



Stephen "Steve" Fagan

April 15, 1939 - March 25, 2025

Stephen Joseph Fagan, 85, Topeka, Kansas passed away Tuesday, 25 March 2025.

The son of Peter Raymond and Mary Virginia Fagan (née Etzel), Steve was born 15 April 1939, in Topeka. He grew up in Topeka where his early years were characteristically ornery. He often spent time on the family farms in both Topeka and Reading, Kansas developing those certain facets of his personality that would bear rich fruit throughout his long life. A 1957 graduate of Hayden High School, Steve was a larger-than-life personality creating innumerable memories for himself and others, which his friends and family recalled fondly throughout his life and theirs. During this time, Steve cultivated what would become a mainstay throughout his life – his passion for the American automobile and its history – which was in no small part nurtured by his favorite uncle, Bernard Fagan (1916-2000). This passion translated into several personal and professional ventures. Perhaps the most memorable was Steve Fagan Classic Cars, a business devoted to the sale, restoration, and transportation of antique and classic automobiles. His knowledge of automobiles from the 1910s through the 1960s was in many ways unsurpassed and often nationally recognized.

Steve married Carol Griffin in 1971. They divorced in 1986. The union brought two sons, Ryan Raymond (1972) and Brennan Patrick (1975) who currently

reside in Lenexa and Lawrence, respectively. Having moved to Las Vegas with his family in the early 1980s, he later put down roots in Los Angeles where he would reside for nearly twenty-five years. During this chapter, Steve married Marjorie Shea with whom he remained united until his death. The couple owned an automobile transportation service until dissolving the business in 2009. Steve and Marjorie moved back to Topeka during that same year, so Steve could be closer to family and friends. For the next fifteen years, but really throughout the entirety of his life, Steve maintained a wide network of friends several of whom he kept in contact with since his grade school days.

Many will remember Steve from the marks he made in the world of antique and classic automobiles. Yet, beyond this, Steve made an impression upon anyone with whom he crossed paths. His life will endure in the stories he gave us, which are seemingly always comedic, harrowing, and unique. For of all the ways one may characterize Steve Fagan, uninteresting will never be an appropriate adjective or descriptor. He was truly larger-than-life in both word and deed. He was, in brief, a playful provocateur; a regaling raconteur; and, as he always characterized himself, the oldest American teenager.

Steve leaves behind his wife Marjorie; his sons, Ryan (Karen) and Brennan (Bre); two grandchildren, Emmi and Griffin; several friends; and cousins. He will be missed.

Funeral service will be private. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Helping Hands Humane Society, and sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Tribute Wall

BW

“ While I never had the opportunity to meet Steve, I have had the opportunity to know his son, Brennan. Brennan and I are friends, golf buddies, and business associates and I have always been impressed with his focus and devotion to faith, family and friends. After reading the other tributes about Steve, I now know how and where Brennan got those attributes and his unwavering commitment to doing the right thing. My sincere condolences to the family.

Bill Wagner

Bill Wagner - March 29, 2025 at 05:49 PM

JF

“ My Dad, John (Bob) Fagan, loved Steve! They were very close and talked all the time. My Dad and I went to Topeka and spent the afternoon with Steve in 2018. We had a very nice visit! Steve and his wife took us out for lunch. Very thankful for the time spent with family. My Dad really did love Steve and enjoyed the visit!

Julie Fagan - March 27, 2025 at 04:06 PM

TR

The Fagan family is remembered here as you mourn and memorialize Steve's life and death. The obituary is a fitting start in that regard. Peace to each of you.

Tarris and Ruth Rosell

Tarris Rosell - March 27, 2025 at 07:18 PM

NE

Marge, Our sincere condolences to you and the Fagen family. Our fond memories of Steve is when we met back in the late 70s in the Los Angeles area as a vehicle transporter. Requiring his services spanned into a lasting fun friendship. After your move to Topeka I missed our yearly outing to the SFCA area restaurants and just hanging out. We will cherish the memories and our special greetings on our phone calls to each other. RIP my friend. We will truly miss you. Peace to you Marge.

Al and Nelda Hills

Nelda - March 31, 2025 at 01:13 AM

PE

*Marge and family:
My sincere sympathy to you. I will always remember him when I worked with him at Patterson's car lot. It was so much fun. I remember driving cars for him. And I fondly remember going with him in his car carrier to Chicago. I matured as a young man as a result of his interactions with him. Rest in peace dear cousin Steve.*

Philip Etzel - March 31, 2025 at 05:10 PM

RR

Steve was a one of a kind. Had some great times with him. Rest in peace Steve.

Ron Redmond - March 31, 2025 at 07:22 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Stephen "Steve" Fagan.



March 27, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Stephen "Steve" Fagan.

March 27, 2025 at 02:06 PM

KW

“ Marjorie, we offer you our deepest condolences at the loss of your beloved Steve. You've been our neighbors for nearly 15 years, and we will always treasure your friendship. Steve's stories and interest he took in each of our kids over the years have left a lasting impression. Your loving and constant care of Steve inspires us. May Steve rest in peace, and may God console you. Love and prayers, George and Kathy Werth

Kathy Werth - March 26, 2025 at 10:48 PM

MP

“ My Guy Mr Fagan. I had the honor of caring for you, and will forever miss your “colorful attitude” and “sweet gestures.” May you rest in paradise Stephan. You were definitely my favorite. Sending lots of love to the family.

Michelle Prettyman - March 26, 2025 at 10:37 PM

PI

Our cousin Steve, you will be missed. Our reunions aren't the same without you, may you RIP. Patty Fagan Ingram

Patty Ingram - March 27, 2025 at 03:45 AM

JS

“ Steve was a master story teller, lover of dogs, swan whisperer, and a big softie when it came to family. There was never a dull moment visiting with Steve. His knowledge of Dale Earnhardt and Evel Knievel is unmatched. He also holds the record at several CT restaurants for finishing family sized steaks and will be remembered for his appetite for eggs. Thanks for the memories, Steve. Say hello to Muffin, Maggie, and Moxie for us and enjoy your Lucky Strikes and scotch. You will be missed. Love Jason, Melissa, Bobby and Annie

Jason Shea - March 26, 2025 at 06:39 PM