



## Brian Galligan

July 16, 1955 - May 31, 2021

It is with great sadness that I announce the unexpected death of Brian Galligan, my soulmate and husband of 38 years. Brian was stricken suddenly with cardiac arrest caused by Hypoplastic coronary artery disease, and died in our home the morning of May 31, 2021 in Redmond, Oregon.

Brian was born in Manhattan, New York on July 16, 1955, the third child of Joseph J. Galligan and Muriel R. Caldwell. The young family moved to Blauvelt, New York where he grew up with his two siblings and graduated from Tappan Zee High School in 1973. Like his brother (class of 1969) and sister (class of 1974), he attended Wagner College in Staten Island, New York and graduated in 1977 with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in History and a minor in Business Administration.

Seeking new job opportunities, Brian moved to Denver, Colorado in 1978. We met while working at Standard & Poor's in 1980 and found we had many things in common; the love of photography, music, skiing, camping and exploring the beautiful state of Colorado. He was so easy to talk to and made me laugh. We were married in a beautiful mountain Chapel in Golden, Colorado on October 9, 1982, surrounded by family and friends.

Brian began his career as a Statistician at Standard & Poor's in 1978 and had achieved the position of Assistant Manager by the time he left the company in

1985. He started at Automatic Data Processing in 1988 when we were living in Denver. Wanting a change in scenery, he took a position in Clackamas, Oregon in 1993. He held multiple positions during his career at ADP. In 2002, after a few stressful years for both of us, we decided a change was needed. We looked at each other and said "let's go on sabbatical."

We sold the house, bought a motorhome, put our belongings into storage and went for a nine-month road trip. Leaving the stress behind, we experienced great freedom and enjoyment visiting family and friends, riding bikes, hiking, learning to play golf, and just relaxing. I now look back on our 24/7 time together as a huge blessing in my life. When the trip ended, we found a home in Eugene, Oregon and Brian began working for ADP again, traveling and training. He was good at what he did and I was envious of his patience while training others. He stopped working in 2013 when we moved to Denver.

We moved to Bend, Oregon in 2017 after a few years of living in Denver, then moved to Redmond in 2020. He enjoyed his "retirement" in Central Oregon riding bikes, hiking, camping, walking the dog and cooking. When he wasn't on the go, he had a book, newspaper, or iPad in front of him doing his most favorite thing, reading and staying informed. Brian was an avid reader from a very young age. Before he was old enough to start school, his sister Barbara would come home from school and teach him what she had learned that day.

Brian really enjoyed sports, particularly baseball and basketball and his knowledge of "all things" made him an unbeatable trivia opponent. There are many things about Brian that made him so endearing, but I was always touched by how he was with his nieces and nephews. He never judged them and was always available, open and honest when they confided in him. Many of them have told me they could talk to their uncle about any-thing. I feel their loss as well as my own. I know some did not get to know him as well as others, but he loved them all very much.

Brian is preceded in death by his parents Joseph J. Galligan and Muriel R. Caldwell. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (Betsy) Galligan; brother, Stephen Galligan (Eagan, MN); sister, Barbara Whitsit (Waldoboro, ME); and 17 Nieces and 12 Nephews (including Grand and Great-Grand versions). He is also survived by a multitude of cousins and in-laws. Services provided by Redmond Memorial Chapel. There will be a private family service in Minnesota. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a contribution to a charity of your choice.

# Tribute Wall



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**Redmond Memorial Chapel** - July 12, 2023 at 02:27 PM



“ I just rewatched the video, I miss you. Love you so much Uncle Brian.

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**Callie Whitsit** - October 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

