



David Paul Ellenberger

JUL 7, 1953 - SEP 20, 2022



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Tribute – David Paul Ellenberger – Written with love by his family

On September 20, 2022, David Paul Ellenberger passed into the presence of his Lord and Savior after a brief month-long illness. He was at his home in Miami Lakes, surrounded by his parents, wife, children, sisters, and other close family members. David was 69 years old.

David is survived by his parents Paul and Florine Ellenberger of Lakeland, Florida; his wife of 38 years, Heidi Ellenberger; his children, Kristen Marie and Paul Clair Ellenberger of Miami Lakes, Florida and Stefan David Ellenberger of Atlanta, Georgia; his siblings Sandra Ellenberger Weise of Easton, Pennsylvania; Keith Gordon Ellenberger of Bamako, Mali, West Africa; and Karyn Ellenberger of Melbourne, Florida. He is also survived by 18 nieces and nephews and 17 great nieces and nephews.

David was born on July 7, 1953 in Mineola, New York. He graduated from Sherman Central High School in 1971 where he enjoyed soccer and football. He later attended Houghton College, followed by aviation school in Utica, New York, and later Miami-Dade College where he graduated with an Associate of Arts degree.

David married Heidi Deborah Nielsen in 1984. They met at Central Alliance Church in Miami and it was true love at first sight. They had a 38-year long love affair and welcomed Kristen Marie in 1986, Stefan David in 1990 and Paul Clair in 1996. David's utmost joy was his family, whom he loved dearly. He selflessly served his family and taught with gentleness and compassion. He dedicated his life to the enrichment of others. He had a long aviation career, including working at Opa Locka Airport in Miami, Eastern Airlines and American Airlines. When he started with American in 1990, he worked out-of-state in Oklahoma and Texas for more than five years. In 1996 he was able to transfer home to Miami. During this challenging time he faithfully travelled home every week to be with his family. David was a wonderful cook, baker, talented artist, craftsman, carpenter, and mechanic. He taught his sons his precise skills and freely shared his



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knowledge with others. David loved nature and shared his joy of God's simple blessings in the world with his family. Family vacations always included hikes, many in America's beautiful national parks.

In October 2020 David retired from American Airlines. He quickly used this opportunity to serve as a trustee at his church and as a Sprouts volunteer helping elementary school children in Hialeah after school with their homework.

David followed Christ his entire life and was a faithful servant of the Lord. This was easily apparent to everyone who met him. He now rests in peace in his heavenly home with Jesus. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Visitation with the family and friends will be held on Friday, September 23 from 6-9 PM at Memorial Plan San Jose Palm Avenue Funeral Home, 4850 Palm Avenue, Hialeah, Florida.

The funeral service will be held on Saturday, September 24 at 2 PM at Hope Miami Lakes United Methodist Church, 14800 Ludlam Road, Miami Lakes, Florida.

Donations in David's honor may be made to Miami Lakes United Methodist Church, specified for the Sprouts ministry, in which David served. Please mail any donation to the church at the address above.




Events


David Paul Ellenberger

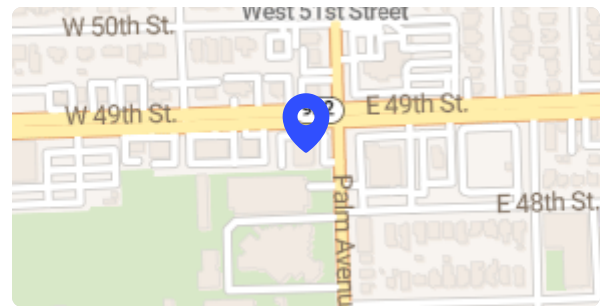
JUL 7, 1953 - SEP 20, 2022

Visitation

 **Friday**, September 23, 2022


 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM ET

 **Memorial Plan San José Palm Funeral Home**
4850 Palm Avenue, Hialeah FL 33012



Celebration of Life Service

 **Saturday**, September 24, 2022


 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET

 **Hope Miami Lakes United Methodist Church**
14800 Ludlam Road, Miami FL 33014



Gathering for Food and Fellowship

 **Saturday**, September 24, 2022

 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM ET

 **Hope Miami Lakes United Methodist Church**
14800 Ludlam Road, Miami FL 33014





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JR

Jennifer Robinson posted:

David was a godly man who loved his family and cared deeply about others, Praying for the family during this difficult. He is with the Lord and we will see him again in heaven. My sincere condolences to the family. May his soul rest in peace.

