



# Stephanie Lennon Morris

April 3, 1990 - February 8, 2024

Stephanie Lennon Morris passed away on February 8, 2024, in her home in Fort Collins, Colorado. Stephanie was born on April 3, 1990, into music, with her middle name honoring the Beatles.

Stephanie loved to dance. As a child, she starred in regular dance performances with her siblings after Sunday night family dinners. She would line up the dining room chairs and direct family members to "take a seat" before the show started. Stephanie took dance lessons and was a member of the dance team in high school. Long before the Barbie movie, Stephanie was a vision on stage in a bright pink jumpsuit with a blonde wig. She joined theater clubs, where she loved performing in stage productions and musicals, all while finding time to play the violin in the orchestra for three years.

Stephanie loved to wait at bookstores for midnight releases dressed as her favorite literary characters. She loved to read and traveled wonderful, great distances reading for hours in her bedroom. She particularly enjoyed Harry Potter and Chuck Palahniuk books. Stephanie loved to play cards, board games, trivia nights, and excelled at puzzles. She liked being active, and for years played soccer in the fall, swim team in the summer with cheerleading and gymnastics in between.

Stephanie attended The University of Texas at Austin earning a Bachelor of

Arts, majoring in Sociology and minoring in Spanish, and was recognized for leadership and academic achievements. During college and after graduation, Stephanie worked for many volunteer and nonprofit organizations. She enjoyed politics and worked effortlessly to improve the lives of others. She was a relentless advocate for mental health services, a strong ally, fought for equal rights, and embraced all viewpoints. She had such a strong work ethic that she thought it was normal to work and attend college at the same time.

Stephanie loved Austin and all things Texas, but after being accepted into six veterinary medical schools, she chose Colorado State University, and moved to Fort Collins to pursue her lifelong dream of becoming a veterinarian. During her first year, she was awarded the Thomas L. Spurgeon Book Award. This award recognized her knowledge and enthusiasm in learning anatomy as well as her actions in fostering teamwork and community by helping classmates.

Of course, Stephanie loved animals, especially dogs. As a child, she taught the family dog, Missy, to climb the playscape steps and then they would go down the slide together. She raised gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, and the frogs who lived under the sidewalk in the front yard. As soon as she could, she started fostering hospice dachshunds. She shared her adult years with Bella, George, Martha, and then finally, Vienna. The bond between Stephanie and Vienna was unbreakable.

Stephanie felt her feelings very deeply. She had an incredible sense of intuition and was very perceptive. She could read our minds, but was confounded by her own thoughts. Stephanie was very intelligent, well-educated, and had a tenacious personality. When faced with setbacks, she saw no other option than to persevere. She was hopeful, never gave up on life, and embraced each day with gratitude.

Stephanie was beautiful and her personality and smile could light up a room.

She was a trusting, gentle spirit, and generous to a fault. Stephanie did not value material objects, instead, preferred taking long road trips, bungee jumping, winning at bingo, mysteries and plot twists, and hot sauce challenges. Stephanie made it known that she did not like rain, yard work, chime clocks, or critics of Game of Thrones.

Stephanie loved her family and we know this because she told us this every time we spoke with her. She was a gift and taught us unconditional love, forgiveness, and the value of honest, genuine conversations. Our sweet "Stepher" loved talking, long hugs, and kisses on her forehead. She always told us she wanted to be known as the "cool aunt" to Mary and Owen. A family friend said, "Stephanie was my favorite Morris." We understand.

Stephanie long suffered from depression and anxiety. During the past couple of years, her disease brought her to places of incredible inconsolable darkness. Some only saw Stephanie through the lens of her pain and defined her by her mistakes. Others caught glimpses of her struggles and mightily tried to help her. But so many people were fortunate to have completely known and understood Stephanie and loved her even more when she needed it the most.

