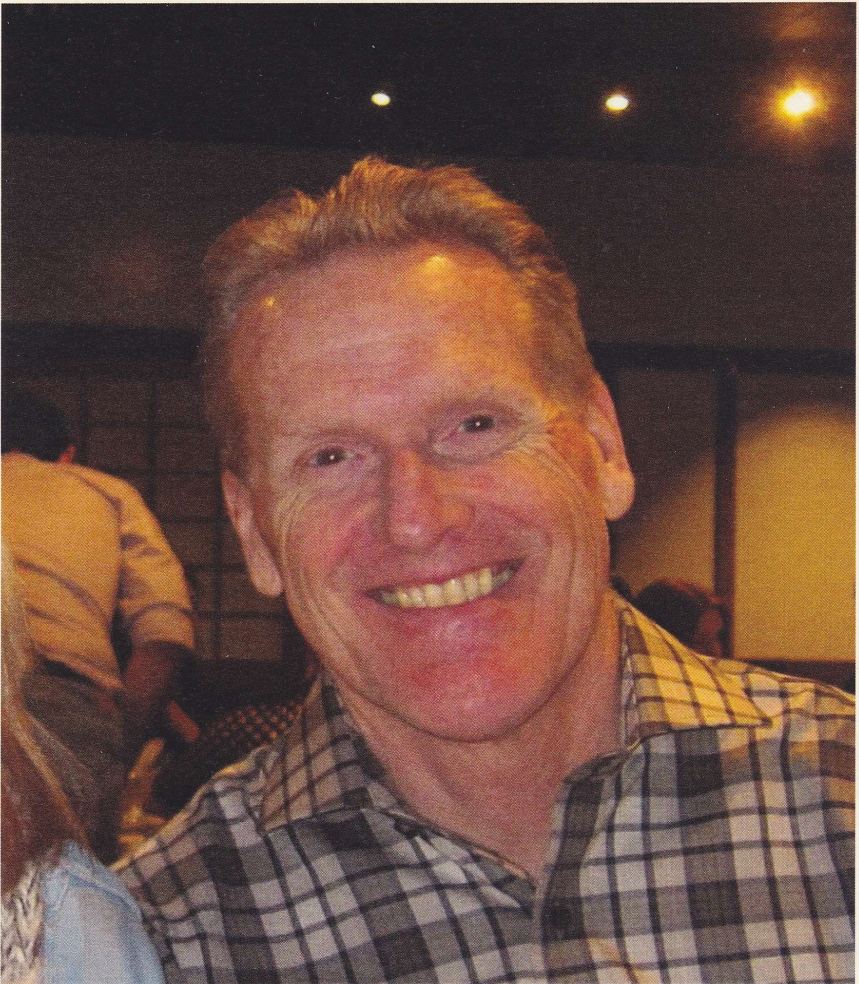


Steve Leighton

January 29, 1962 – January 6, 2019



Steve was born on January 29, 1962, in Sacramento, CA to Maria and David Leighton. He grew up in Carmichael and attended Del Campo High School where he graduated in 1980. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Sac State in 1986. In 1987 he began his career with the State of California, and for over 30 years he worked for the departments of Social Services, Alcohol and Drug Programs, and Health Care Services before retiring in October 2017. In 1988, Steve married Catherine Hammond and they were together for seven years.

Steve travelled throughout the United States and the world to both mainstream and less frequented locations, concentrating on areas where he could explore and hike through mountainous terrain. These trips included visits to Argentina, Australia, Chile, India, Nepal, New Zealand, Tanzania, Turkey, Vietnam, and several European countries including Germany to visit his many relatives there. While in Nepal he trekked in the vicinity of Mt. Everest Base Camp and in Tanzania he summited Mt. Kilimanjaro at over 19,300 feet above sea level. In South America he visited the remote Patagonia region.

In 2005 Steve travelled around the country visiting many, if not most, national parks and baseball stadiums. He was also an avid backpacker in the Sierra Nevada, the highlight being his 19-day trip on the 220-mile John Muir Trail with his brother, Dave, in 2005. He also spent time in Alaska and Canada. Recently, Steve spent several weeks in Puerto Rico assisting with Hurricane Maria relief.

Steve was a lifelong fan of the San Francisco 49ers and Giants, attending many 49er games throughout the glory years of the 1980s and 90s and celebrating the Giants' three recent World Series victories. He had a wonderful, self-deprecating sense of humor that set others at ease and endeared him to many. While Steve had no children of his own, his love of kids and family was evident in the way he treated his nephew and three nieces. He hung their pictures on his fridge, enjoyed celebrating their birthdays and many milestones, and easily chatted with them about the details of their lives. He never missed a family event and was a regular participant in the annual Leighton family camping trips. He also sponsored a child in Vietnam through ChildFund International.

Steve left us too soon on January 6, 2019. Steve was predeceased by his father David Leighton, and younger brother John Leighton. He is survived by his mother Maria Leighton, step-mother Genie Leighton, older brother Dave Leighton (Jennifer), nephew Nick Leighton (Alison), nieces Rynne Leighton, Emmery Leighton, Arielle Mize (Kyle), and great niece Maren Mize.