



David Lee Sofranko

August 29, 1968 - June 7, 2021

David Lee Sofranko, age 52, of Columbus, passed away suddenly after a brief illness on Monday, June 7th, 2021 at the Dublin Methodist Hospital in Dublin, Ohio. He was the son of the late Edward Sofranko.

David was born at Ramstein Air Base in Germany on August 29, 1968. He was a 1986 graduate of Gallia Academy High School. He graduated summa cum laude from the University of Rio Grande in 1990 and went on to receive his Masters in Journalism from the University of Cincinnati. After spending several years abroad, he returned to Columbus, Ohio. He had been employed for many years at the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) where he was a Web Designer and Webmaster for their Intranet.

David is survived by his mother; Jane (Richard) Miller of Gallipolis; loving father to daughter, Jade and son, Romer, of Columbus, OH; Sister; Jean Anne (Dovel) Myers of Gallipolis; Nephew, Dovel T Myers, III; Niece, Elizabeth Myers; and his gal, Lex Schuld, of Columbus, OH.

There will be no funeral services at this time and a Memorial is being planned to celebrate David's life.

Please send memorial gifts to your favorite charity in David's name. He was an organ and tissue donor and in his final act of kindness was being able to give the gift of life through organ and tissue donation.

Tribute Wall



“ *David Lee Sofranko*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *I'm without words to express my shock at learning David died. We worked together at OPERS for 12 years and stayed in touch after I retired. He was my go-to guy for all things IT and worked on a major project with me in recent years. My heart-felt condolences go out to his family.*

Rich Baker

Rich Baker - July 15, 2021 at 04:19 PM

JS

“ I met Dave in one of the early days of 7th grade, an introduction brought on by the fact that we shared more than a few classes where we all had to sit in alphabetical order. I recall swapping comic books with him at some point, both of us seeming to appreciate finding another lost soul who still read them - at a time in life when it was becoming less “cool” to be carrying coming books around. I can’t claim we were best friends, maybe not even really close friends. We always got along great, but we simply didn’t hang out much outside of class. I’m not sure why. Growing up can be strange in ways - to use a metaphor from the Morrison song Chris quoted; seems like we end up on rafts in the middle of the ocean, and often it’s hard to determine how and why we end up sharing rafts with certain people, as opposed to being on other rafts. I often wish I was on a bigger raft, or had possessed more ability to control what raft I was on. I always thought Dave was cool, and always regretted not hanging with him more. I don’t have any idea how long it has been since I last saw him, but I had’t forgot about him after all these years. I recall he and I talking a lot about Dungeons and Dragons, shortly after Wyatt Martin posted a sign in shop class warning kids of the dangers of playing the game. After we realized we were mutual sinners on the highway to hell, we started taking story a lot more. We made plans to get together and play on more than one occasion, and to listen to music. Unfortunately, that never happened. Now I really regret we didn’t it pull it off. We even talked about it once while sitting close to one another during a Def Leppard concert. Based on what folks have shared about him - particular Chris - it’s I clear Dave and I shared more interests than roll playing games, Def Leppard and comic books. It’s obvious to me now that I should have went out of my way to get to know him more. Truly hope he rests in peace.

john strait - June 19, 2021 at 03:52 PM

SM

“ David , Rod and Mark were like my other brothers . They would sit at the kitchen table for hours and play Dungeon and Dragons . Play music and that is where I learned about The Who , Bob Dylan , Rush and so many other great artist . I met his family through the years and I adore them . I am so sorry for your loss . I will always remember the good times they had at the house . He will be missed . And to my brother Chris , that was a wonderfully written memory, I think Dave would be proud of it . Love and Prayers to all . Shelbie

Shelbie Myers - June 19, 2021 at 11:41 AM

RN

“ I am by no way in the league of well-red wordsmiths as my buddy DAV, but they say a picture is worth a thousand words. So here is some photos of my friend from a time long ago. I wish I had more.

