. Laura (Tanner) Abbott is the Assistant Director of Special Education in Conroe ISD. Melissa (Tanner) Bjørdal is a customer representative for Broadwing Communications in Austin, Texas. Shannon (James) Wight is an English teacher at Langham Creek High School in Cy-Fair. Serenity James will graduate from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville in May with a degree in Music Therapy. Steve and Karen have six grandchildren. Steve moved from Youngstown to Houston in 1982. Stephen was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Mary Tanner; and brothers, Michael and David. He will also be greatly missed by his grandchildren: Lance, Noah, Lilly, Sienna, Samara, Soraya, and Dylan

Stephen was the third color guard commander of the Rankin Chapter and chaired the JROTC committee. Under his tutelage we reached a high water mark of awarding 18 high school medals in 5 different school districts including a young cadet who went on to be the outstanding cadet in the nation. Stephen received both the Bronze and Silver Galvez color guard medals in addition to the National Bronze Color Guard Medal. As an SAR member he marched in parades in Laredo, San Antonio, Galveston, and the Conroe area. Stephen was an active member of Katy VFW Post 9182 and his involvement with the Fourth of July activities with that post earned the chapter its third national Partners in Patriotism award.

Stephen was the 8th Rankin President and only the third Rankin member to hold all four of the primary chapter offices. During his term, the chapter finished 1st in the state and 4th nationally. He personally started Rankin programs that included a permanent American Revolutionary exhibit at a local museum and a Rankin genealogy day at the Clayton Library. Stephen served as co-genealogist for 2 years and historian or co-historian for 3 years. Stephen's yearbooks won first place in Texas every year of his involvement. For his chapter service Stephen was awarded the Bronze Chapter Service Medal with clusters. Stephen chaired the publicity committee for four years and his articles saw both national and local publication. At the state level, Stephen served on both the JROTC and Audit committee. Stephen attended the Audit committee meeting in Brenham and enjoyed a taste of Blue Bell ice cream. Stephen was awarded the State Silver Service Medal for his herculean support of the Rankin Hosted Board of Managers meeting and the National Silver Good Citizenship Medal for his outstanding service to our country and community.

Church

- Congregational President, Trinity Lutheran Church, Girard, Ohio – 1979
- Church Council – Zion Lutheran Church, Youngstown, Ohio – 1981-1982
- Congregational Vice President – Covenant Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas – 1988
- Congregational Building Committee Chairman - Covenant Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas – 1987-8

Fraternal

- Treasurer – Austintown Lions Club, Austintown, Ohio – 1981
- Coloring Book Fundraiser Chairman - Austintown Lions Club, Austintown, Ohio – 1979

Military

- Steve served in the United States Air Force from 1967 to 1971.
- He was an aircraft weapons load team member. He served honorably in Vietnam and served a year at RAF Upper Heyford in England. He attained the rank of Staff Sergeant.
- Air Force Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Campaign Stars: 6 campaigns, 1 Silver Campaign Star, 1 Bronze Campaign Star, Presidential Unit Citation, Air Force Outstanding Unit Citation, Vietnam Cross of Galantry with palm

Veterans

- Member of Katy Post 9182 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars,
- Member, 343 of the Vietnam Veterans of America
- Treasurer – 510th Fighter Squadron Association – 2006-2010
- Reunion Coordinator, including registrar & hotel negotiator - 510th Fighter Squadron Association – 2005-2009, several hundred members across the US. The typical attendance varied between 60 and 120.

Historical

- Docent at the Llyod Breedlove GI Joe VFW Musuem in Katy Texas; Helped arrange displays
- Designed display and obtained contributions for an American Revolution Section.

Business:

- Certified Public Accountant, spent most of his career in public accounting with various local accounting firms. He spent the last eight years of his career as Assistant Controller for Pappas Restaurants in Houston.
- Member HSCPA, TSCPA, AICPA
- Lecturer on SYMA Accounting Software

Genealogical

- Member, Edward Lea Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War