



Steve James Ovelgonne

October 30, 1950 - December 9, 2020

Steve James Ovelgonne was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on October 30, 1950 and passed away on December 9, 2020 doing what he loved, golfing. He also loved his family, his friends, and his country. He is preceded in death by his daughter, Lauren Jane Tenney and parents, James Edward and Mary Grawe Ovelgonne. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Carol; son, Jimmy; son-in-law, Drew Tenney and wife Ashley; grandsons, Jackson, Grayson, Andy and Kellan; and granddaughter, Halle. He is also survived by his brother, Jerry Ovelgonne and wife Dale Ann; sister, Donna Arnold and husband Chris; and his Aunt, Sister Mary Donata; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Raised Catholic, Steve graduated from La Salle High School and received his bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati. After college he worked as a Postal Inspector in Sacramento, CA and then Honolulu, Hawaii, where he met and married the love of his life, Carol and then took a job in the Office of Inspector General in Houston, TX. Steve always said Carol must have really loved him to follow him from Honolulu to Houston. They raised their kids in Atascocita and Southlake, TX. At the age of 50, he retired as the Regional Inspector General for Investigations for the Department of Labor. That's when he moved to Montgomery, TX and started his favorite job, Golf. Bentwater Country Club became his home away from home.

Steve was a kind, generous and fun-loving man who believed in taking care of

the less fortunate, and that all Americans should get a fair shake in life. Just ask his golf buddies, that's how he ran his Bentwater golf group. Steve served many titles in his lifetime: husband, father, grandfather, uncle, brother, and friend are where he will be missed most.

Always a sports enthusiast, Steve was the head coach for all of his children's teams and played various sports himself including tennis, bowling, golf, and softball. He also was a season ticket holder for the Cowboys, Mavericks, Rangers and Texans. The countless hours he spent on the fields early in life were happily matched by the hours he spent cheering from the sidelines for his Grandchildren.

In 2012, he lost his daughter, Lauren, after giving birth to his Grandson, Andy. He believed a condition called vEDS, with which his Grandson suffers, contributed to Lauren's passing. Steve worked tirelessly as the director of the Lauren Tenney Memorial Golf Tournament, raising money for vEDS research and toward a possible treatment and eventual cure for people like Lauren and Andy.

Visitation will be held Thursday, December 17th from 5 to 7pm at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Montgomery, TX. A Funeral service will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church under the outside pavilion in Plantersville, Texas on Saturday December 19th at 1pm. The family asks all guest to observe social distancing rules and wear a mask.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to vEDS research:
www.laurentenneymemorialtournament.org or <https://depts.washington.edu/veds/>

You may view a recording of the Funeral Mass by clicking on this link -
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/qs7ptnlhle236g2/Video%20Dec%2019%2C%201>

2%2057%2020%20PM.mov?dl=0

Cemetery Details

St Mary's Catholic Cemetery

Plantersville, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Montgomery
10129 FM 1097 Rd W
Willis, TX 77318
(936) 890-0454
greg@shmfh.com
<https://www.shmfh.com>

Funeral Mass

DEC 19. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Plantersville, TX 77363

Tribute Wall



“ Steve James Ovelgonne

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ I only knew Steve in recent years through a family connection. He always loved being around the kids and sharing the love of being a grandfather. May Steve rest in peace and may, Carol, Jimmy and all he touched find peace with his passing.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a contribution in his memory:
<https://www.laurentenneymemorialtournament.org/>

Jonathan Sykes - December 20, 2020 at 12:47 PM



“ Steve and Carol became our neighbors in Atascocita before having Jimmy and Lauren . My first connection with Steve was while he was working on a fence their new home and I was missing my pet rabbit. He assured me he would keep an eye out, but seemed to be humored by it. He had the nicest smile and had a calm about him I immediately recognized. I never found our rabbit, but met life time friends with Carol and Steve. They eventually had Jimmy and Lauren whom my children loved like siblings.

Steve had such a great influence on my children growing up. We were blessed to have known Steve, along with so many others he loved and who loved him. Rest well, Steve.

Elizabeth Birken - December 19, 2020 at 10:16 AM

MT

“ I first met Steve in 1972. We were both new Postal Inspectors at our first division conference at a hotel in San Francisco. We became fast friends when I ran into him while sneaking out of the conference under a curtain divider between the actual conference and the hallway leading to the bar. We both purchased two drinks and snuck back into the conference without being noticed.

I was transferred to Honolulu, HI in 1976 and a couple years later Steve

followed. We had some great times in Hawaii and for Steve some life changing events. He met a beautiful girl who, when I met her, I thought she was a young Ursula Andress. Carol made Steve an even better person and they built a beautiful family. We made a couple of trips back to the mainland from Hawaii, mainly Las Vegas, where from our feast at Caesars Palace Bachanal Room with Telly Savalas and Sammy Davis Jr., to nights of revelry and many exciting times were recorded for posterity. I am positive Mary, Carol and I will never forget those trips and any further details cannot be shared.

