



Christopher Alan Stong

December 31, 1957 - January 13, 2017

Christopher “Chris” Alan Stong, 59, of Huntington, Indiana passed away Friday, January 13, 2017 at Garden Villa in Bloomington. He was born on December 31, 1957, the son of Alan Leon and Mary Ruth (Mulligan) Stong.

Chris graduated from Huntington North High School in 1976. He worked several places in Fort Wayne and Huntington, including Triad-Utrad, Fruehaf, Teco, Stellhorn Photo, Community Harvest, Terex, and Habitat for Humanity Restore. He later graduated from IPFW Purdue with a degree in general studies and a concentration in journalism. Chris enjoyed photography, writing, music, movies, working with computers, cameras, and video recorders, solving mechanical problems, motorcycles, fast food, the Chicago bears, Spider Man, and big smooth-riding cars. He was a friend of Bill W. and had a deep love for their mutual friends. In keeping with his dedication to being a trickster, he passed away at high noon Friday the 13th with Neil Young’s “Harvest” album playing in the background.

He was a ham and a camera-hog. He was rebellious, mischievous, compassionate and always sensitive. He was brave enough to talk back and speak out. He was introspective to a fault. He saw the value in almost everything, and had a hard time letting go of objects that were useful. He was a generous and playful uncle to his nieces and nephews, and his reputation as the Uncle Chris, while darkened with mental illness, was

legendary. His love for them was endless although he was unable to show it.

His life was changed forever when he adopted his dog Pee Wee, who went everywhere with him. His demeanor became clearly more positive and loving with Pee Wee by his side. He was heartbroken when he was unable to be with him.

The last few years of his life were difficult and beautiful. He was in a wheelchair following neurological damage and depended on others for things he hadn't had to before. He suffered memory loss and some damage to his mind. But his mood became kinder and sweeter, and he developed rich relationships with friends and caretakers.

Chris is survived by his brother, Tom (Sue) Stong, sisters; Deb Shenfeld, and Mary (Jo) (Brier Frasier) Stong, several nieces and nephews, and his life-changing dog, PeeWee.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Chris's family would like to extend a thank you to which goes beyond words to the staff of Garden Villa in Bloomington. The spirit in which they did their work for Chris and his family was tireless, reverent, respectful, hilarious, and always loving. The spiritual and emotional comfort extended to both Chris and his family was unforeseen and so very appreciated. It was obvious that he was well-loved, and his family is more grateful than they could ever know. The staff of Warsaw Meadows is held in similar regard, and the family credits them for saving Chris's life.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at Bailey-Love Funeral Home, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, Indiana. Family will receive friends from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 S. Old State Road 37, Bloomington and

Bailey-Love Funeral Home, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington have been entrusted with arrangements. You are invited to share a memory or leave an online condolence to the family at www.allencares.com

Tribute Wall

AH

“ seems like yesterday we were carrying groceries for your mom in the middle of cherry street during the blizzard of 78. so many good memories. I will miss you. rest in peace my friend. Allen Horsley



Allen Horsley - January 21, 2017 at 07:03 AM

SR

“ I would like to say how sorry lam about christopher's passing. He was a very sweet guy.



*Susan Kline Rupel
midwest city ok 73110*

susan rupel - January 18, 2017 at 04:52 PM

DB

“ Our hearts go out to the Stong family. Leon was a great friend and I always enjoyed seeing Chris when I visited. Your family will be in our prayers. We will be out of town on Saturday, but our thoughts will be with you.



Dean/Reba Beery - January 18, 2017 at 09:42 AM

CK
Knight

“ 2 files added to the album *Our Friend, Chris*



CK Knight - January 17, 2017 at 11:46 PM

NW

“ *Keeping your family in my thoughts and prayers. I was a student of Leon, and met Chris as he joined his parents for dinner at Pizza Hut in Huntington.*

Neil / Cathy Warner - January 17, 2017 at 08:25 AM

JR

“ *I have been playing the piano at Garden Villa during the noon hour on Mondays for the last 3 years or so. I usually would see Chris, but today I didn't, of course. I learned as I was leaving that Chris is no longer with us. Blessings on your family as you face the loss of your loved one. Jean Rhoads*

Jean Rhoads - January 16, 2017 at 06:54 PM

“ So deeply sad to hear of Chris's passing. Always loved his great sense of humor, and his love for little Pee Wee. I met Chris maybe 30 years ago when he worked in the photofinishing business. He'd come to several parties at my house, and met my original "Dalmatian gang." Was so nice to reconnect years later when we both ended up at Habitat -- and he always remembered my dogs.

I remember sharing a lot of laughs one evening as our friend Roxanne and I helped Chris move from an apartment he was living in downtown.

Until these past few years, we tried to get together at least once a year for dinner -- I remember helping Chris celebrate his New Year's Eve birthday one year at Casa's on Fairfield, another year at Smokey Bones (a photo I will share) -- with lots of silliness and laughter that day I recall.

The last dinner I recall that Rox, Chris and I shared was at Acme's Grill, shortly after he got Pee Wee. We got to meet Mr. Pee Wee that night, and it was obvious how much Chris loved him.

So sorry that I lost touch with Chris over the last few years. He was such a talented photographer, a sweet and funny friend I am grateful to have known.

My prayers go out to Chris's family for comfort and peace in the days ahead.

*Chris Knight
Fort Wayne*





“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Christopher Alan Stong.*



January 16, 2017 at 08:00 AM



“ *Meg Padgett lit a candle in memory of Christopher Alan Stong*



Meg Padgett - January 15, 2017 at 07:22 PM



“ *Sherry (Rosen) Beavans lit a candle in memory of Christopher Alan Stong*



Sherry (Rosen) Beavans - January 15, 2017 at 04:09 PM



“ *Jo and Brier, my thoughts are with you and all of the Stong family at this time of grief. What a beautiful tribute to Chris you created in his memory.*

Jen - January 15, 2017 at 02:30 PM

RC

“ Chris will be sorely missed. I enjoyed the times we had as kids. Prayers to the family at this time of mourning.



Ron Clabaugh - January 15, 2017 at 01:51 PM



“ Terry Hahn lit a candle in memory of Christopher Alan Stong



Terry Hahn - January 15, 2017 at 01:13 PM

DH

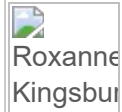
Condolences for Christopher Alan Strong

Debra Hahn - January 15, 2017 at 02:57 PM

H1

Sorry for your loss. Prayers to his family and friends.

HNHS Class of 1976 - January 16, 2017 at 08:44 AM



My heart is breaking with the loss of Chris. He was the first volunteer I met when I started my job at Habitat and we had so many good times laughing.....sometimes to keep from crying! Loved his quiet demeanor and the mischief in his eyes.

I remember meeting Pee Wee and seeing the sparkle in Chris' eyes because of that sweet little dog.

I remember helping him move to one of his apartments and the laughs we had commenting on all of his worldly goods!

Tried to reach Chris via Facebook and email over the last few years and kept hoping that he would pop up one day. I just thought about him again on his birthday.

My heart goes out to Chris' family and my prayers will be with you all in the days ahead. I will think of Chris each year to come on his birthday and say a prayer of thanks for having known him.

*Roxanne Kingsbury
Fort Wayne*

Roxanne Kingsbury - January 17, 2017 at 10:23 AM