



David Stephen Orr

NOV 24, 1947 - AUG 9, 2021



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David Stephen Orr

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David S. Orr was born on November 24, 1947 and departed this life on August 9, 2021. The son of Hugh and Alvena Orr, he grew up as an "Army Brat" due to his father's career service in the U.S. Army. This brought him to forty-nine states, living in ten of them, and seven foreign countries. He attended high schools in Cincinnati and New York, and graduated from the Defense Department High School in Bremerhaven, Germany. He graduated from The Ohio State University in 1969 with a B.Sc. in psychology. He then went on to graduate school at the University of Cincinnati and earned an MA. in Sociology.

A career federal employee, he began his career in 1970 with the Department of Navy, and went on to work with the U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office and the Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic Center. Mr. Orr then served as Chief of Labor-Employee Relations at ACTION, Chief of Labor Disputes & Appeals with the U.S. Customs Service, and Director of Personnel & Labor Relations for the Federal Election Commission. In 1998 he became the first Associate Director for Human Resources at the Court Services & Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) where his work was recognized by the non-profit organization Partnership for Public Service as a "Best Practice." In addition to his human resources responsibilities, he served in the Equal Employment Opportunity field as a counselor, investigator, advisory committee member and program director. After retiring in 2003, he became a consultant and trainer specializing in federal sector human resources management. Some of his clients included the Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture, The Office of the Secretary of the Senate, Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Capitol Police, OPM's Eastern and Western Management Development Centers, U.S. Secret Service, NASA, the Department of Education, and his former agency, CSOSA. He appeared as a commentator on OPM's satellite TV broadcasts and WTOP radio's "Fednews" program and was an occasional contributor to the Federal Times newspaper.



Obituary

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He was a member of the Sussex Pines Country Club in Georgetown, Delaware and the Sons of the American Legion, Post 28 in Oak Orchard, Delaware. He was also a Life Member of the Ohio State University Alumni Association, having served a term as President of the Washington, D C. Chapter. His avocations were golf, cooking foreign cuisines, and spending time at the Delaware beaches.

He is survived by a son, Matthew and daughter-in-law, Gina, a daughter Katherine, his devoted caretaker Tommy, and family dog, Bazle. Michele, his wife of 29 years predeceased him in 2011.

A graveside service will be held on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 11:00 AM, at Epworth Methodist Cemetery, Henlopen Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to David's memory to Delaware Hospice, 100 Patriots Way, Milford, DE 19963.




Please sign the virtual guestbook on the tribute page.

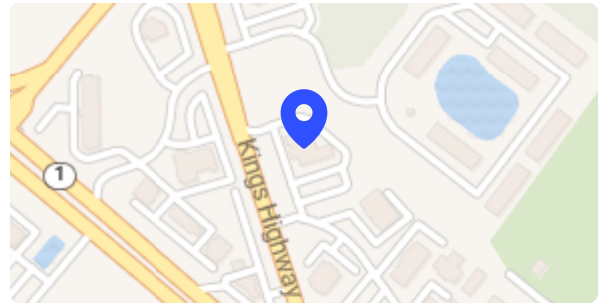


Events




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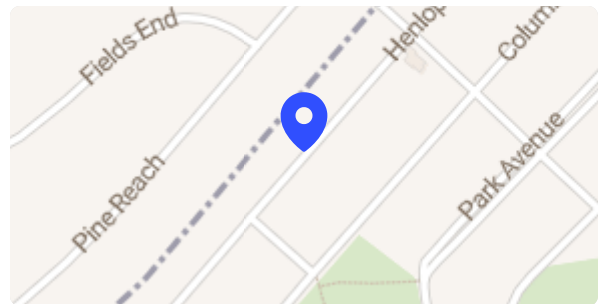
Flowers to be delivered by:

-  **Tuesday**, August 17, 2021
-  4:00 PM ET
-  **Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel**
16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958



Graveside Service

-  **Wednesday**, August 18, 2021
-  11:00 AM ET
-  **Epworth Methodist Cemetery**
159 Henlopen Avenue, Rehoboth Beach DE 19971





