Steve grew up an ordinary person who went on to do extraordinary things with his life. He was a teacher, friend, husband, son, mentor, advisor, motivator, confidant, and lifelong learner. Steve lived his life by one of his favorite quotes, “Be the change you wish to see in the world.” - Ghandi. He was a motivated doer whose favorite line was, “Tenacious engagement.”

Steve was raised in Wisconsin and grew up learning to love the outdoors. This passion inspired him to major in biology, with minors in ecology, botany, environmental science, and outdoor education.

He did not happen upon education in the usual way. He had various life experiences which all lead him to his career as an educator. Steve was passionate about learning and shared his enthusiasm for not only his content areas, but also life, through lessons that extended far beyond the reaches of a classroom. He led by example, setting high expectations for himself and those around him. He motivated his students to be better people and to pursue their dreams. Steve was energetic, yet maintained a quiet, humble, and compassionate existence.

Steve lived with great integrity in both his personal and professional life. He motivated all who knew him to live simply, love deeply, laugh often, learn forever, and to explore with gusto.

Steve’s life is proof that in order to have great impact in life, one need not be famous, nor make great sums of money. One must follow his/her calling, stay true to him/herself, hold and maintain a set of core beliefs and success will follow.

Fund Established: November 2005