

Steven Gregory Parker

July 25, 1968 ~ May 2, 2024

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45 years of knowing Steven was not enough. I loved you as a child and am proud of you as a man. Rest in peace.

- Anita Torres

Dear Family and friends of Steven Parker , Our sympathy to you and yours and to all of us at the loss of such a warm, unique brilliant man…We feel the pain left over our loss of Steven. We know he is free from suffering and for this we are thankful! He will be missed..he is loved and we know he is in a better place! He is enjoying the many loved ones who have been waiting for his arrive! Our love and prayers are sent at this time to add comfort and tears in our loss of Steven! He now is Heaven's gain! And our loss! Sincerely, Joyce Parker/ Byron Parker (deceased)

- Joyce Parker/Byron Parker (Pete) deceased

I am so sorry for your loss. I worked with Steve in the 2000's on a DOE project that combined people from national laboratories and academics, and he was a remarkable person. He was brilliant and yet was always humble. He was so kind, and I could tell that he cared deeply for his students. It's so sad that he's no longer with us.

- Tom Epperly

I met Steve when I was working abroad and he helped me in many different ways. Steve was truly a great person and everyone who has ever worked with him or met him is going to miss him. Rest in peace Steve.

- Marco Alesiani

I had the good pleasure of working with Steve at NVIDIA in the SLC office since 2013. I appreciated his mentoring and direction. He will be missed.

- Brandon Lloyd

Steve and I did a lot of work together and started a business together and they were wonderful experiences for me. He was certainly a brilliant collaborator but the thing I liked best about him is that he was both funny and fun; no matter how stressful or intense the deadline or task, he somehow made it play for us. Our time working together will always be cherished memories to me and bring a smile to my face.

- Peter Shirley

So sorry to see this notice. Such a sweet guy. We are so sorry for your loss. That's a great picture of him.

- John and Carol Drayton

I'm so sorry to learn this today. May him rest in peace. I will be forever indebted to his teaching and advices to my PhD thesis at the University of Utah, while I was a student working on my ray tracing radiation model. Steve was such a great professor and mentor with tremendous knowledge, patience and kindness. He spent a lot of time going thru my code line by line guiding me to make it more efficient. He provided me with reference books , connected me with his graduate students to work together. I will miss you deeply. What a great loss.

- Paula Sun

I can’t believe you’re gone, Steve. Our early days at SCI are some of my favorite memories – you were always a great colleague and an incredible friend. Thank you. You’ve left behind a tremendous legacy – through the lives you’ve enriched and the work you pioneered. We miss you.

- David Weinstein

Thank you Steve for the support, guidance, help and love you had for me and for all people in our field. We are blessed to have been part of your life and vision. Thank you for going through all the hard battles, for having the conviction and for being a giant offering his shoulder for others. Rest in peace. You will be missed.

- Blago Taskov

My condolences to Steve’s family. So sorry to hear this tragic news.

- Sameer Shende

What a lovely memorial. We won't forget him.

- Katharine Coles

My condolences to the the family of Elder Parker (as I knew him). I'm sorry for your loss.

- Todd Halversen

Steve was such an inspiration for us all at Nvidia, such a smart person. All my condolence to the family.

- Tristan Lorach

Steve made this world better. He was so brilliant and kind. Generous with his time and his knowledge. Some people wonder if they ever made an impact on this world. Steve does not have that problem. It was an honor to know you Steve. Fare thee well..

- Floyd Clark

I first saw Steve who was (unnecessarily) taking my Computer Architecture class at Utah and later (again unnecessarily) doing his oral PhD comprehensive exam. Then I adored Steve being my brilliant faculty colleague and privileged to admire his visionary Uintah software design. I had no doubt that much greater things were yet to come - and sure enough - the world knows about it now. His work will be remembered for the monumental impact yet to come! I've never known such a towering figure who knew where the strength was derived from (as evidenced by his staring at assembly code - seeing the tower above benefit from its qualities). At a personal level, there was nothing short of laser-like focus and humble responses when one conversed. He gave such a memorable speech at the IEEE Milestone Event held in Utah - crystal-clear advice targeted at the young but worth assimilating by those of all ages. This is a huge loss going beyond his immediate family - but let's derive strength by reminiscing one of the conversations we were lucky to have had. I wish to close with my heartfelt condolences to his wife and children, brother Mike, and all others near and dear.