Tribute Wall

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DB

Douglas John Beck posted:

My wife and I first met David and his family just after we were married and they were our next-door neighbors (both in our first houses) in Silver Spring, Maryland. David and Shelly kindly invited us over for dinner one night. Before we went, my wife Connie warned me that David was a passionate Ohio State fan, and given that I had gone to Michigan, I knew that I had to tread carefully on that delicate topic if it came up. David apparently did not know about my undergraduate ties and during dinner calmly asked me "so where did you go to school?". I somewhat nervously answered "that school up north", the phrase that the OSU football legend Woody Hayes used because he could not bear to say the name Michigan. Upon hearing my answer, David slowly sunk his head, thought for a few seconds, looked up and said, "well it could be worse—you could have gone to Notre Dame". With the ice broken by his ever-keen wit and his wife Shelly's graciousness, we began what became a nearly 40-year friendship between the Becks and the entire Orr family. While we frequently visited at each other's homes, especially during holiday events, birthdays and anniversaries, it took David and me probably more than a decade of avoiding each other during the annual rivalry before we decided that as adults it would be fun to attend the Michigan-Ohio State game each year in each other's stadium. In Columbus, we would stay with David's close friends Susan Dirr and her husband David, and in Ann Arbor with my brother and his family. For well more than a decade, David and I looked forward to those memorable annual trips, which helped bond a friendship of many dimensions beyond football. Football was certainly a passion of his, but over the years we visited many times at each other's homes in Maryland and in Rehoboth, talking about family, our work, and life in general. Although this last decade brought David daunting and totally unfair health challenges, he never lost his wonderful wit, positive attitude and love of family. I always looked forward to our weekly calls during his final years. Rest in peace my friend. Doug Beck

August 17 at 9:01 AM



Tribute Wall

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SD

Susan Dirr posted:

I met Dave in 1967 at Ohio State. The stadium dorm where he lived was remodeling their kitchen so he was eating in the dining room in my dorm next door. He was so engaging and fun to be around. Thankfully we continued our friendship after he graduated and moved to Maryland. Mostly we connected over Ohio State and our love of the Buckeyes. He kept getting season football tickets just so he could come to THE game when the Buckeyes played Michigan. He contacted me about buying the other game tickets and for years we had great fun going to the Ohio State games (thanks to Dave's generous offer) and enjoying a fun weekend when Dave was here for the Michigan game. But this memory is one I will always remember. At one of the last games he and Doug came to, as we were walking to the stadium, Dave kept fiddling with the ticket pulling it in and out of his pocket to make sure it was still there. As we were walking, a man behind him came up and tapped him on the shoulder and said, "I think you dropped this." He was holding your dad's ticket in his hand. Dave could not believe (1.) that he lost his ticket, but (2). more importantly he said he was so thrilled that this man did not just keep it and sell it, but returned to him. Your dad could not stop talking about his luck that day and the honesty of this man. Needless to say, when he came back here two years later for the game, he had a plastic ticket holder on a lanyard around his neck. There was no way he was going to lose that ticket again! He kept it safe and in clear view! We loved your dad and I was blessed to have known him for the past 54 years. May God bless him. He was a special man.

August 14 at 4:25 AM

LH

Lou Guest Hoffmann posted:

David and I were professional friends of many years in Federal labor and employee relations. We were members of a sort of rag-tag group that David organized called "SPAM"; SPAM really didn't stand for anything, but when pressed, we said it was an acronym for "Society of Persons Abetting Management." Mostly, we just got together once and awhile after hours to socialize and swap stories about work and share some laughs. Our spouses were invited to the holiday parties and that is how I came to know David's wife, Michelle. Michelle was a lovely person and I know that David missed her very much after her death. I am sure that David's children will be comforted by his many accomplishments and even more by the fact that he brought so much joy to so many people by his humor and wit! David will be greatly missed. My Love, Lou Guest Hoffmann

August 13 at 7:46 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring David by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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