

Aunt Margarete Estepp

One of the funniest things I remember about Steve was when he and Jim were in school. Steve would spend the night and they studied most all night. One night, Jim was studying way into the night alone. He finally went to bed. Steve came in off of a date and it was very late. Jim was sound asleep. Since the lights were all off, Steve decided he would come through the back window just across from Jim's bed. When he raised the window, Jim awoke and thought someone was breaking in through the window. Steve was half way into the room when Jim grabbed a pillow and started beating Steve over the head. Steve got tickled and started laughing then fell to the floor. They both had a big laugh! I'm sure Jim could fill a book on Steve, they were such good friends as well as cousins. I miss him so much.

- Uncle Paul used to tell many stories about Steve and Jim. There are hundred's of wonderful tales, some true, some truly exaggerated, but all funny! One of the best stories of all time was the night that Steve and Jim were studying for some exams and (secretly) trying to have a few beers. To cover the sounds of the cans being opened, the boys would take turns coughing - loudly. After several beers and many loud coughing sounds, a sleepy Uncle Paul walked in with a bottle of cough syrup and a spoon.
- Another favorite late-night-of-studying-story with Jim: Steve got hungry and went into Aunt Margarete's kitchen searching for something to eat. Not wanting to wake anybody up by turning on all the lights, Steve just "felt around" for something. He opened the cabinet above the stove and reaching inside, felt a bag of popcorn. He thought that would make a great late-night snack and was going to pop some, but the bag was already opened, and when he lifted it, it folded over and spilled all over the kitchen, making a terrible racket and going everywhere. He cleaned it up as best he could and quietly went back, empty-handed, to Jim's room. Steve said that the next morning, Margarete was making breakfast for Paul and when she turned on the stove to make some eggs, popcorn came flying out from the stove eye, and it nearly scared them to pieces! Steve said he just looked at Jim, shrugged his shoulders and never confessed to the late-night crime.