Stephanie is survived by her parents, Stephen F. Morris and Diane W. Morris, of Omaha, Nebraska; siblings Robin (Thomas) Breazier of Gretna, Nebraska, and their two children, Mary Jean and Owen Austin; William F. Morris and his girlfriend Ida Heinrich of Singapore; uncle and godfather Robert M. (Margaretmary "Mimi") Weidert of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida; and great aunt Nancy Haugner of Gilbert, Arizona. She is also survived by a host of other relatives and friends. Her beloved Vienna has been adopted and continues as a loved companion.

Stephanie now joins her maternal grandparents William F. Weidert, Sr. and Mary Weidert; paternal grandparents Earl Witthoff and Lynne (Lewis Morris) Witthoff; great aunt Rita Connelly; uncle William F. Weidert, Jr.; aunt Melinda Morris and many other great aunts, uncles, and family.

Memorials in Stephanie's memory can be made to Central Texas Dachshund Rescue or Austin Pets Alive!

Funeral services will be held in Omaha, Nebraska at a later date.

For More information Please visit:

<https://heafeyheafey.com/stephanie-lennon-morris/>

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JUL 18. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church  
14330 Eagle Run Drive  
Omaha, NE 68164

## Burial

JUL 18. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Resurrection Cemetery  
7800 West Center Road  
Omaha, NE 68124

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ My heart is broken for the Morris family. For a decade, I loved hearing Steve talk about his kids at work, and I felt a connection with Stephanie in particular, maybe because of our shared first name, or several overlapping interests, or our common professional dreams (except I never made it to vet school). I only met Steph in person once, but I felt like I knew her well from the many stories I heard from her proud parents. She was such an impressive, accomplished woman; I hugely admired how much she cared for the creatures and people around her. The world will be a little bit dimmer without her in it. My deepest condolences to your family.

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**Stephanie Potter** - February 29, 2024 at 09:15 PM

EM

“ I met Stephanie last Thanksgiving. We were talking about being in an orchestra/concert band. She expressed, and I know firsthand how enjoyable being part of a group making music. When she was telling me the story, her face lit up with excitement. It was precious.



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**Edward McNamara** - February 28, 2024 at 10:09 AM

TL

“ Stephanie’s beautiful soul reached out to others no matter where her emotions took her. I enjoyed spending time with Stephanie and her family and value the friendship she had with my daughter. They traveled some hard roads together and both were blessed and stronger because of their friendship. Stephanie is now at peace and her soul will continue to touch all whom are blessed to know her as well as those who may not know her, but need her kind and lovely spirit. Much love and prayers for the whole family! Tracy Lake



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**Tracy Lake** - February 28, 2024 at 09:03 AM

AC

“ I feel her loss so deeply. I regret that we grew up in different states, and cherish the memories I do have with her and Robin. We never did figure out if we were once removed or second cousins, I suppose because it never mattered to us. I love you dearly, Stephanie and the rest of the Morris family. Peace to us all, with time.

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**Ari Clarke** - February 27, 2024 at 11:06 PM

RL

“ I'm so sorry for your great loss. Rick Lupinacci

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**Rick Lupinacci** - February 27, 2024 at 07:48 PM

JS

“ A long time ago when Scott and I lived in Dallas, the Morris kids coerced their parents to come up from Austin and we rented rooms at the Big Holiday Inn with the indoor pool. Our girls were 6, 8 and 12, and Stephanie was the same age as our Jenna. The kids played for hours in the pool, we ordered pizza and had such a fun time. Aunt Mary came too. I remember the kids being so carefree and happy. I'm always going to think of all of them in that frame. In that happy innocent day. Love you Steph. Bless you Steve, Dianne, Robin and Will. May God watch over you. Love always, Janet and Scott

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**Janet Shannon** - February 27, 2024 at 07:14 PM

CM

“ I met Stephanie only once as we shared Thanksgiving with her and the family last year. She was a sweet, gentle young woman and I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to meet her.

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**cara McNamara** - February 27, 2024 at 06:49 PM