

In Memoriam: Rodney T. Stapp, DPM

LEADER, MENTOR, FRIEND

For sixteen years, Dr. Rodney Stapp provided valuable leadership, mentoring, and support to the staff of the Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas in delivering our mission. His passing is a great loss to all of us, but we continue in striving towards reaching his vision.

OBITUARY

Dr. Rodney T. Stapp was born in Frederick, OK to William & Ilena Stapp on March 16, 1961, and passed away on January 21, 2016. He lived a life of love and service, dedicated to care for his family, friends and Native American community. Rod met and married his one love, Lauri, in Corpus Christi, Texas. Together for 35 love-filled years, they lived in several states, traveled extensively, and provided true hearts and a home for many rescued animals.

Rod is survived by his wife Lauri, and his brother Michael Alva Stapp of Carrollton, Texas. Rod is also survived by his sister-in-law Jeri Hall and husband Michael, brother-in-law Jim O'Bryant and wife Denise, sister-in-law Patti Hancock and husband Scott, brother-in-law Richard O'Bryant, niece Jennifer Cashman and husband Lucas, nieces Kristie White, Shannon Degge and husband Brad, grandniece Reagan White and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Dr. Rodney Stapp is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation Tribe of Oklahoma, a Podiatrist and served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas, a non-profit corporation serving the health and socio-economic needs of Native Americans.

Dr. Stapp began his career working for AT&T for nine years in the telecommunications industry. He attended Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia and medical school at New York College of Podiatric Medicine, graduating with a degree as Doctor of Podiatric Medicine. For the next ten years, he worked at the Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas starting as a volunteer doctor, then Clinic Director, Executive Director and for the last five years as Chief Executive Officer.

Dr. Stapp served as committee member and advisor for a number of projects including: Indian Health Services Workgroups and Committees Consulting podiatrist with NIKE on the NIKE Air Native N7 shoe Advisor to National Council of Urban Indian Health Directors Council Member, AIDS Out-Reach Network 2000 – 2004 Co-Chairman, Texas American Indian Information Resource Network (OMH) 2000 – 2004 Founding member and Board of Trustee for the DFW Native American Chamber of Commerce Federal appointments for: Department of Health and Human Services: IHS Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Policy Advisory Council Department of Labor: Native American Employment and Training Advisory Council Comanche Nation of Oklahoma: Podiatrist for Diabetes Program Caddo Nation of Oklahoma: Podiatrist for Diabetes Program Rod received numerous awards for his work in the Native American Community, including recently, a Lifetime Humanitarian Award presented by the Memnosyne Institute at the United Nations in NYC.