



Steven Souligne

October 3, 1953 - December 14, 2008

Visitation for Steven R. Souligne, 55, of Bourbonnais, will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. Cremation rites will be accorded by the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Crematory. Memorials may be made to the family wishes. He died Sunday (Dec. 14, 2008) in the emergency room at Provena St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee. Mr. Souligne was employed at Securitas Inc. He was born Oct. 30, 1953, in Kankakee, the son of Lawrence "Nick" and June Ross Souligne. He was a graduate of Westview High School. He had been a volunteer coach for more than 40 years and a volunteer for many local organizations. Surviving are his parents of Bourbonnais; one sister and brother-in-law, Cheryl and Mark Alessandri of Bourbonnais; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Jeffrey and Janet Souligne, Thomas and Barb Souligne, all of Kankakee; and 12 nieces and nephews.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Album*



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - December 07, 2010 at 03:09 PM



“ May God's loving arms hold you in this sad loss. I pray your memories will bring smiles through the tears of farewell.

Steve was one of my students and I remember him as a caring, giving person who obviously continued in that manner throughout his life.##imported-begin##John & Mary (Otten) Thomson##imported-end##

December 15, 2008 at 03:16 PM



“ We are sorry for you loss. ĩ½Steve was a great man and wonderful coach. ĩ½The year he coached our son in little league for the allstars he learned so much. ĩ½Steve was very good with the kids. ĩ½God Bless.

Jim, Kathy, ryan and alexis keener##imported-begin##jim keener family##imported-end##

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“ To All of The Souligne Members:

Your Families Have are
Deepest Sympathy for the Loss of your Loved One.

Andrew & Mary Souligne & Family###imported-begin###Andy &
Mary Souligne###imported-end###

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“ My sincerest condolences and thoughts are with the entire Souligne
family. Steve dedicated his whole life to teaching young kids how to
play ball. I cannot imagine how many young kids he helped
throughout the years.

Steve will be missed by all who had
the privilege of knowing him or playing for one of his many, many,
many teams.

May God comfort the entire Souligne family
and give you all the strength you need. GOD Bless
Steve!###imported-begin###Larry McIntyre###imported-end###

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and genuinely cared. He continued to watch over us at our high school basketball games all the way till his last weekend on earth. He will always be remembered and never forgotten.##imported-begin##Tim, Dan ,Joe & John Gordon##imported-end##

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“ Steven gave so much of himself to helping the youth of Kankakee for so many years. ĩ½It is sad to lose such a dedicated fine gentleman at such a young age. ĩ½Best wishes and prayers to his family. ĩ½Sincerely, Chick##imported-begin##Chick Gianotti##imported-end##

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“ Our Deepest Sympathy go out to the entire Souligne Family, Steve was a good man with his volunteering in shaping the lives of many young boys involved with sports that Steve helped coach....there is a special place in heaven for COACH STEVE.

Jeff & Marge##imported-begin##Jeff & Marge Owen##imported-end##

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“ Wow - what a shocker! To the Souligne Family - I am thankful that I met Steve years ago while coaching against him and Joe Ostrowski in Little League/Pony baseball. Although there are many other individuals in Kankakee County that have given their lives to see that youth sports continue to grow and prosper in the Kankakee area, Steve ranked right up there at the top. He will be greatly missed. It was always fun to sit with him and listen to him discuss Kankakee youth sports trivia. We would love it when we caught him with a wrong answer - that smile and laugh of his! Unforgettable.

Please know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. I also pray that there is someone else that can continue his tradition and dedication to the youth programs in Kankakee County.

God Bless!###imported-begin###Bruce Barber###imported-end##

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“ For those of us who were fortunate enough to coach with and against Steve, the one thing we could always count on was that his teams would be prepared, they would compete to the last out, and you would know that if you won or lost that you'd been in a ballgame. ¶ Another thing you could always count on was that the smile you see on Steve's face in the picture running alongside his obituary was how he greeted you -- every time. ¶
¶
¶ Steve was the kindest man and the most wonderful coach. ¶ Sure he'd get after kids -- but he was also the first to pick a kid up or tell him he'd done a good job. ¶ Steve held his athletes accountable -- he pushed them and let them know when they'd let themselves or their team down. ¶ But those young men always knew they'd get another chance. ¶ We were fortunate enough to have our boys play on Steve's teams, since 2002. ¶ He was a blessing to the BB Little League and PONY League.
¶
¶
¶ Monday at BBCHS, over 30 young men were gathered together so that they would have each other's support when the news was broken of Steve's passing. ¶ The emotion on their faces spoke volumes to Steve's influence on their playing careers and their lives. ¶ The BBCHS administration was kind enough to allow them some time to just be together -- several stayed for over 30 minutes, comforting each other but also sharing their memories of Coach Souligne. ¶ Our biggest regret is that other young men in the Kankakee area will not feel that same impact on their lives. ¶ Rest in peace, Steve. ¶
¶
¶
¶ Doug, Kelli, Zach, and Nate Wadley.##imported-begin##Doug Wadley##imported-end##

