



## Mr. Steven Reed Sparks

January 1, 1949 - August 31, 2020

Steven Reed Sparks, 71, husband of Connie Sparks, passed away on Monday, August 31, 2020, at his home.

A native of Fort Thomas, KY, Mr. Sparks was the son of the late Reed Clement and Gladness Purser Wright Sparks. He was an artist and photographer, Owner of Genesis Gallery photography studio and framing and co-owner of Genesis Press Printing Company in Fort Thomas, KY. He grew up along the Ohio River with his siblings and cousins and from there, his love for the river was born. He excelled in track and field at Highlands High School and was also named Who's Who Among American Students and Universities.

He attended the University of Southern Mississippi where he studied journalism and was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. After college, Steve became the sports editor of the McComb Mississippi newspaper and later wrote for the Fort Thomas Living. Though he never had one lesson, Steve used fascination with the Ohio River and riverboats as his inspiration for beautiful oil paintings of riverboats from the late 1800s.

Steve enjoyed playing tennis with his family and friends. He returned to his alma mater, Highlands, to coach the varsity boys' tennis team, where they won several regional championships. He was also a lifelong Cincinnati Bengals and Cincinnati Reds fan. Later in his life, Steven moved to upstate

South Carolina and began building his dream mountain home and began paintings of the beautiful mountains and waterfalls there.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Sparks is survived by his sons: Reed Sparks of Ft. Thomas, KY and Brett Sparks of Cincinnati, OH, Josh Stratton (Suzy) of Overland Park, KS; daughters: Sarah Kleier (Matthew) of Ft. Thomas, KY and Bailey Duncan (Dominic) of Columbus, OH; brother: Scott Sparks of Richwood, KY; sisters: Linda Sparks of Parrish, FL and Sally Muehlenkamp of Ft. Thomas, KY; and grandchildren: Meredith Kleier, Christopher Sparks, Tyler Brown, Devin Truelove, Jon Stratton, Kaitlin Stratton, and Violet Hill.

A memorial service will be conducted in Ft. Thomas, KY at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to the Tamassee DAR School, P.O. Box 8, Tamassee, SC 29686, in thanks to the staff and students for their love and support.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Steven Reed Sparks*

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ *We remember Steve and all of his family fondly. Great neighbors in Fort Thomas!*  
*John and Janet Hoyle*

**Janet Hoyle** - September 04, 2020 at 01:58 PM



“ *Dean Crane lit a candle in memory of Mr. Steven Reed Sparks*



**Dean Crane** - September 03, 2020 at 08:07 PM



“ *Kathy Addis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Steven Reed Sparks*



**Kathy addis** - September 02, 2020 at 05:45 PM

AY

“ I have wonderful memories of Steve when he was in Fort Thomas. Especially growing up across the street from the Sparks family. They were like my second family. We spent many hours playing together as children. He took many photos of me when he got into photography and we had so much fun going to various spots to get just the right shot. I lost track of him when I moved to Hawaii and he moved to SC. He will always hold a special place in my heart.

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**Andre (Day) Yee** - September 02, 2020 at 02:32 PM

WT

“ Steven had a camera in his hands the first time I met him.. ..taking pictures of festivities at Tamassee DAR School. The last time I saw him was when Connie brought him to Tamassee DAR School in her sports convertible with the top down on a gorgeous sunny day with a breeze.. Steven had the biggest smile on his face because they were headed to the mountains. He was so happy that day.. The love these two had for each other was awesome. Love you friend .. you will be missed but look at you now! You are healed!!

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**Wanda Thomas** - September 01, 2020 at 07:47 PM

RG

*I loved having you both as a neighbor. As Steven crossed the Celestial Shores I'm sure he was enjoying his new body, as he enjoys the heavenly chorus, with all fullness and gladness.*

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**Raylene Gano** - September 02, 2020 at 11:13 AM

DA

*Prayers for Connie and all of their family in this time of loss. We love you!*

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**Dawn** - September 03, 2020 at 11:39 AM