

## Our Decembers.....

During some of the ordinary nights in December, Coach Pappas and I would bundle up, in layers of winter gear, and head out to Riverside Park. Riverside is a quaint, tree lined park, in hometown Libertyville. This beautiful park was one of Steve's very favorite, quiet spots. Often in December, Coach would look over Riverside's landscape and scout out the absolute perfect location, to best take in the evening sky and stars.

I have come to understand the wisdom of those December journeys which Steve affectionately called "our road trips". Those December road trips were his hand carved moments that gave us time with each other and occasions to share our affection for the universe. Coach Pappas thrived on anticipation, surprise, adventure, story, building dreams and energizing hope -- the things that take us beyond the ordinary and guide us to the extraordinary.

Today, December 16, 2008, is Coach Pappas' 57<sup>th</sup> Birthday. I am reminded of his words to TEAM PAPPAS and friends: "I look out and I see love and the love keeps coming." Both you and Steve had an extraordinary relationship. Especially today, may there be a story remembered, a dream recalled, a hope refreshed, a recollection of a smile shared.

You are a unique and special band of brothers and sisters. Your good hearts and your generous life givings continue to make important differences in the lives of others.

May this December and the year ahead be filled with simple delight. A journey Coach Pappas would wish for you -- is to take that road trip -- to the masterpiece of an evening's sky and the warmth that comes from the brilliance of its stars.

"TEAMMATES FOREVER"

Cathie Pappas

### TEAM PAPPAS

Inspired by the values and vision of Coach Steve Pappas, TEAM PAPPAS encourages awareness and education on the importance of growing the National Bone Marrow Registry.

TEAM PAPPAS rallies around the hope that bone marrow transplants can bring to those critically ill.

TEAM PAPPAS provides leadership, organization and volunteers to bone marrow donor drive campaigns.

In conjunction with Northwestern Memorial Hospital, the National Bone Marrow Registry and the AHEPA Bone Marrow Registry.

TEAM PAPPAS supports those whose lives are touched by lymphoma.

TEAM PAPPAS TEAMMATES gather in fellowship each year.

"Through our brotherhood and sisterhood, we can ... and we will ... win this one!"

Coach Steve Pappas

Please visit [www.stevepappasbasketball.com](http://www.stevepappasbasketball.com) for more information.