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“ I came up through the BBL system on American Legion which, year in and year out, always battled Jaenicke's for the number one spot in the American League. I always knew of Coach Souligne as he sat across the field in the visitors' dugout but in 2003 I finally got the chance to play for him on the All-Star team. Then in 2004 he helped coach the BBA team that finished second in the state. He was a great man and a great coach. Many a time he came out to the mound to calm me down and give advice for the coming hitters. Later on I would have the chance to play for him in PONY League and he helped coach an All-Star team that was one game away from the PONY World Series. I have so many great memories from those two All-Star runs that involve Coach and I know many other guys do too.

He loved kids and he loved coaching. He will be missed.

Rest in peace Coach,

Zach Wadley

##imported-begin##Zach Wadley##imported-end##

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“ To the Souligne Family, You have My Deepest Sympathy. I saw Steve a couple of months ago. I think he was suprised I remembered him from school, after all its been 36 years ago. I know he will be missed by all who knew him.##imported-begin##Roberta Mosier Volpe##imported-end##

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“ MY DEEPEST SYMPATHIES ON THE LOSS OF STEVE.##imported-begin##JIM GOODRICH##imported-end##

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“ The greatest years of my baseball life were the 5 years of Bradley-Bourbonnais Little League that I played. I was on American Legion and every time we battled our rival, Jaenicke’s, Coach Souligne would be dispensing pitching signs left and right, but the greatest memories I have of Coach are the years of All-Stars that my brother played in Little League. Whenever another guy was needed to play the field during practice, Coach would turn to me as I watched from the bleachers and tell me to get my glove and head out to the field. I was 8 years old playing with 11 and 12 year olds, the best feeling in the world. He didn’t just use me to fill in?he treated me like one of the team and taught me the game. Coach Souligne also coached my team last summer in my first year of PONY League. I remember before every game he would pull me away from warm-ups just to do some simple catching drills. They definitely made me a better catcher and his willingness to help made me respect him as a coach, and as a person, even more. And I couldn’t be more proud to play on the last team he coached. He was a one-of-a-kind man, a very loving and caring coach, and I, as well as many other players, will always think of him when it comes to our National Pastime.

Rest in peace and God Bless you Coach,

Nate Wadley

###imported-begin###Nate Wadley###imported-end###

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“ My deepest sympathy to the the Souligne. i¿½May God be with in this time of need.###imported-begin###Felicia i¿½Blatnik Johnson###imported-end###

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“ I knew Steve while employed at Henkel. Joyful human being.###imported-begin###Billy D. Patton###imported-end###

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“ Steve was a good man, and he will always be remembered.##imported-begin##Ryan Clausing##imported-end##

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“ I was shocked when I learned of Steve's passing. I met Steve when he was an assistant coach with Alex at Kankakee at a BBCHS, Kankakee basketball game. What a great man!!! He always greeted me with a smile and a shake of the hand and then we talked sports. I had just seen him at the Boilers Tuesday night basketball game and waved at him. I would see him at the library from time to time and also talked with him there. It was an honor knowing Steve, he did a lot for the kids of this community with coaching, and teaching them how to play sports as well as teaching them how to become fine human beings. Steve will be missed, I was really blessed to have known him and I will take all the words of wisdom he gave me and cherish them. Thank you Steve!!! You will be forever missed!!!!##imported-begin##Jim Lacoss##imported-end##

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“ I wish I could go on and on how much Steve meant to us. We've been remembering all our road trips. To Nebraska; Michigan and Pennsylvania to the Little League World Series. And I know Joe and Steve went on many others. Steve went to any game he possibly could to support the kids he knew. We could sit for hours and analyze a game that was just lost. Steve always took the losses so personal. But the parks won't be the same this summer without him and neither will the Kankakee Holiday tournament next week. Steve was always there doing whatever was needed to be done. He will be greatly missed. He was like a brother to Joe.

Joe and Nancy Ostrowski
Nancy Ostrowski

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“ Steve worked with Coach Renchen and I for many years. He was always there to volunteer and help in any way! I had just seen him at Alex's BBCHS game the Tuesday before! I'm glad I got to talk to him. He will be missed!
Dan Hollowell

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“ Local youth baseball has lost a great friend...we have too. Steve's presence on and off the baseball field will be truly missed by many. He gave so much of himself for the good of others.