Steve, Carol, Mary, and I had many great outings over the years. Our last one being an Eagles Concert in downtown Houston, on March 7, 2020. These memories just keep coming and we shared many great ones. Mary and I always loved the whole Ovelgonne family and were rewarded with true and loyal friends for a lifetime. Well buddy, keep riding slow and easy and I will see you soon. Tell Lauren we love her.

Mike and Mary Treworgy



Mike Treworgy - December 18, 2020 at 06:35 PM

BS

“ Steve and I were captains together when Bentwater played Northgate. I not only got to know Steve and respected his golf game, but enjoyed getting to know him. He will be missed.

Bob Schumacher, former captain at Northgate Country Club.

Bob Schumacher - December 18, 2020 at 12:06 PM

GG

“ Ginger Wyvell Gascho lit a candle in memory of Steve James Ovelgonne



Ginger Wyvell Gascho - December 17, 2020 at 06:54 PM

LV

“ Steve flew up to San Francisco to interview me for a Special Agent position and offered me the job within 30 minutes. I retired January 2020! He was a GREAT supervisor and one of the NICEST people I ever met. We use to have so much fun at his home with him and his family when he would have parties for his employees. Carol was such a wonderful host, she was so sweet and kind to all of us. I was deeply saddened to receive the news that he has passed away. He was a GAINT among men! May loving memories always bring you peace, comfort, and strength. With prayers and remembrance,
Laran Vondo

Laran Vondo - December 17, 2020 at 04:43 PM

DW

“ Carol and Jimmy,

I was so saddened to hear about Steve's passing. I have to tell you that Steve had such a positive influence on my life and career. His influence as my boss and mentor went well beyond the office. Steve loved his agents and it showed at both work and in our personal lives. I still laugh when I think about the goofy video he agreed to help me with - "A day in the life of a SAC". None of my ideas were too outrageous for him to try and because of that, the video was a hit at our National Conference. That was Steve. He also talked me into playing golf. I was terrible yet he kept letting me play on the best ball team. As I would actually contribute my one shot per 9 holes, Steve would be so genuinely excited for me it kept me saying yes I would try again the next time he would ask. That was Steve. Carol, the parties you and Steve hosted for the office all those years, including one in Houston long after he retired, were always the highlight of the year because of the genuine excitement you two showed that we were there and of course it always involved some sort of competition. That was Steve.

When I think of my friend, it's always fond memories and love. In Proverbs, there's a verse that talks about Iron sharpening iron. I am a sharper father, husband, and man because of Steve.

Know that Katherine and I are praying for you both.

David Wickersham

David Wickersham - December 17, 2020 at 04:27 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Steve James Ovelgonne.*



December 17, 2020 at 03:29 PM



“ *Carol, Jimmy and family,
Sherida and I were so shocked to hear of Steve's sudden passing. We both feel so blessed to have Steve, and his family, in our lives. Our longtime working relationship, that carried into our retirement years, is one of our prized memories. I count Steve as a true friend not to mention one of the most highly respected individuals I've known. In the 42 years I've known Steve, not one person has ever uttered a negative word about Steve. I know how much he cherished you and his family! He loved life, was always there with a smile, and always willing to give assistance where needed. We know the Ovelgonne family has faced many challenges, and we can think of no one more loving to navigate the challenges than you and Steve. We will miss him greatly and we pray for God's grace and comfort as you grieve in this time of great loss.
Our love,
J.D. and Sherida Nichols*

J.D. Nichols - December 17, 2020 at 01:34 PM



“ *Barbara Johnson lit a candle in memory of Steve James Ovelgonne*



Barbara Johnson - December 17, 2020 at 12:49 AM

BJ

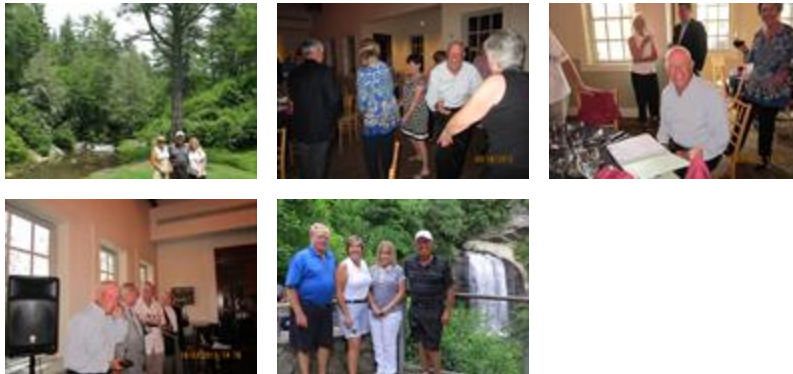
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Barbara Johnson - December 17, 2020 at 12:43 AM

KM

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



karen monshaugen - December 16, 2020 at 09:50 PM

RI

“ One of my most memorable times in the Postal Inspection Service was working with Steve in the California Valley in 1973 and 1974. We were both young and full of dreams. We visited Fresno, Salinas, Monterey and many other places. The memories were wonderful and the times were great. We connected again in Texas, while i was assigned to Dallas and he in Houston. I am sorry that he left us at such an early age.

