



## Dr. Stephen T. Perconte

May 11, 1955 - April 24, 2020

Dr. Stephen T. Perconte

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Dr. Stephen T. Perconte, 64, beloved husband, father, friend, and coworker passed away suddenly on April 24th, 2020. Dr. Perconte (also known as Sweetheart, Dad, Stephen, Steve, Dr. Steve, and Elvis depending on your relationship with him) was just days away from retirement after serving the nations veterans for over 37 years. As Chief Psychologist of the Pittsburgh VA, he compassionately attended to the needs of the men and women who fought in all wars from World War II to the present. Dr. Perconte diligently and with great pride and distinction, dedicated his life to veterans and exemplified the motto of the VA which came from a quote from President Lincoln's second inaugural address in 1865: "To Care for Him who Shall have Borne the Battle and for his Widow and His Orphan." His legacy will live on in the Psychologists he hired and trained over his career and in the 3 strangers who received his organ donations.

Dr. Perconte was a loving, generous, compassionate, passionate, intelligent, talented, funny, amazing Husband, Father, Friend and yes, singer (hence the Elvis reference for his Karaoke family). His sense of humor was legendary, whether it be "exploding caterpillars", Sharknado jokes, "rabbit hunting or flying rat stories", silly "dad" jokes, he was always there to brighten your day. He was a man who fostered the passions of others and his ability to bring

humor to any situation...the shared laughter that he brought to all who knew him was an endearing quality that will forever remain with us. He is survived by his wife Tamara, his children Phil, Rachel, Sarah, Nicole, and his granddaughter Ivy. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations in Dr. Perconte's name be made to either:

1. America's Warrior Partnership

o Online: <https://americaswarriorpartnership.org/donate/>

o Mail: America's Warrior Partnership, 1190 Interstate Pkwy, Augusta GA 30909,

2. Veterans of Foreign Wars

o Online: [https://heroes.vfw.org/page/21776/donate/1?ea.tracking.id=Giving\\_Pages](https://heroes.vfw.org/page/21776/donate/1?ea.tracking.id=Giving_Pages)

o Mail: Fill out Form at [https://aaf1a18515da0e792f78-c27fdabe952dfc357fe25ebf5c8897ee.ssl.cf5.rackcdn.com/1993/VFW\\_Donation\\_Form\\_fillable\\_120618.pdf?v=1546460290000](https://aaf1a18515da0e792f78-c27fdabe952dfc357fe25ebf5c8897ee.ssl.cf5.rackcdn.com/1993/VFW_Donation_Form_fillable_120618.pdf?v=1546460290000)

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the viewing and interment will be limited to immediate family only. A Celebration of Life Memorial Service and Reception will be held when it is appropriate and safe to do so. Arrangements entrusted to the GENE H. CORL FUNERAL CHAPEL INC. AND CREMATION SERVICES OF MONROEVILLE.

# Tribute Wall

JG

“ I first met Steve when I was a Psychology Intern at VA Pittsburgh over 20 years ago. I remember the first day of internship when the intern class was treated to lunch by some of the training staff, including Steve. I vividly recall him gently teasing me about being from Pittsburgh and not knowing what river we were driving over to get to the restaurant (it was the Allegheny, btw). Steve always had the ability to put people at ease as he was so easy to talk to. He had a natural ability to genuinely listen and to engage people, which is one of the many reasons he was so loved by his patients. Over the past 7 years, Steve was my primary supervisor and mentor. I will forever be so appreciative and grateful for the opportunities, support and encouragement he provided me so that I could develop into the leader, clinician, and colleague I am today. I will miss seeing him at work, hearing about his love for all things Sharknado, and listening to his tales of entertaining the crowds with his Elvis karaoke. My heart goes out to Tami, his children, and his granddaughter. I know how much all of you meant to him and how much he loved you. You are all in my thoughts. Rest in Peace, Steve.

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**Jennifer George** - May 05, 2020 at 10:24 PM

TP

*Thank you so much for sharing your thoughts with us Jennifer. He always spoke very highly of you and I thank you for all your support during this difficult time.*

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**Tamara Ivosevic Perconte** - May 07, 2020 at 08:51 AM

TP

*I'm not sure my first reply came thru. Thank you for your comments Jennifer. Steve always spoke very highly of you. I so appreciate all your support during this difficult time.*

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**Tamara Ivosevic Perconte** - May 07, 2020 at 08:54 AM

KD

“ Steve was a mentor and colleague of mine for 12 years at VA Pittsburgh. In addition to many spirited discussions on differing approaches to clinical care, Steve and I often had numerous conversations on our shared Italian heritage and favorite family recipes “from the old country.” Once when I shared with him that I missed homemade tiramisu but couldn’t make it because I did not have an espresso maker, Steve brought his in from home for me to borrow. This, of course, came with the caveat that I must share the results with him. He will be dearly missed as both a friend and colleague and VA Pittsburgh will feel his absence for years to come.

