



Steve "Big Dog" Schmelz

December 4, 1952 - March 25, 2022

Steve "Big Dog" Schmelz, 69, of Louisville KY, passed away March 25th, 2022, at home surrounded by his loving wife and family.

Steve was born in New Albany Indiana, December 4th, 1952, to his parents Irene and Mark Schmelz and was one of nine children. After he graduated from New Albany High School, Steve went on to become a member of the Local 502 Pipefitters, and ultimately retired from there. He helped his grandson "Thunder", join the Local 502 following in his grandfather's footsteps. He was a Catholic by faith, an avid golfer who won some championships, enjoyed a hand of cards, smoking a good cigar and a cold beer anytime with his friends and family.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents, Irene, and Mark Schmelz; mother -in-law, Louise Dever; siblings, Tony Schmelz, Martha Gibson, and Velma Salesman; Siblings-in-law, Bobby Dever, Denny Dever, Johnny Dever, Ed Jones, and Mike (Rosie) Baxter.

He is survived by his wife, Sherri Schmelz and their dog Bogey; daughter Katie Phillips (Russell Lynch); grandson, Duane "Thunder" Phillips, IV; siblings, Paul Schmelz (Peggy), and Thelma Welsbacher (Karl) who reside in California, Brenda Baxter(Norbert), Bonnie Krider (Rick), Suzy Visser (Marcel); siblings-in-law Brenda Miller (Mike), Patti Jones, Joe Dever (Susan), Neil Dever (Anne) , Nancy Duncan (Dean), Carolyn Stack (Jerry); many loving nieces, nephews, great – nieces and nephews, and great-great-nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, March 30th, 3:00pm-7:00pm, at Owen Funeral Home, 5317 Dixie Highway, Louisville KY, 40216. Services will be held the same day at 7:00pm at the funeral home.

Donations can be made in Steve's memory to Down Syndrome of Louisville, h
[ttps://dsoflou.org/](https://dsoflou.org/).

Cemetery Details

Cremation to Follow

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 30. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway
5317 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40216
(502) 447-2600
<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Service

MAR 30. 7:00 PM (ET)

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Louisville, KY 40216
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Tribute Wall



“ Owen Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Steve "Big Dog" Schmelz



Owen Funeral Homes - March 31, 2022 at 04:05 PM



“ Yount Children & Families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Steve "Big Dog" Schmelz.



Yount Children & Families - March 30, 2022 at 08:00 AM

KW

“ I always liked Steve because he just naturally seemed to be a "nice guy." I know he was very good, and helpful to many people. He used to do a lot of things to improve Irene's house for her, and I know he always wanted her to be comfortable when she lived there. I haven't seen him in years of course, but whenever I was around him in the past, he was always a lot of fun to be around. I think the last time I saw Katie was when she was about 10, and I never had the pleasure of meeting Sheri. Maybe someday we can meet in person. We just want you to know that Thelma was his sister, and she loved him very much, and was deeply saddened by his death. We told his Aunt Alice about it, and she was sorry to hear about it too. We wish we could be with you at this time, but with Thelma's stroke condition, we just can't make it back there at this time. But our thoughts and prayers are certainly with you, and we know that God will comfort you in your sorrow. God bless all of you, and may Steve rest in peace.

Karl & Thelma Welsbacher

Karl Welsbacher - March 27, 2022 at 11:31 PM