



## Steven Michael Partch

August 3, 1952 - July 17, 2024

It's with profound sadness that my little brother Steven Michael slipped silently away to join our parents and little brother Mike. I can't begin to tell you how much, I and we, loved him and as well how proud we are/were of him. He was born on August 3rd, 1952 in Colfax, WA. The third son of Ambrose and Jenny Partch along with older brothers Skip (Dave) and Greg and little brother Mike who passed in 2021. Our father was a decorated war veteran of WW2 serving in the US Navy for 31 years and a survivor of the sinking of the USS Peary in Darwin, Australia in 1942. Steve followed in his footsteps enlisting in the Navy Submarine Service in 1980 and retiring 22 years later at a rank of Chief and a rating of Chief torpedo man.

Just like his dad except he chose to retire rather than accept a commission as an officer. He wanted to always be with his "sailors" and be part of them. He was first and always a Chief of his men. The one who got things done. The one his men looked up to and trusted. He met his wife Margaret, sister of a shipmate, in Hawaii and they were married in 1982. After retiring from the Navy they moved to her family's farm/ranch in Atascosa, Texas south of San Antonio where they raised cattle. They were together there for 42 years and raised two strong healthy boys, Patrick (m. Ally) and Paul (m. Ginger) and their three delightful granddaughters, Arabella, Gwendolyn and Persephone.

He loved his animals and the wide-open spaces. Having been a submariner

for most of his adult working life he often commented about how he never wanted to be enclosed in anything again in his life...or death. "Cremate me and spread my ashes on the grounds I love. Never put me in a container and in the ground". Thus his final wish. His ashes will be spread upon their land in Texas and amongst the rolling wheat fields of the Palouse. A stone will be placed in his memory in The Garfield Cemetery in the shadows of nearby Steptoe Butte. Condolences may be sent to his wife at Margaret at [purvispatchfarms@gmail.com](mailto:purvispatchfarms@gmail.com) and / or [gregpartchsr@gmail.com](mailto:gregpartchsr@gmail.com). As his passing sinks in Margaret shared " I keep expecting him in any time. He's just outside tending to the animals....and just hasn't come in yet ". There's always one more little thing to do. He loved working. It's the Partch ethic our dad instilled in us. It's who we are. Sons of Ambrose and Jerry Partch

Most sincerely,  
Greg Partch Sr.

If you wish to make a memorial in his name please send it to:  
Merry Glen Family Home  
2917 N. Cincinnati St  
Spokane, WA. 99207

Steve would sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness for those who cared for his little brother Mike for over 50 years.

# Tribute Wall



“ Dear Margaret, family and friends of Steve,  
On behalf of the United States Submarine Veterans, we offer our sincere condolences at Steve’s passing. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. We are always saddened whenever a fellow "Bubblehead" departs on Eternal Patrol. He served with honor for 22 years in the U.S. Submarine Force, was a Chief Torpedoman, TMC(SS), when he retired from the Navy. To our "Brother-of-the-Phin" we say, "Sailor, rest your oar. We have the watch. Fair Winds and Following Seas." Thank you for your service to our country.  
Margaret and family... "may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you." 2 Thessalonians 3:16 (ESV).  
Jim Sandman, FTC(SS) Ret,  
National Chaplain, USSVI.  
[www.jimsandman.com](http://www.jimsandman.com)

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**Jim Sandman** - August 10, 2024 at 05:35 PM