Kate DeNardi - May 04, 2020 at 10:39 AM

TP

Thank you so much for sharing!

Tamara Ivosevic Perconte - May 07, 2020 at 08:52 AM

MR

“ Steve hired me for my first VA position following my internship and postdoctoral fellowship. About the first five minutes of our meeting was spent discussing the position, while the latter 55 were spend discussing the Walking Dead and his love for Ed Wood movies. I remember him saying at the end, "oh by the way you're hired." This is my most encapsulating memory of him, as he was always able to balance the delicate with the silly. A truly impressive characteristic. He will be missed.

Michael Rosen - May 01, 2020 at 03:28 PM

TP

Thank you so much for sharing!

Tamara Ivosevic Perconte - May 07, 2020 at 08:53 AM

GK

“ I met Dr. Perconte at a joint VA/military conference several years ago. At the time I was a VA staff psychologist, but at a different VA. I remember Dr. Perconte for his intelligence and clinical knowledge, but what struck me the most was how nice he was. To his family and friends, especially his wife, I'm so sorry for his loss. I'm also so sorry for the loss to our veterans (and the field of Psychology). We all lost out with his passing.

Gail Kelsey - May 01, 2020 at 01:53 PM

TP

Thank you so much for sharing your memories with the family.

Tamara Ivosevic Perconte - May 07, 2020 at 08:55 AM



“ I've only known Steve for 3 years, but what really stood out to me was his dedication to protecting his staff from nitnoid administrative tasks so they could focus on providing good clinical care. He also really enjoyed working with the most difficult patients, and his #1 concern was taking care of my fellow Veterans. We have lost a good man and caring psychologist.

Mary Dorritie Smallidge - April 30, 2020 at 06:46 PM

KW

Although I didn't know Steve personally, I know the joy and happiness he brought to my friend Tami. May he Rest In Peace. And to Tami, may your beautiful memories help to comfort you during this difficult time.

Kandy Weaver - May 01, 2020 at 09:48 AM

LW

*I loved my brother-in-law because he was so kind hearted and he made my sister, Tami so happy and Nicole. He really loved them so much and he told me he was so happy that he found Tami, his life was complete again. He was such a caring, loving devoted family man. Steve will be greatly missed. Tami and Nicole, the pain takes a long time to heal from this great loss but it does heal, always remember those precious memories of him. Rest in Peace sweet Steve. Love, Greg, Lori, Whisper and Willow*

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**Lori Wydra** - May 01, 2020 at 12:33 PM

VN

*To members of the Perconte family:  
I write with deep sympathy for your sorrow. I knew Dr Perconte for just over a year, but even in that short time he reached out to me and helped me to find my feet at the VA. It was very evident that he was deeply dedicated to the service of Veterans. I wish I could have known him for longer. We will miss him.  
Vishwajit Nimgaonkar*

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**Vishwajit Nimgaonkar** - May 01, 2020 at 03:01 PM

TP

*Mary and Kandy. Thank you so much for your kind words. He was a great man..I do not have enough words to describe the depth of the loss I feel..I just know that because of my sweet husband..the world is a better place..*

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**Tamara Ivosevic Perconte** - May 02, 2020 at 12:04 AM

MG

*I'd know Steve for two decades, my entire professional career. It is hard to imagine the department without him; it's truly an end of an era. My sincere condolences to his family.*

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**Marci Gaither** - May 02, 2020 at 01:19 PM

TP

*Thank you sis and all who have shared the memories of my sweet husband*

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**Tamara Ivosevic Perconte** - May 07, 2020 at 08:57 AM

JR

*Tami and family: I remember Steve from many karaoke nights....he was a true gentleman who will be greatly missed! You have my sympathy,*

*Jim Raskovsky*

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**Jim Raskovsky** - May 07, 2020 at 11:41 AM

TP

*Thank you Jim. He loved our Karaoke nights and our Karaoke family*

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**TAMARA PERCONTE** - May 08, 2020 at 08:43 AM