



Mr. Stanley E. Collins

September 14, 1931 - July 24, 2015

Stanley E. "Stan" Collins passed away on July 24, 2015 at his home in Asheville, NC after a short illness. Stan was founder and owner of Once Upon a Time Book and Toy store in Biltmore Village for the last 22 years.

Stan was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on September 14, 1931 but spent most of his young life a couple of blocks from Wrigley Field in Chicago. He was the only child of Cosy Collins and Beth Seidel Collins.

Stan received a Bachelors in Business with a minor in Communications from DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. His first job out of school was at Illinois Bell in Chicago, then he was on to a marketing position with Manpower in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and finally to Toledo, Ohio where he served as Director of Communications for Owens -Corning Fiberglas Corporation. Stan received many awards and accolades throughout his corporate career and was regularly named by the national business press as one of the top public relations executives in the country.

While his marketing and public relations career brought much recognition, it has been his second career as retailer with Once Upon a Time that was the joy of his life. Stan loved working in the toy and book business and was passionate about the place Biltmore Village has played in Asheville's history. He served as president of the Biltmore Village Merchants Association and on the City of Asheville Historic Resources Commission.

Stan is survived by his wife of 33 years, Mary, and his children, Linda of San Francisco, CA; Cathy Fitzpatrick and her husband "Fitz" of Tupelo, MS; Bill

and his wife Sara of Minneapolis, MN and Zachary of Asheville, NC. Stan also has four grandchildren, Haley, Andrew, Harrison and Parker. He is further survived by many nieces and nephews, brothers and sisters-in-laws and many friends. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Meagan.

In the volunteer world, Stan was President of the Boards of Trustees for the Red Cross of Greater Toledo, the Ability Center of Toledo and the St. Vincent's Hospital Foundation. He was also one of the co-founders of the Toledo Press Club and President of the Toledo Republican Party. He was an amateur gourmet cook and won first place in the Toledo Blade Recipe contest for his chicken pasticcio.

Stan loved life and new challenges. He faced each day with a positive attitude and belief that there is no mountain too high to climb in life if you just set your mind to it.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Eugene's Catholic Church, 72 Culvern Street, Asheville at 11 AM on Wednesday, July 29 with Father Pat Cahill officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Stan's name to The Asheville Humane Society, 14 Forever Friend Lane, Asheville, NC 28806 or the CarePartners Foundation, PO Box 25338, Asheville, NC 28816.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

JUL **29**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Eugene Catholic Church
72 Culvern Street
Asheville, NC 28801
<http://www.steugene.org>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Stanley E. Collins*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *Dear Mary, once again our hearts are breaking for you. We are so sorry for your loss. We believe that Stan is now in heaven with his beautiful daughter Meagan. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Susan and Tim Malone*

Susan and Tim Malone - July 29, 2015 at 06:07 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Mr. Stanley E. Collins.*



July 28, 2015 at 01:56 PM



“ *Our thoughts are with you as you remember Stan and reflect on his life. He will be missed. I can still see my girls browsing the aisles of your shop, leafing through books, creating wish lists, and simply imagining. Stan brought so much joy to so many. He's fortunate to have had such a wonderful family at his side.*

Becky & Harold Gross

Becky Gross - July 28, 2015 at 08:05 AM

AR

“ Our hearts go out to you with the loss of Stan.
Anne, Mike, Daniel and Maddie Roman

Anne Roman - July 27, 2015 at 05:41 PM

MA

“ Although I did not know know Stan Collins personally, Megean was a treasured part of my life. My heartfelt condolences to the family for the loss of your husband and father.

Mary Ann - July 26, 2015 at 12:28 PM


Rebecca
Spencer

“ Linda, Cathy, Bill, Zack and Mary,

Our love and prayers are with you. Light and love to you all.

Love,

Rebecca Erwin and Dan Spencer

Rebecca Spencer - July 26, 2015 at 11:01 AM

KR

“ Kathleen A Ryan purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Stanley E. Collins.



Kathleen A Ryan - July 26, 2015 at 10:19 AM

KR

“ *Mary and Zack: I was so sad to hear about Stan's death. He was a remarkable man. I feel so fortunate to have known him. He helped my real estate career in Westmoreland.*

My thought and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Love,

Kathleen Ryan

Toledo, Ohio

Kathleen Ryan - July 26, 2015 at 09:34 AM

JF

“ *Mary and Zack....Was so sad to read about Stan's passing. He was a special light in our community and the many things he did for Asheville and particularly honoring our historic resources will never be forgotten. Sending lots of love,*

Julie (Cogburn) Fields

Julie Fields - July 26, 2015 at 08:52 AM

LC

“ *Mary and Zack, I am soo sorry for your loss. Many prayers, thoughts and hugs sent your way. I have so many fond memories of Stan and the wonderful times I was able to share with you in your home. So much fun, food and camaraderie. Love you!*

Laurie

Laurie Cammarata - July 25, 2015 at 02:00 PM

AO

“ *Mary and Zac and family, I am praying for your comfort and thinking of you. Much Love, Ashley Oliver*

Ashley Oliver - July 25, 2015 at 01:45 PM