

Remembering Stephen P Phillips

January 4, 1960 - September 29, 2020

Steve was born to Constance D & Philip K Phillips, the middle of five children and the third son of a third son. In his youth, Steve was a playful and ornery sibling, building go-carts, riding bikes, and playing in the creek. During his young adulthood, his curious and adventurous spirit transmuted into a love for art of all kinds. He was a skilled painter, multi-instrumentalist, songwriter, and engineer/producer. His joy for writing and playing music would become a lifelong career. He touched countless hearts performing with Kansas City bands Steve, Bob & Rich, The Rainmakers, and The Elders. His authentic and unassuming nature made him friends wherever he traveled. Steve was known for his many passions: history, politics, social justice issues, the environment, and for making amazing buckwheat pancakes.

Despite his public recognition, he embodied a humble and appreciative attitude towards his successes. Steve was most proud of the loves in his life: His wife, Rebecca, and their three children, Zac, AnnaLea, and Elliott, who all carry Steve's trademark chin dimple and many other of his greatest qualities. Being young at heart, he had a deep and playful connection with his four grandchildren.

Steve knew all year that he was on borrowed time, but he was very private and did not want to bring attention to his suffering. He was dedicated to living with dignity and grace as he bravely approached his death. He died at home in the loving care of his beloved wife and children. As his body returns to the earth, his spirit will continue to live on through his descendants, through his musical legacy, and through his love for his fans, friends and family. Rest in peace our beloved Stephen.