



Mr. Stanley J. Tiska

June 5, 1957 - March 31, 2026

Stanley J. Tiska, 68, of Hinsdale Ma, left this world on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, with loved ones at his side. Born to Edmond J. Tiska and Barbara J. Tiska (Danford) on June 5, 1957, in Pittsfield, MA., his childhood was filled with adventure and a touch of mischief, shared with friends and family. He joined the Boy Scouts and spent much of his time exploring state forests. He developed an independent and wild spirit that stayed with him throughout his life.

In 1976, Stan began working as a bartender and doorkeeper at The Dog House in Pittsfield. He later worked in sheet metal fabrication, building armored vehicles, and spent many years in manufacturing and shipping and receiving. Alongside these roles, he worked security for local establishments and events, and as a personal bodyguard. Dedicated to safety and empowerment, Stan sought to provide others with confidence and ability to protect themselves. He volunteered as a crisis counselor for victims of abuse and taught women's self-defense classes. He worked as an emergency room security guard, for local ski patrol and was a licensed bail enforcement agent (bounty hunter) for five years.

Stan pursued his many interests with intensity. As an ultra-runner, he completed two 100-mile races, more than fifteen 50-mile races and others of varying distances. He competed as an endurance and distance cyclist. His

favorite events were those set in treacherous terrain, with mountain ridges and sweeping views of the horizon that came with them. He found joy in supporting others through their first marathons, and formed many lifelong friendships. Stan was an avid firearms enthusiast with extensive knowledge and skill, and created a welcoming environment for others to learn. He participated in many other activities, pushing them to the adrenaline pumping extreme whenever possible.

As a devoted martial artist, he achieved the rank of 4th Dan in Aikido, 1st Kyu in both Judo and Jujutsu, practiced Taekwondo, Kendo, most recently Doyle Irish Stick fighting. He was skilled in archery, and knife/tomahawk throwing. He shared his knowledge generously and remained a lifelong student. He embraced opportunities to teach and learn along some of the most widely recognized and accomplished martial artists of diverse disciplines throughout the Northeast, and held deep admiration for their skill and guidance, humbly recognizing that his own accomplishments were shaped by those meaningful connections

He believed in inclusion over exclusion, welcoming and blending unique practices, seeing their value not only for himself but for the community he cultivated around him. At his home, he cut trees and hewed beams by hand to craft his own dojo, a space that served as his school, his church, and a gathering place for friends and family.

Stan was strong spiritually. He took part in annual multi-day ventures with the Men's Council of ME, sharing in fire making, drum circles, the burning of sage, and connecting to the earth, rooted in mutual support and forming bonds, companionships that held profound meaning in his life. His greatest pride was his family, and he valued their time together, often turning ordinary days into full family gatherings.

Stan faced his final challenges without fear and with a warrior's spirit, the same way he lived his life. He continued to embrace life fully, sharing his time and passions with those he loved. He is survived by his "lovely bride," his wife of 45 years, Audrey Tiska. Her unwavering support made all of his great endeavors possible; his children, Joshua Tiska, Naomi Tiska (Steve), and Rachel Tiska (Matt); his cherished grandchildren, Aurorah, Azaliah, and Ingrid; his siblings, Rainbow Hornyak (Dave) and Sally Rice (Mark); his brother in law Corey Arndt (Kelvin); his nieces, Lori, Trina, and Sarah Jane; his great-niece, Elizabeth.

He was predeceased by and is survived by many family members and friends who were like family—more than can be named.

His strength, spirit, and humor will live on in all those who knew and loved him.

A celebration of life will be held in Stan's honor, details to be announced at a later date.

