

REMEMBERING

Specialist Scott Peterson

Scott Peterson passed away peaceably at home in Asheville, North Carolina on February 21, 2022.

Scott graduated from Bowie High School in 1987, after which he joined the United States Army and served in the Infantry from January 1988 to July 1991 as an E-4, Specialist First Class. Scott enjoyed his years in the Army and became fond of spicy food during his deployment to the DMZ in South Korea.

Scott was a people-person who generously gave of himself to help others and never hesitated to help or lend a hand when a need arose. Scott was an avid reader and loved writing. He enjoyed Sci-Fi and action novels and was always working on his next novel. He loved music, especially techno and industrial and he played the saxophone in the Bowie HS band. He loved cats and usually kept one or two wherever he lived. Scott loved Coca-Cola and it seemed like he always had a 7-Eleven Big Gulp at his side. Scott often thought of becoming an EMT but circumstances always seemed to get in the way of that pursuit, nevertheless, he read as much as he could about diseases and treatments and could converse on a much higher level than the general population with his medical providers.

Scott never married because as he said, "it just wouldn't be fair that only one person had his undivided attention when there was so much to go around!" (he had a great sense of humor), and Scott loved to laugh and exchange humorous stories.

Scott is survived by his dad and stepmother Don and Joan Peterson, mother and stepdad, Cyndy and Bo Warner, sisters Kelly Kerwin of Minneapolis, MN and Robin Barnes of Ellicott City, MD, brother Chad of Severn, MD and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held this March with interment later in the year at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

While Scott passed away peaceably, his ongoing struggles stemming from his active-duty experiences were no secret and something that Scott shared openly as he sought professional physical and emotional treatment over the years. Today, we lose 22 veterans every day to suicide (not including other civilians, contractors, and families affected or impacted by this difficult mental health condition). Many of us have seen the impact PTSD can have; but it can be even more devastating when left undiagnosed or hidden. Thank you for your participation today and serving as a partner with the IC4 Charity and the Headstrong organization in PTSD research, awareness, and treatment to those in need.