NA

“ Brian was my brother-in-law and I've known him for 40 years. This is hard to write a tribute as I know it won't convey how special he was to me and I know to so many. My heart aches for all of us who knew him and miss his absence, but my heart breaks for my sister. He was her life, and she was his. I remember sharing an apt. with Betsy when I was 21 in Denver and she brings this sarcastic guy home from a work Christmas party... he was so funny, kind and I could tell was very taken with my sister. I instantly liked him and I could tell right away he was the one for her. Over not much time he easily became a member of our family. Some of my fav. memories include playing trivial pursuit (he ALWAYS won), listening to his stories of his family, ancestors and life back in NY and attending family reunions with the May clan. He always had good tips for me when I needed advice on my investments. Such a smart man who all 3 of my children adored as their favorite Uncle (no offense to the other Uncles!). He was the one they had most time with and somehow was relatable to anyone who got to know him. Brian was just so darn easy to talk to. He was funny to watch around the house as he was like the energizer bunny... moving swiftly and efficiently, cleaning and taking care of stuff. He used to say he had only 2 switches, on and off. Once the work was done, he always knew how to relax and being a voracious reader, had his nose in a book a lot of the time and a nice cold beer next to him (before his allergies minimized having beer), or watching a baseball game. I remember when my grandmother was still alive, Brian would go to her house and mow her lawn. She was so excited to have him sit with her and share a beer after. She only wanted to share her beer with Brian or my brother; no one else would do. Brian, rest in peace and thank you for being a brother to me and such a wonderful husband for my sister. Your exit from us was swift but the memories of you will live on for each of us always.

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Nancy Alameda - August 04, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Brian and I became great buds during our time at ADP. I even got to have dinner with him and Betsy when I traveled to Colorado to visit family. The AE crew we had was awesome. I had hoped to be able to visit him this coming September when I'm in Bend for a work trip. What a great guy with a great sense of humor. I will miss that smile. Rest in paradise my friend. Betsy you are in my thoughts 😊

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**Becky Larson** - August 04, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Brian was my favorite uncle. He was one of the few I could talk to for hours on the phone. He also had the best stories. He had great advice. He was simply the best. I miss you so much, Uncle Brian. With love, Jackie

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**Jacqueline Galligan** - August 03, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I met and worked with Brian at ADP, he was a great fun loving guy who enjoyed life to the fullest. Over the years we had great times working on the road together as well as sharing social events with both Brian and Betsy. He will be greatly missed. Jeannie Stuth

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**Jeannie Stuth** - July 31, 2021 at 12:00 AM

CO

“ He was the best Uncle I could have asked for - the pictures and video are so heartwarming - he will be missed so deeply

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**Colleen** - July 28, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ To sum up a relationship of a life, words truly don't do it justice. I met Bets and Brian at Standard & Poor's when I started at McGraw-Hill in 1981. They'd been dating for a year or so. I heard stories of the Grange Christmas party - it was apparent to me they were meant to be from the beginning. Brian always had sunshine in his eyes, a smile on his face and a sarcastic or sexual joke on his tongue. If I needed cheering, I sought Brian. The pep in his spry, Irish frame always lit up a room. Many of the memories I have of Brian, I can't share on a public forum! From volleyball at parties where his spring made him a worthy opponent to camping, rafting, nights out at bars dancing our feet off, their wedding, Brian was a big part of my life and heart. I loved how he vacuumed the carpet at their condo in Aurora every single day! He was the rock and backbone when Scott May was struck down all too early in life. He loved Betsy fiercely with all his heart and treated her with reverence and respect. I admired them so when they took their sabbatical and RV'ed around the country. I was blessed to have been a stop on the tour. And the fact that Brian had a way of being completely truthful to anyone but in such a gentle and compassionate way was something I strive for. He had the best nicknames for people we worked with as well - comical and nailing the essence of each person - because he took the time to get to know them. It's funny how you think someone will always be there when you get the time to see them. We get all too busy with life. If there's a silver lining from his death it's to realize to live every day like it's your last like he did. You will be dearly missed my friend💜

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**Bridget Stoklosa** - July 24, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Brian - this tree will continue spreading its roots and leaves like your love and energy filled your friends and family's hearts!

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**Bridget Stoklosa** - July 24, 2021 at 12:00 AM

VP

“ I met Brian in 1988 when we first started at ADP. We soon become great friends and had a lot of great times together. This picture is from a company golf tournament sometime in the mid '90's. You can tell from our smiles that we were having a great time!

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**Vince Pettitt** - July 14, 2021 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ With deepest sympathy and love

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**Paul and Susan Gard** - July 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Brian Galligan

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**Betsy Galligan** - July 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Brian Galligan

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**Bend Funeral Homes** - July 09, 2021 at 12:00 AM