



Steve Charles Popovich

July 6, 1942 - June 8, 2011

Steve Charles Popovich, 68, of Murfreesboro, Tn, passed away June 8, 2011, at his residence.

He was born July 6, 1942 in Nemaocolin, Pa.

He was a resident of Murfreesboro, Tn., and past resident of Eastlake, Willowick, Willoughby and Willoughby Hills.

Mr. Popovich received many awards including Two-time National Promotion Man of the Year 1972-1973 Billboard Magazine, 1st Time Clive Davis Award of Promotion Excellence, Six Grammy nominations winner of 2 for label and/or co-producer, and First Polka Grammy Award Winner with Frank Yankovic.

In 1962 he began working in the warehouse at Columbia Records in Cleveland in inventory control, sales and promotion until 1969 where he became an assistant to the Director of Promotion Ron Alexenburg.

In 1972-1974 he became the youngest VP of CBS and First VP of promotions at Columbia Records and then from 1974-1976 he was the VP of A&R Records. In 1977 he founded and became president of Cleveland International Records which is most famous for Meat Loaf's Bat Out of Hell

which has sold over 40 million copies worldwide. He was instrumental in the success of many including; Boston, The Byrds, The Jackson 5, Ricky Nelson, Johnny Cash, Frank Yankovic, Bruce Springsteen, Bob Dylan, Simon & Garfunkel, Santana and many more.

He was also known at helping and fighting for the underdog musicians and artists.

He was always a Clevelander at heart and internationally promoted Cleveland and its people with his many connections including "Cleveland Rocks". Steve was a loving, generous and caring man. He was known for his larger than life personality and always put other people first. He was very family orientated and everyone was family to him.

"He could walk into a room and make you feel tired." Ian Hunter

Survivors are his daughter; Pamela Marie Popovich; son Steve Brittany Popovich, Jr.; two grandsons, Stephen and Tanner Popovich; sister Barbara Dominic Lemmo; nieces Dawn Mark Bottger, Dina Scott Simpson, Danielle Erik Petkovic; nephew Dominic Jessica Lemmo, Jr.

He was preceded in death by his parents Steve and Zora Razum Popovich.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m., Monday, June 13, 2011 at Saint John of The Cross, 140 Richmond Road, Euclid.

Friends may call from 1 to 4 and from 5 to 8 Sunday at Monreal Funeral Home, 35400 Curtis Blvd., Eastlake. Burial will be in Western Reserve Memorial Gardens in Chester Township.

Contributions can be made to Stephen C. Popovich Memorial Fund, c/o US Bank, 2504 Old Fort Pkwy, Murfreesboro, Tn. 37128.

Tribute Wall

TB

“ *truly a giant in the music industry!*

imagine what the industry would have been like without him!!

tom baker - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ *There are not enough words to describe the good feelings I have for Steve. He fed me when I was broke, listened when I talked about any band that I was promoting, included me in things, met his cool son through him, and provided a work site for students w/ disabilities to shrink wrap CDs. If I could describe him in one word it would be: Integrity. My heart goes out to his family. Giselle*

Giselle Fleming - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RI

“ *Steve,
We go back to before day 1.
Always shared your joy in seeing your passions come to fruition.
Others may have claimed the title, but you, above most, were a REAL record man. You were always a gentleman and a friend.
We may move on, but we will not forget.*

Ron lafornaro - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ *I was only an acquaintance, but Steve could make anybody feel like a friend. There is no one I've ever met in any business that commanded more respect and admiration. David vs. Goliath... and real affection for artists of any/all genres. Goodbye.*

Gary Cappy - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *To Steve's Family,*

My deepest condolences to each of you. We lost a truly great and honorable man. I will think of him always. May he rest in peace.

Richard Signorelli

Richard Signorelli - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *Steve, You have been a monument to the idea that hard work, honesty and a heck of a lot of enthusiasm, can make just about anything happen. Thanks for being one of my special big brothers.*
Joey G.

Joe Giacomini - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *Steve's untimely passing is truly a sad event for all who got to know and were lucky enough to work with him.*
Our prayers go out to Steve's family during this sorrow filled time.
God Bless

Jack Grochmal - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ *To Steve's family - our most sincere condolences on the loss of your dad. We didn't know him for long, but we're glad we knew him.*
Sincerely, Kate and Rich Robins

Kate Robins - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ You were like a big brother to me and you gave the best hugs. Get those angels rockin and rollin!

Karen Clemens

Karen Clemens - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ I'll always remember all the good times at CTHS. Greene County will remember you. RIP old friend.

Annette Johnson - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Popovich family. I had known Steve for over 30 years. He always was, and always will be very special to me. I have many wonderful memories of working for Steve, and I will never forget him.

Sheila Sackawitch-Cain - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ The best word I can think of to describe Steve is FRIEND. Goodbye.

Ray and Diane Miller - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ RIP,Poppy,,
we never do lose those Nemaocolin ties,do we?

Sandy Weido Smith - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Mamaluchi never had it so good. RIP my friend...

Randy Brown...drummer - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ Steve “discovered” The Boyzz, believed in us, & gave us our chance!
He took a true interest in us & our music & was always very easy to work with. Steve really encouraged us! He was a bigger than life character & I’m grateful for having met him. Thanks Steve you will be missed!

David Angel - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ My condolences to the entire family. Rest well my friend.

Anthony Calabrese - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Uncle Steve, my life has been better because you were in it. I have memories with you through every facet of my life. You gave me love, and comfort, and another brother. You will be missed every day. Rest well, Uncle Steve. I love you.

Katie Miskulin - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Rest in peace Steve... my classmate, teammate, and friend. Chuck

chuck stewart - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ I fondly remember Steve from my time in the music industry. He was at Polygram and I was at the NEA. He had a larger than life personality that lite up any room he entered. He will be missed.

Diane Rankin - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM