

In Memory of Stanley Crowe May 5 1935 – April 2, 1995



Stanley Crowe was born May 5, 1935 in Waltham. Stan was an Eagle Scout and loved the outdoors. He especially loved camping. As a teenager he would camp at Prospect Hill in Waltham, wrapped in a Raccoon Coat (he had no camping gear). He loved to cook on campfires - specialties included stews and potatoes. He graduated from Saint Charles High School, Waltham, MA in 1953.

Stan joined the National Guard from High School where he became a Staff Sergeant. He met his wife, Evelyn, in 1955 and married in 1958. They lived in Newton. Stan and Evelyn had two children, Cathy and Allan, and six grandchildren whom he enjoyed. He was teaching his young grandchildren to play chess. He coached Pop Warner football for about 20 years and had winning teams most years.

Stan used to say that he was an average blue collar worker with simple needs and desires. He felt that anything that he wanted or needed was just what the average person wanted or needed, and as such he was always the first to put faith in other people. And, although we know what he meant by average, to us he was extraordinary.

Stan loved canoeing, golfing and growing his tomatoes, grapes and flowers. He loved all kinds of music, especially country and big bands. He taught himself to play guitar, trumpet, accordion and harmonica. But the trumpet was Stan's favorite instrument to play.

Stan was an avid reader and read what seemed like a book a night – it didn't matter what the subject. He especially liked science fiction and, of course, chess books. Stan loved to go to yard sales and buy books by the bag. Chess books were purchased new and used. It amazed his family that he was able to read books of chess moves the way other people read fiction. Stan collected stamps and had a large collection. For a while he indulged in photography. He was interested in many, many things.

But by far his favorite hobby was chess. It was always on his mind. He played chess every chance he got. He played a lot at lunch hour with coworkers. Stan would play chess in his den at night on the computer and also worked out chess moves from his books, and games he had played, on his board. He played competitively on weekends. Stan would talk about chess moves to anyone who would listen.

Chess was Stan Crowe's passion.

by Stan Crowe's family, November 8, 2003

Stan was the true salt of the earth, very unassuming and eager to engage and help all those around him. Some of my fondest memories of my early years at the Club are when he would take the time to carefully and gently teach me where I went wrong in our game where he "ripped my chess head off" :-)

by Harvey Reed, Club member, November 8, 2003