Robert Intriago

Robert E Intriago - December 16, 2020 at 08:42 PM

JB

“ I met Steve in 1982 when I transferred from, Miami, FL to Houston, TX, to work for the Department of Labor, OIG. Steve and Carol introduced me to Rick Bakke when I lived at Atascocita, TX. Steve was my supervisor but we continued to be the best of friends for life. Living in and playing golf with Steve and Rick at Atascocita were some of the best years of my life. I will never forget all the birthday parties at Steve and Carol's house. I watched Jimmy and Lauren grow up and become wonderful and caring adults. Steve loved his family most of all. Steve and Carol were a match made in heaven. I know Steve and Lauren are having a great reunion in heaven. I will miss him greatly. To Carol and Jimmy, I am so sorry for the loss. He was a wonder man, husband, father, golfer and leader of men and women who worked with and for him. Good bless the Ovelgonne family!

Jake Burkhalter - December 16, 2020 at 03:37 PM



“ Steve, and I hung out together through high school, and college years, and beyond. The stories I could tell! He had personality plus....I was the shy, reserved type...so he got the girls. His job transfered him to California.....then Hawaii, and I was able to visit him in both places, and it was never a dull moment. He was a great guy, and I'll never forget the crazy..fun things we did! Carol, and all of Steve's family..I am so sorry for your loss!

Steve Schnitker

Steve Schnitker - December 16, 2020 at 02:25 PM

WF

“ Woodcock Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Steve James Ovelgonne.



Woodcock Family - December 16, 2020 at 12:41 PM

BS

“ Steve and I worked together as postal inspectors in Sacramento in the early 70s before I was transferred to Honolulu. He was always a pleasure and did a nice job for the inspection service. We used him on several occasions in surveillance of controlled deliveries of narcotics and he specialized in blending in by riding his bike while dressed as a hippie. When I think of Steve that's how I picture him. Please accept my sincere condolences in your loss. I'm sure it will be all pars and birdies for him now.
Bill Skow

Bill Skow - December 16, 2020 at 07:37 AM

TO

“ Aunt Carol & Jimmy we were so sad to hear of Uncle Steve's passing. He was always so much fun and loved by all who knew him. We are thinking of the entire family and praying for peace and comfort during this difficult time.

Tony Ovelgonne - December 16, 2020 at 03:25 AM

SW

“ Oh Carol and Jimmy we are so very sorry for your loss. We have known you all for a very long time. All those years in Southlake watching our children together! It was so great that we caught up a few years ago at the golf tournament. Steve was great and made sure that I got my own golf cart to observe the hole in one. So glad we got to spend some quality time with Steve and the family later before we had to head back home. Our thoughts are with you both.

Love Always, Sandy and Gene Woodcock

Sandy and Gene Woodcock - December 15, 2020 at 11:35 PM

JR

“ Carol, I am so very sorry for your loss and I express my sincere condolence on Steve's passing. You may not remember me but I was Steve's counterpart in the DOL as head of the OIG's Office of Audit. Steve helped me tremendously when I was relocating to Dallas in 1990 and over the years became a good friend and golf partner. He was a good soul. When he retired and moved away I truly missed his smiling face and our golf outing together. I hope one day to see him again at the 19th hole. I know how much he loved you and his family. When I think of the loved ones I have lost over the years I think back to a saying by Charles Schultz: "Perhaps they are not stars in the sky but rather openings where our loved ones shine down to let us know they are happy." Please know that you, Jimmy, and your extended family are in my thoughts and prayers.

John Riggs, Keller, TX

John Riggs - December 15, 2020 at 10:26 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Steve James Ovelgonne.



December 15, 2020 at 09:38 PM



“ Your Sunday Couples Golf Group purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Steve James Ovelgonne.



Your Sunday Couples Golf Group - December 15, 2020 at 06:25 PM



“ Jeff & Betty Conklin purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Steve James Ovelgonne.



Jeff & Betty Conklin - December 15, 2020 at 05:43 PM



“ ELIZABETH Moore purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Steve James Ovelgonne.



ELIZABETH Moore - December 15, 2020 at 10:43 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Steve James Ovelgonne.*



December 15, 2020 at 10:11 AM



“ *Franks Engineering purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Steve James Ovelgonne.*



Franks Engineering - December 14, 2020 at 05:29 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Steve James Ovelgonne.*



December 14, 2020 at 01:13 PM