

Mega Literacy Course Tribute

Dear friends,

I am not Steve's mother, although some participants thought I was at the beginning of the francophone literacy course in Ouagadougou in 2007. They saw the ways we interacted and the very similar ways in which we taught, and just assumed... For me, that was a huge compliment (despite what it reflects about my age!). I was privileged to know a sweet relationship with Steve of trust and respect. When Steve shared at a staff meeting that he always paid special attention when I was teaching, so that he could learn from the ways I presented the material, I was at first surprised—for you see, I did the same thing when he taught!

Steve also did something on the course that I could not: he interacted with the 22 male participants as "one of the guys". He talked with them about the challenges they face and encouraged them to reflect on godly reactions in their lives and work. These interactions carried added weight because everyone could see the practical examples that Steve lived out before them.

I can't claim to be a parent, a brother or sister or wife to Steve. I am grateful to be among a huge number of those who called him, 'friend.' I am changed for the better because I knew him, and I will miss him until we see each other again before the throne of God.

May we know that the God of all comfort surrounds us with his grace,

Cathy Davison

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