Tribute Wall

BP

“ *It was an honor knowing and once worked with Stan. He was a great person and family man! He could do anything he put his mind to. He was a superman in my mind. He will be missed by all who knew him. Rest in peace Stanley. Bob Pelkey*

Bob Pelkey - April 22 at 09:42 PM

TO

“ *I first met Stan about 49 years ago when he sought me out in South County, looking for a guy his size with a Judo background. That started an idussey of training together, camping, grappling, carousing on occasion, but also working hard for our family and friends. I loved Stan like a brother. He was loyal, curious, adventurous, and the best man he could be. I'll miss him and be thinking of the Tiska family as they move forward without him being physically present.*

Tom O'Brien - April 22 at 06:53 PM

BJ

“ *Oh my old friends, I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your dad he was very funny man ill never for get some of the moments I have had with him. thinking of you all.*



Brittany Jennings - April 22 at 04:47 PM

LD

“ *He was, without a doubt, a one in a million man. I loved reconnecting after our high school days, to discuss every topic under the sun. I admired his obvious love for his wife and family.*

Lilla DeLuca - April 22 at 04:42 PM

TO

“ I first met Stan about 40 years ago when he looked me up and invited me to join him working out at Harry Chandler's Judi dononin Pittsfield. That evolved into a lifelong friendship and I loved him as a brother. I always appreciated Stan's sense of e adventure and his curiosity. He was especially helpful to his many friends and we worked alongside one another on several occasions. My deepest condolences and love to his family.

Tom O'Brien - April 22 at 03:18 PM

JD

“ I first met Stanley at Peter Freedmans MA cookout in NH. and we became fast friends, we threw knives and tomahawks and I made him many custom knives. He was one of the most down to earth real people I've ever had the pleasure of knowing and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him!!!
God speed Brother, I've kept you in special prayers since learning of your illness and asked the Great Spirit to give you a personal escort home, until we meet again!



Joseph Darrah - April 22 at 02:24 PM

JD

“ Starting in the early 1960s on Dartmouth Street to Draper Ave and beyond. With Stan, we have "been there-done that" many times over. Many many great memories growing up together. Love you Stan. We'll meet again.

Joe Danford - April 22 at 01:48 PM

SD

“ From our time in the Boy Scouts, to his initial beginnings as a Martial Artist, we practiced techniques from Black Belt and Kung Fu Magazines, sparring in my yard and basement, breaking boards and to our amazement, he once broke a patio paving brick; archery, camping, hunting, firearms, the CB radio Kick (his handle was the "Fortune Teller"); to working in the Doghouse together, and to a lot of other crazy and exhilarating adventures some known to others- some not. Stan and I lived a lifetime in a few short years. We spoke several times on the phone recently discussing times past and our medical situations. I would have liked to have visited with him one more time before he crossed over, however my medical condition over the past two months did not allow. In speaking, he knew what the future held, made the most of his remaining time with his family and friends, and faced the inevitable with his ingrained Warrior Spirit. To Audry and his family, I know the memories of him will help you get through these tough times. To my lost friend, you will never be forgotten. Godspeed in your next adventure. I'll see you when I get to the other side.

Steven Delphia

Steven Delphia - April 22 at 12:23 PM

BH

be well Steven

Bobbyann Higgins - April 24 at 05:58 PM



“ *What can I say about my cousin? He was a little rascal when he was a young teenager. I remember, as a police officer I would get a call from another officer asking me if I know Stan as he got stopped a few times. Yes! we would take care of him. I am proud of Stanley and what he has accomplished since those days. Loving son, sibling, husband, father and grandfather. He will be missed, but never forgotten. Love you cuz. Wish we got to see each other more, but as you know that is life. We all go our separate ways, but we did stay in touch. God Bless you and all your family.*

Mark Danford - April 22 at 11:33 AM



“ *Stan was a great friend and role model..my last memory of Stan was at Ozzie's . We were meeting to have breakfast, when he slipped and fell out front. I went out and helped him up (along with others) and got him inside. He asked the owner if he caught his fall on camera and the owner said yes and showed him the video. Stan , after watching the video, explained to the owner how he fell and didn't get hurt due to his years of martial arts training lol he used it as a training lesson instead of a “fall” you will be missed friend..may your energy reach its destination, blessings .*

Richard Moore - April 22 at 11:07 AM



“ *Dear Stanley. I did not know you were ill. I remember you once asked for a female name for a gun. Being from Sweden i replied Gun is actually a female name(legit) You named her Sigrid after a viking. Rest easy now and hope you get to target practice where you are*

Hans Lindberg - April 22 at 10:48 AM

DM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



David Mason - April 21 at 09:10 PM