Farewell David. You will be missed

Rod & Heather



Rod Nibert - June 19, 2021 at 09:10 AM

“ I met Dave at the end of 7th grade. I thought his last name was weird. We became best friends anyway. We had the kind of friendship that made onlookers call us twins or say things like "When are you two getting married?" out of jealousy. We had our own inside jokes to the point we spoke a secret language. We could finish each other's sentences and we knew when to play along when one of us was bullshitting someone (Hi Jane). Best of all we could crack each other up continuously.

We had a horde of friends (Hi Mark). We did crazy-silly-fun things growing up. Way before a certain sound emerged in Seattle there was a trio consisting of a Kurt, a Chris and a Dave called DMSO. I can still draw the logo (Hi Kurt). I'd give anything for the cassettes we recorded back then. Anytime someone says "i .e." in a talk I immediately add "The Bubblegum Incident" (Hi Karen) from one of our songs. Dave always knew the cool bands first...

We eventually moved to higher education. starting at Rio Grande. I was always jealous of Dave's writing ability. He was just so good at it and I couldn't come close. Eventually we scattered to the larger cities in Ohio, but we would drive to see each other nearly every weekend. The only question was Athens, Columbus or Cincinnati? Oh, occasionally Nelsonville too (Hi Rod). True mi casa-su casa.

It was in Cinici that Dave got the chance to interview Sheriff Simon Leis Jr., who was a big part in shutting down the Robert Mapplethorpe exhibit. Dave got the one and only interview with him by cold-calling his office and saying his name was Chris Myers. He'd learned this trick from ordering pizzas at his place in Cinci (Hey Cuz). They would put him on hold after becoming frustrated trying to spell his last name. I didn't mind, we were twins anyway.

That article and his follow up piece regarding the Focus on the Family group were amongst the most popular articles City Beat had published, the latter generating the most reader response ever at the time. That's how good Dave was at writing.

He was a good friend too. It's hard to believe he's not still there in Columbus waiting to order some food under my name or remind me of some forgotten fun time that would make me laugh all over again. Being social came easy to Dave, (another thing that made me jealous) and I could say hi to lots more people that Dave was friends with, and I'm sure there are many more I never got the chance to meet. I'm certain they all miss him as terribly as I do. I can only hope that for once my writing came close to his.

My heart goes out to his immediate family who I got to know so well back when we met. It always felt like we were one big extended family in Gallipolis, which was a real treasure. I'll speak for my side by saying we're all deeply saddened by David's passing. It's a terrible loss for all of us.

And to those I did meet through David, I'm hurting with you. We've all lost someone very special and unique.

*"I love the friends I have gathered together on this thin raft
We have constructed pyramids in honor of our escaping"
--Jim Morrison*

I see those pyramids every day Dave, I hope you did too.

Chris Myers - June 18, 2021 at 01:42 AM

JA

“*I'm so sorry for your loss, it was so shocking to hear the news. I worked with Dave at OPERS and he was always nice to be around. He helped me get our kids set up with Minecraft servers and gave good advice on other games as well. Dave will be missed by many!*

John Alexander

John Alexander - June 16, 2021 at 10:34 AM

HD

I am so sorry for your loss! I worked with Dave at OPERS. We shared a cube wall and he taught me about SharePoint. He was witty, smart and a pleasure to be around. He loved his family so much. Sending love and hugs to all.

Heather Drago

Heather Drago - June 17, 2021 at 11:26 AM

MG

The last time I hung out with him was about 10 days before he passed. He looked terrible. His eyes were yellow, his hair was unwashed and he had this potbelly I had never seen before. As soon as I saw him, I walked up to him and poked that round protrusion. It was rock hard.

But that being said, Dave seemed happy. Super happy. Quarantine was over. He was at a Crew game. He was hanging with friends. He was hanging with family. He was enjoying a pre game beer and passing the ball around. And the Crew won! It was a wonderful time and I feel so fortunate to have spent it with him and his family. It was not supposed to be the last time - it was supposed to be the start.

I sure am going to miss him.

Marty

MG - June 22, 2021 at 02:28 PM