September 24 at 10:30 AM

HE

Heidi Ellenberger September 26 at 9:52 AM

Thank you, Jennifer.

KM

K. Muir posted:

David was such a devoted and loving father. I admired his attentiveness in ensuring that his son stayed on track with school assignments from as far back as elementary school. I have vivid memories of him cheering his son on at a soccer games. He was a truly devoted father and a Godly man. David you will be missed...

September 22 at 11:38 PM

HE

Heidi Ellenberger September 26 at 9:52 AM

Thank you, Karen.



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Madeleine Castellanos posted:

There are no words that can express the gratitude we owe David. Heidi and David are my parents neighbors across the street.They moved in shortly after I got married and before I moved away to study dentistry. Since the first day we met they were just the nicest young couple. Their family grew throughout the years. In fact, my mother recalls Heidi being pregnant with Paul and Kristen and Stefan being just the cutest of toddlers. They were a couple centered around their love for God and their children. As the years went by the children grew and so did our friendship with them.David was always caring and willing to lend a helping hand.In fact , with both of my grandparents we had several at home emergencies throughout their later years of life.The one person that would be quicker to get on the scene to help before the paramedics was David. After storms or hurricanes you could count on David to help others cut and clear the streets from debris. After we moved back from Boston we had the opportunity to share moments, some events, and stories together. I also had the pleasure to serve David as his dentist.To know David was to meet a true Christian.His love for God,family, and and neighbors surpassed just words they were evident by his actions. David will truly be missed by all who knew him and will never be forgotten.By our faith we know that David is at home with the Lord.As traveler's may we never forget that our final destination is not of this world but of the one to come which is eternal with our Father in Heaven.God bless David and the entire Ellenberger family. ❤️🙏Madeleine Castellanos,D.M.D. and family.

September 22 at 7:12 PM



Heidi Ellenberger September 26 at 9:55 AM

Thank you so much for this beautiful remembers of David.



Noel Padilla lit a candle in honor of David.

My condolences to the entire Ellenberger family. I was new to his department and he selflessly took me under his wing. He will be missed.

September 22 at 6:15 PM



Heidi Ellenberger September 26 at 9:55 AM

Thank you so much for your remembrance, Noel.



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Michelle Ruiz lit a candle in honor of David.

Although we did get the opportunity to spend much time with David he did stand out in a crowd as a very elegant man. Very well spoken and gave my husband and I the best advise. He was someone to look up to and we took his words very deeply. We are saddened by his passing but believe he is in a better place. Love Michelle and Raul Ruiz



September 22 at 4:56 PM



Heidi Ellenberger September 26 at 9:56 AM

Thank you, Michelle and Raul.



Maddy Duke posted:

David was such a kind and gentle soul. I feel fortunate to have known him. Sending love to the family
♥ Maddy Duke

September 22 at 4:28 PM



Heidi Ellenberger September 26 at 9:56 AM

Thank you, Maddy. With love.



Allison Mescha posted:

David was one of a kind for sure!! He lived his life for the Lord and made such a difference in all our lives! Feel very fortunate to have known such a kind and helpful friend! He was so devoted to his family and will always be greatly missed by all of us! Our loss is Heaven's gain for sure! May you Rest In Peace dear David! God bless his family! With love and prayers, Allison and John Mescha 🙏🦋

September 22 at 4:18 PM



Heidi Ellenberger September 26 at 9:57 AM

Beautiful, Allison. Thank you so much, Allison and John. So many happy memories together over the years.



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Barbara Henriquez—Gonzalez posted:

My memories of David go back to when he and Heidi, his wife, children and Heidi's mother and brother attended Palm Springs Methodist Church in Hialeah. His daughter Kristen had also attended Dade Christian School in Miami Lakes with my daughter, Talía. David Paul was a servant to his family, church and community. He was a devoted father, son and husband, whom tried to be an example of a Christian man, whom lived an example of a Christian life. Both David and Heidi come from a long line of Christian family and they continued their Christian heritage in numerous ways as servants in the church. My fondest memory of David was in 2019 at the Palm Springs Trunk Trick or Treat. David and Heidi were dressed in German attire and had an amazing pumpkin which was carved by one of their sons. I remember his smile and happy countenance that night. My last memory of David was the night we had the Sprouts vision meeting and how he always seemed to be calm, smiling and in peace. Rest In Peace David and thank you for the example of what a walk of Christian servitude looks like. Well done good and faithful servant 🙏

September 22 at 4:03 PM



Heidi Ellenberger September 26 at 9:59 AM

Barbara, thank you so much for this beautiful reflection.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring David by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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