- Ganesh Gopalakrishnan

A man of honor. A man of great service and ethic. A great leader and friend. Steve, you will not be forgotten. Your kindness and dedication to others and their happiness will be shared onward with others through my life. Your passion for creating amazing taste and inclusion of flavors from across the world travel with you as you take on this next step of your journey. Our time together was beautiful and memorable in every sense. I listened and learned from you and am forever grateful. May your family find peace and have your guidance as they embrace this ever changing world. Love you my dear friend. Anuj.

- Anuj Aggarwal

Steve, This isn’t fair. I miss you. We all miss you. You’ve touched and improved so many lives, I feel pretty lucky to be among them. Thank you for being a wonderful mentor and friend. Thank you for your example, your dedication, your curiosity, and your endless optimism. Thank you for investing in me. I know you invested in a lot of people, and I hope we can all continue to make you proud. Your trust and patience and long term view of people is an amazing strength and maybe the one trait of yours among many that I most aspire to emulate. Happy trails, Steve. I really hope to catch up with you on the other side. All my love

- David Hart

I have had the honour and privilege to know the Parker family for 50 years, a truly remarkable and exceptionally modest family. I remember Steven's Oklahoma days working with his brother Michael and his dad Gregory on beyond-state-of-the-art programming that was truly inspirational (and well beyond my understanding). As he says in his University of Utah honourary degree lecture, true creators freely pay tribute to the giants on whose shoulders we all stand. Steven is one of those giants, standing and likewise supporting. My deepest condolences to the family.

- Mark Keil and family

I first corresponded with Steve back in 1999, asking for more details while writing about some of his work in an informal online magazine I once compiled, "The Ray Tracing News." In one article (in vol. 12, no. 1), for a paper he coauthored with Brian Smits and Peter Shirley, I noted: "Interestingly enough, none of the three authors exactly knows which one of them invented it!" Which fits my continued view of Steve, as someone who was excited to discover new things and not worrying along the way if he got credit. Steve was my manager at NVIDIA for these past five years. He was more a collaborator in practice. I miss our near-weekly discussions of problems and solutions, and I could rely on him to point me towards areas that would interest me and fit my strengths. I miss him in many ways. I offer my condolences to the family, and thank you for the detailed account of his life.

- Eric Haines

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Thankful that families are forever and you will be with him again. Love you all.

- Diana McDanel

Steve was a brilliant scientist and an amazingly kind person. I am honored to have know him and to have briefly work with him. My heartfelt condolences.

- Manish Parashar

I was fortunate enough to work with Steve in the early days of SCI. While Steve was obviously a brilliant scientist and an incredible programmer, he was also so much more than that. Steve was extremely patient and humble, he encouraged curiosity and inspired all of us. I have fond memories for those formative years, and Steve played an outsized role in them. My heart goes out to his family and friends, he leaves an amazing legacy and had a huge impact on so many of us. I am a better person for having known him and I miss him dearly.

- Peter-Pike Sloan

I am saddened to hear of Steve's passing. Steve was incredible as a student, colleague and researcher and though our paths have not crossed in many years, my memories of him are strong. I know he touched many lives. Deepest condolences to his family and friends.

- Jamie Painter

I'm so sorry to discover that Steve has passed. I had the great fortune of having him as my teacher for Ray-tracing. He was an amazing teacher with a great sense of humor, and I have fond memories of his class and the works of art he helped myself and others learn to create. Thanks Steve.

- Dan Rees