

Obituaries

Steve Kacir

1972–2016

Stephen Emery Tarcisius Kacir was born on October 16, 1972, and raised in Mentor, Ohio. He was the son of Robert and Susan Kacir, husband of Emily Whitfield-Kacir, and brother of Matthew, Christopher, and Anthony. He attended Ohio Wesleyan University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Zoology, and then Ohio University for graduate school, where he studied Diamondback Terrapins (*Malaclemys terrapin*). He lived in Norristown, PA, and worked at the University of Pennsylvania as a Research Specialist. He was a co-author of seven scientific papers on the pathology of human autoimmune disorders.

Steve became a member of the DVOC in 2004. He was a frequent presenter at meetings, and served with distinction as a member of council, secretary, and vice president. Steve died unexpectedly while at his gym on March 22, 2016, three months into his term as DVOC president, and it broke the club's heart. He was absolutely beloved. He was a gentle soul. He was the introduction to the DVOC to many people, including me. He was my first birding friend and became one of my closest friends.

Steve had a broad fascination with the natural world besides birding. He maintained a menagerie of pets including birds, dogs, cats, snakes, and turtles. He was an avid photographer and maintained a sizable library of natural history references. He was a fan of science fiction and music, especially new wave. Steve oversaw the DVOC photography competition, and was a regular field trip leader. He would pick me up in his boxy Scion and we would listen to Oingo Boingo on our way to Bombay Hook. He had an affinity for Delaware and participated in the Delaware Breeding Bird Atlas — his block was Bombay Hook. Steve undertook a big year in Montgomery County in 2008, and set a new record of 194 species. His trips could be intense, like birding greenhead-infested salt marshes in July, or starting field trips at 2 o'clock in the morning for rails. He would offer me a few options for our

weekend birding trips, and I would always tell him that it didn't matter — my target bird was his company. Steve preferred a quality day in the field over a rarity chase, and I preferred his companionship over a rare bird any day.

Anthony W. Croasdale

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Common Nighthawk
(*Chordeiles minor*)

Drawn by Katrina Rakowski