



Scott Michael Popp

May 4, 2025

Scott Michael Popp, 45, of Syracuse, departed this world too soon, leaving behind mismatched outfits, half-finished harmonica tunes, and countless hearts fuller for having known him.

Scott's kindness was his defining feature. He was a fierce friend who stood up for those who couldn't look out for themselves, extending compassion to everyone he met. His adopted special needs dog, Frannie, was the grateful recipient of this boundless love, as were all the friends lucky enough to be in his orbit.

Scott could fall asleep absolutely anywhere, from his parents' living room to the lawn at a music festival, and never missed an opportunity for a good bubble bath. He was a ferocious reader and his linguistic prowess was legendary, especially around late-night campfires.

Scott loved all genres of music with equal enthusiasm, from jazz to hip-hop to bluegrass. Summer festivals were his happy place, where he could be found soaking in live performances, discovering new artists, and creating memories with friends. His harmonica was never far from reach, ready to join in whenever the moment called for it.

A culinary school graduate from Paul Smith's College who treated Taco Bell with the same reverence as fine dining, Scott never made the same dish twice. His cooking philosophy was simple: why follow a recipe when you can wing it? This approach to food mirrored his approach to life - unpredictable, creative, and full of interesting experiences.

Scott's life took him from Syracuse to Orlando, Key West, Austin, and Saranac Lake before returning to his Syracuse roots. Along the way, he collected memories, music, and an impressive array of unusual instruments that he taught himself to play with enthusiasm, if not always precision.

His wardrobe choices were gloriously eclectic - Hawaiian shirts paired with plaid shorts and tie dye, or a football pinnie at a captain and crew golf tournament. He wasn't just making a fashion statement; he was starting an entire conversation.

Scott found peace in nature - camping, fishing, and stargazing. This love of the outdoors stemmed from his time as a Boy Scout and summers in Piseco and continued into festivals and camping as an adult. His nephews will miss their energetic uncle cheering them on at school and sporting events.

Scott is survived by his parents, George and Debra Popp; his brother Jeffrey Popp and sister-in-law Ali; nephews Harrison, Crosby, and Campbell Popp; Aunt Janet Courtney and cousins William Courtney (Tamara), Heidi Courtney, Franklin Courtney, and Debbie Courtney (Jay Streeter); Aunt Sandra Popp and cousins Bethany Espinosa (Daniel) and Katelin Popp; and Donna Aitken Popp who he was married to for 9 years.

While Scott's death is tragic, and he will be deeply missed by all whose lives he touched, we prefer to remember him as he lived - refusing to take himself too seriously and teaching us all that the best way to approach life is with an open heart, a sense of adventure, and occasionally, a harmonica.

A celebration of Scott's life will be held on Sunday, June 29, starting at 11 a.m. with a graveside service at Higgins Bay Cemetery in Piseco followed by a reception of friends at 1 p.m. at the Lemon Tree Brewery in Speculator, NY. In lieu of flowers, please consider a gift to the Brindle Posse Rescue (<https://www.brindleposse.org/>), where they save special dogs like Scott's beloved Frannie.

Scott would have wanted us all to wear our loudest patterns and share our wildest stories while remembering him.

Previous Events

Celebration

JUN **29**. 11:00 AM.

Higgins Bay Cemetery

Reception

JUN **29**. 1:00 PM.

Lemon Tree Brewery

Tribute Wall

TL

“ To Scott's Family, I worked with Scott at LeMoyne Collage, and just wanted you to know the in our work family Scott was highly respected and loved by all. What a great guy and friend, will miss you buddy. Ted Ludington

Ted Ludington - May 23, 2025 at 09:08 AM

DE

Thank you for sharing, it means the world to us.

Deb - June 23, 2025 at 01:34 PM

SH

“ Debbie, George, Jeff, and Ali--I just learned of Scott's passing and want to let you know how sorry I am for all of you. I remember him from a season of playing kickball on the Home HeadQuarters ragtag team, and how Scott and Jeff were a couple of the best players. I wish you peace.
Susan Hamilton

Susan Hamilton - May 17, 2025 at 02:31 PM

SC

“ Dear George,Debbie and Jeff,
I'm so sorry to hear about Scott's death. I remember him swimming in my pool as a young kid. He had a sweet soul and a kind heart. May he find the perfect peace now. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.
Sue Cottrell

Sue Cottrell - May 12, 2025 at 02:39 PM

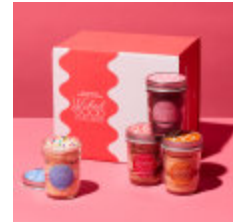
AH

“ George, Debbie, Jeff, Ali, and Family,
Scott was definitely my best friend growing up, and honorable neighbor to have, as we went to school together through high school. Scott had an awesome personality and I had so many great times with him. Scott, you will be missed, my friend and will always remember you. Our deepest condolences from the Hart family to your family, Andrew Hart

Andrew Hart - May 10, 2025 at 07:35 PM

DH

“ David H. purchased the Indulgent Cupcake Jars 4-Pack for the family of Scott Michael Popp.



David H. - May 10, 2025 at 06:59 PM



“ George & Debbie, We were just informed about Scott's passing... Scott was one of Andy's best friends growing up, and I always encouraged Andy to keep their friendship going, especially for Scott's influence... Peace be with you and your entire family, Dave Hart

David Hart - May 10, 2025 at 06:47 PM

LA

“ Please accept the most heartfelt sympathies of Le Moyne College. We hope the love and memories that you will forever hold in your heart bring you peace and comfort during this difficult time.

Le Moyne College Office of Alumni - May 09, 2025 at 01:07 PM

BR

“ Frannie loved you from day one. We couldn't have been more grateful for you taking her. Our deepest condolences to your family.



Brindle Posse Rescue - May 08, 2025 at 12:14 PM

SC

“ George, Debbie and family,
We extend our deepest condolences for your loss. We have many fond memories of the boys and their mischief at Piseco Lake. They always looked forward to their ride around the lake and the great breakfast only you could make. So many good times for the boys growing up.

Fondly,
Steve, Sharon and Eric Conroy

Sharon Conroy - May 07, 2025 at 07:37 PM

GB

“ George, Debi, Jeff , Ali ,and family, What a perfect, beautiful picture of Scott, I will miss the “gentle giant”. Much love, Gail Bleecker

Gail Bleecker - May 07, 2025 at 12:04 PM

JL

“ George, Debby, Jeffrey and Family. Our sincere condolences in the death of Scott who I will always remember and cherish as a man who was quiet, smart, compassionate and caring to his family and friends. Scott will be missed. - Jeff Lape

Jeffrey Lape - May 07, 2025 at 11:24 AM

JE

“ George and Deb, so sorry to learn about Scott's passing. I do remember all the times in Piseco! The gang! Wonderful memories the kids playing. ! Peace to you and the family. Jayne Money Milligan Erhardt

Jayne Erhardt - May 06, 2025 at 07:54 PM


Charles
Oliver

“ I'll remember ringing in the new millennium with you... even though you passed out. Rest easy friend.

Charles Oliver - May 06, 2025 at 06:41 PM