



Stephen Scott Schell

April 28, 1974 - May 26, 2023

Stephen Scott “Steve” Schell, 49 years old, departed this life May 26, 2023, surrounded by close friends and family, at his home in Fort Collins, Colorado. He was born April 28, 1974 in Dallas, Texas and grew up in Irving, Texas.

Stephen was Salutatorian of the 1992 graduating class of the Marine Military Academy in Harlingen, Texas. He entered military service on June 28, 1992, as a cadet at the United States Air Force Academy. Stephen spent the next four years as a member of the “Bad@SS Blackbirds” of Cadet Squadron 28 as the Class of 1996, one of the few USAFA classes to remain in the same squadron all four years, forging incredible bonds of brotherhood. Stephen was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force on May 29, 1996, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies. While on active duty, his assignments included Section Commander of the Security Forces Squadron at the USAF Academy and Undergraduate Pilot Training flying assignments at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi and Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi, Texas in the T-37 and T-1 aircraft respectively.

Steve found his professional niche in the auto industry, quickly ascending the executive ladder with his uncanny ability to recruit talent, build culture, and create teams that drove outstanding results. His intellect, charisma, and tireless work ethic made him an award-winning Managing Partner at various major companies throughout the nation, including Van Tuyl (now Berkshire

Hathaway) and the John Elway Auto Group.

Steve had an insatiable appetite for nature and adventure. He cage dived with great white sharks in South Africa, trekked through cheetah-infested plains of Zimbabwe, and competed in mixed martial arts competitions in Japan. Steve was also a passionate snow skier and a licensed Master Scuba Diver. He was a lover of all types of music and was a fanatical movie watcher, often quoting lines in his everyday life. He was a real-life superhero, displaying the dependability of Captain America, the machismo of Superman, and the superhuman strength of Thor. At the end of the day, his family and friends meant the world to Steve, and he would move mountains to be there for those he loved. Strength and loyalty were two of his most cherished traits, and he exemplified them every day.

Stephen was preceded in death by father, Robert William Schell. Stephen is survived by wife, Ashley Nicole Schell; children, Cayden Dean Schell, Brynnley Cole Poligala-Schell, and Declan Robert Schell; mother, Kathy White Huffman and husband, Major General, U.S. Army, Ret. Walter Huffman; sister, Stefani Schell Breisch and husband, Jason Glenn Breisch; niece, Micah Alley Breisch; nephew, Jacob Jinks Breisch; and many loving aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Tribute Wall

JH

“ Steve, I will always remember your smile and the way you made everything a little less serious.

Jennifer Word Healy - November 17, 2023 at 01:13 PM

DR

“ We didn't know Steve but are thankful that this obituary was shared by the Association of Graduates so we could read about his life and family. God bless and God Speed. Here's a Toast.... Dale Riedel (CS16) and Jennifer Riedel (Kornacker) (CS08). Tough as Bricks.

Dale Riedel - November 17, 2023 at 01:22 AM

BS

“ Steve,

Gonna miss you. The rest of the gang has it right..always someone to look up too and make us smile. As for me, you were always someone i looked to for a solid perspective of the things. Good living down the hall from you, and thanks for keeping my roomie in line many a night after a late night out!

To this day I still remember those great dorm days in CS-28, and has saved my life on more than one occasion Brother.

Im sorry im late to hear that you are gone, but you will always be in my heart and always a Badass Blackbird! May you Rest in piece.



Benjamin Stopera - November 16, 2023 at 08:47 PM

RR

“ Always quick with a joke or a smile. Even during the less than comfortable moments at the Zoo. RIP

Reid Rasmussen

Reid Rasmussen - November 16, 2023 at 06:33 PM

CH

“ Rest in peace Brother. I can remember like yesterday when you and Hall lived across the hall from me and Donye. No matter the situation you always had the perfect comment or comeback to put a smile on everyone’s face. I know it doesn’t ease the pain for everyone but the Lord doesn’t make mistakes. Until we meet again.

Corey Harris - June 09, 2023 at 11:16 PM

JT

“ My fondest memories of Steve were the times he made everyone laugh at USAFA. Since it was a military school filled with very smart, very athletic, and very competitive people, sometimes the seriousness of it all could be overwhelming. Steve understand that better than most of us and was often there making others laugh and smile. And we all needed that! I will never forget struggling with a mandatory water survival Friday night “fun”...I was breathing hard and struggling to stay afloat. Steve saw my consternation, quickly swam over, held me up and said “I got ya Jobie, just breathe.” And then gave that wry smile and said “is the dumbest thing we have done yet or what?” Instantly I smiled and managed to laugh, all was better. That was Steve’s way. Condolences to Ash and his children and his Mom and Stefanie.

Jobie Turner - June 06, 2023 at 10:27 PM

RO

“ Steve was always there for others in their time of need. He had a uniquely quick wit possessed by a rare few. He will be sorely missed by those of us fortunate enough to call him our friend.

Randy Oakland - June 05, 2023 at 04:45 PM