I can see my dad behind the plate calling the balls and strikes and Steve pacing the baseline with other great friends of local baseball like Gene Walther and Terry McCullough. It must be the World Series every game!

Our sympathy to all.

NULL

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“ NULL##imported-begin##NULL##imported-end##

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“ *The Westview Class of 1975 would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family. We consider Steve to be one of this city's best for all of his service to the community -

We look forward to meeting him again in the Lord's Field of Dreams -*
##imported-begin##Westview Class of 1975##imported-end##

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“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Steve was a person that not only did my boys look up to but a man that I looked up to and learned a great deal from about the game of baseball. He always went out of the way to make my boys feel special, but he was the first person to get on them when things were not going right. Steve was a caring and special man. He made a special impact on our family from the first day he came into our lives that will never be forgotten. Go Cardinals!*
##imported-begin##NULL##imported-end##

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“ *Are hearts go out to our family. Steve will be missed. But we know he will be playing cards with our Dad.*
##imported-begin##April Souligne-Gerretse##imported-end##

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of your family during this time of grieving.

the Hinderliters###imported-begin###the Hinderliters###imported-end##

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“ steve was a good friend. my sympathies to the Souligne Family. RIP steve west###imported-begin###steve west###imported-end##

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“ Steve was a great guy, who always supported athletics in Kankakee and wanted only the best for kids. ĩ½He will be missed not only for his support of athletics but for his spirit and kindness!###imported-begin###Phil Link###imported-end##

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“ We will be forever grateful for Steve's investment and influence on the lives of our boys, John and Ben, while in Little League and Pony League. ĩ½We know that our's were just two of many. ĩ½Steve absolutely loved baseball; but his commitment to the young men of Bourbonnais, Bradley and Kankakee went way beyond the average coach. ĩ½

Steve knew how to connect with boys. ĩ½He just simply treated them like they were very important. ĩ½As an assistant to Steve, I watched year after year his commitment to being on time to practices as well as his preparation; which showed what he valued. ĩ½Yes, Steve's knowledge and love for baseball was evident; but he valued each young man. ĩ½

This "valuing" was communicated away from the ball field as well. ĩ½Steve took our boys and others out to eat with him several times through the years as well as carting them off to Joliet Jackhammer's or White Sox games. ĩ½Each time was one more deposit into a developing young man telling him that he has value; that life is good; and that we need to celebrate this gift of "community" that God has given us.

The physical memories we have of photos and trophies will remind us of Steve and his selfless commitment to the boys of our community. ĩ½Thank you, Steve, for being an example and for loving "our kids".

Tony, Janine, Joshua, Caleb, John and Ben
Fightmaster
Family

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“ I worked with Steve for about 13 years in and out of the office at Ra-Co/Burns/Securitas until I left there 3 years ago. ĩ½Steve will always be remembered for his laughs and smiles. ĩ½He was a lovable guy and he will be missed by many. ĩ½

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“ My heart goes out to the entire Souligne family on your loss. I have not seen Steve for years but remember him and family fondly from our years at Westview High School. God Bless##imported-begin##Mark Ladley##imported-end##

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“ There hasn't been a sporting event in the Kankakee area in the past 40 years that Steve wasn't involved in some way. i¿½He has touched so many lives. i¿½People who didn't make his acquaintance knew of him. i¿½We just hope the families and friends find peace in knowing what a wonderful man he was and that he definitely at the side of our Lord. i¿½He was truly a Godly man.##imported-begin##The Marty Vinson Family##imported-end##

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“ Steve was always so sweet and kind to me when we attended Westview High School. My sincerest sympathies to his family and many friends. He will be missed and remembered.##imported-begin##Jane Toothaker Conn##imported-end##

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“ We were there with you, I hope you knew that, I'm sure you did. We love you and will never forget you and all that you did for Mom and Dad.

We know that there is one heck of a good coach added to the team up there now.

It's going to be so hard without you in our lives, but I'm sure we will see each other again.

Until then

All of our Love

Mom, Dad, Jeff & Janet, Tom & Barb, Mark & Cheryl, Matt, Amy, Kyle, Brianne, Maggie, Tony, Jake, David, Karen, Angel, Little Nick, Sabrina and Benjamin.

##imported-begin##Cheryl Alessandri##imported-end##

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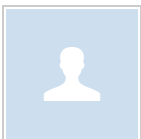
“ I had the honor of coaching an all-star team with Steve, and my son the privilege to learn from him, as have many others. ĩ¿½He is a BBL icon who has given so much of his time for the youth of this community. ĩ¿½He will truly be missed.##imported-begin##Jeff Bracken & Family##imported-end##

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“ NULL##imported-begin##Gregory Clodi & Family##imported-end##

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“ NULL##imported-begin##Janet Thrasher##imported-end##

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