



John Stephen Counts Jr

January 31, 1968 - January 1, 2023

John Stephen Counts, Jr., 54, of Paisley, Florida, died by suicide on Sunday January 1. He was born January 31, 1968, to the late John Stephen Counts, Sr. and Challan Louise Harris. Although Steve battled addiction and mental illness, he found peace on the water. He was a master scuba driver and enjoyed time on his boat. When not on the water, Steve always looked for opportunities to be outdoors or in the woods. Steve owned and operated a flooring business and worked in construction. During part of his career, Steve worked for Disney Imagineering.

In addition to his mother, Steve is survived by his brother Charles (Chuck) Counts and wife, Paige; his sister Marie Rodriguez and husband, John; his nieces, Madison Counts and Olivia Anderson and husband, Greg; nephews, Charles Counts and wife, Sarah, Adolpho Rodriguez, and John Rodriguez; uncles Charlie Counts and wife, Sue, Wayne Counts and wife, Pam, and Rick Rodgers; his aunts Shelia Counts Arnold and Barbara Counts; numerous cousins: and his beloved dog, Rebel.

Graveside services will be held Tuesday, January 17, at 2 p.m. at Good Shepherd Memorial Gardens, 5050 SW 20th Street, Ocala, Florida. As a tribute to Steve, those attending the service are asked to "cowboy up" and wear their jeans and boots. Memorials can be made to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Central Florida at <https://supporting.afsp.org>.