



## Steven W. Little, "Lil Steve"

July 13, 1958 - April 17, 2025

Steven W. Little "Lil Steve" was born July 13th, 1958. An East Side Aurora boy born & bred lost his fight with cancer after 2 years on April 17th, 2025. He attended St. Nicholas school, then Simons Jr. High & East Aurora High.

He began working at Rainbow Bakery as a dough mixer right after high school for 20 years & then started as a welder for Caterpillar graduating to axle assembly for 18 years until his forced retirement in 2018. Finally marrying the love of his life, Laurie Dunn, after dating for almost 15 years in 2020 and lived very happily ever after.

He was an avid mountain/trail biker that didn't consider it a "real" ride if you didn't go 20 miles. He rode the Meltdown in Palos Hills 7 times and was very disappointed when the race was cancelled due to Covid, He was never able to ride it again. He loved meeting up with his brother to watch trains, and was an "N" scale modeler of the CB&Q railroad. Steve loved everything train related. He saved all his quarters to buy train engines & other rail cars. In 2012, it was a dream come true to ride the original Nebraska Zephyr out of Chicago Union Station to MO and back. Steve was a member of the Burlington Route Historical Society. He loved going to the Spring & Fall meetings & swap meets to meet up with other train enthusiasts. In recent years, he totally enjoyed Blues Jam night at the Aurora Athletic Club for the summer. He had an encyclopedic knowledge of Rock & Roll and Blues music, he loved anything

Alligator Records.

He is survived by his wife Laurie, mother Elaine, brother Rick (Tracie) & sisters Connie Smith (Marty), Sue Laden (Scott), two aunts; Beth Little of Aurora & Karen Stewart of Arizona, three children; Jenny Salazar (Adrian), Kenny Bauer & Eric Bauer (Sabrina), eight grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father William (Bill), Uncles Bob, Gary & George Little, Bob, Edward, Richard & Jerry Watgen, his cousin Dennis Watgen, and nephew Joshua Laden.

The family would like to express their gratitude to all the workers at the Advocate Aurora Infusion and Radiation Centers, as well as the Lighthouse Hospice.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday April 29th 2025 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM at THE DALEIDEN MORTUARY, 220 North Lake Street Aurora, IL 60506, 630-631-5500. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to WDCB Jazz radio 90.9 out of College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, [wdcb.org](http://wdcb.org) & Illinois Railroad Museum in Union, Illinois, [irm.org](http://irm.org).

Please visit our interactive website at [www.daleidenmortuary.com](http://www.daleidenmortuary.com) to leave condolences for Steve's family or sign the guest book.

# Cemetery Details

## Lincoln Memorial Park

675 Route 30  
Aurora, IL 60503

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

APR **29**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Daleiden Mortuary  
220 N. Lake Street  
Aurora, IL 60506  
(630) 631-5500  
daleidenmortuary@gmail.com  
<https://www.daleidenmortuary.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Daleiden Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Steven W. Little, "Lil Steve"



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**Daleiden Mortuary** - April 21, 2025 at 03:59 PM

NW

“ Our sympathies go out to Aunt Elaine & family. We didn't know Steve as well as we would of liked to, but he was always very sweet & kind to us. I did not know he liked trains so much. That was nice to hear especially since our Grandpa Ed liked them as well. I hope Steve is in Heaven now being chatty with his dad, my dad, & Grandpa Ed all about trains! Love & Prayers-Natalie Watgen & Laura Gostisa (Mickey Watgen's Daughters)

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**Natalie Watgen** - May 01, 2025 at 12:43 PM

NW

“ Natalie W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Steven W. Little, "Lil Steve".

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**Natalie W.** - May 01, 2025 at 12:38 PM

RK

“ This “Sis” & her sidekick Steve will miss ya, Steve. You will be fondly remembered as a Chevy Fan but most importantly....you will always be “The Train Guy” to us ❤️

Ruth Kramp - April 29, 2025 at 01:55 PM

VF

“ Prayers R with all the Little family today at this difficult Time,we all Grew up together have so many found memories of Steve from our childhood since we were 5 and Jesse my husband and him past 45 years have so many memories bike riding, camping and so much more..he already misses his calls.Brothers Love u all..Jesse & Vanessa Fonseca

Vanessa Fonseca - April 29, 2025 at 01:14 PM

AF

“ Aunt Karen and family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Steven W. Little, "Lil Steve".



Aunt Karen and family - April 26, 2025 at 04:30 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Steven W. Little, "Lil Steve".

April 22, 2025 at 10:37 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Steven W. Little, "Lil Steve".*



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April 22, 2025 at 10:37 AM



“ *Many fond memories with Steve having known his family for better then 50 yrs growing up in the same neighborhood. A prayer that the lord grant the family peace during this time of their grief. Rest in peace Steve.*

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**Marty Decker** - April 21, 2025 at 09:56 PM



“ *I have so many memories from growing up next door to Steve -- kickball in the streets, playing in the back yard, and even Steve locking Connie and me in the playhouse! Wishing you all peace as you say goodbye to him.*

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**beth triplett** - April 21, 2025 at 05:14 PM



“ 47 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Daleiden Mortuary** - April 21, 2025 at 03:47 PM

SW

“ *I met Steve through his wife Janie. It was always a good time at family parties with Steve and Janie. He will be missed. R.I.P Steve and praying for his family during this difficult time.*

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**Stephanie Wegner** - April 21, 2025 at 03:19 PM

LC

“ *In this sorrowful time, we would like to extend to you our heartfelt condolences. We are honored that we could provide care and companionship to Steve and your family on his final journey. May our Lord comfort you and your loved ones.*



*Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.*

*Love, your family at Lighthouse Hospice Care*

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**Lighthouse Hospice Care** - April 21, 2025 at 01:05 PM

TL

“ Steve, you were the BEST brother-in-law! I bet you're riding your bike up in heaven right now!! Love you, and I will see you again one day..... Tracie Little

Tracie Little - April 20, 2025 at 11:40 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Steven W. Little, "Lil Steve".



April 19, 2025 at 09:51 AM

TR

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. We're praying for comfort and peace for Steve's family. You all are like family to us. Sending love to you all.

The Roops

Terri Roop - April 19, 2025 at 08:49 AM