

## Prasanthi Council

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## Mr. Steen Piculell, a Man of Unflinching Faith

19<sup>th</sup> May 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Om Sri Sai Ram.

It is with a heavy heart that I share the sad news of the passing away of our beloved brother Mr. Steen Piculell, Zone 8 Chair of the Russian speaking countries. Steen reached the divine lotus feet of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2013, after a brief health setback which was diagnosed in early January. Mr Piculell was deeply loved by his wife Inge and the family, who very much cared and served him during his illness. Devotees from Russian speaking countries and Sai officers around the world sincerely pray for his soul to rest in peace with our Lord Sathya Sai Baba. All of us admire Steen for his unflinching absolute faith in Bhagawan as the Avatar of the age.

Steen implicitly followed Bhagawan's every command and surrendered to Swami completely. He will always be remembered by everyone for his love and dedication to spread Swami's universal message and for laying a strong foundation to carry on Swami's work and mission to benefit more and more people of Russia for the years to come.

Although he was affected by his illness during the last period of his life his commitment to the organization and the mission of Swami's work remained unabated. We should take comfort that Swami has called him home having served as an inspiring instrument of love that fulfilled the task assigned to him by our Lord Sai. He is an exemplary leader and an ideal devotee in the Sathya Sai Organisation. He worked tirelessly for the Russian Sai devotees and served them with humility by readily supporting their needs and projects. Because of his compassionate loving heart, he could identify so well with the Russian soul and their love for Swami.

He sacrificed time, energy and money to travel all parts of Russia to inspire and serve the devotees.. To those he befriended, he was a true and generous friend; I am sure they will say: 'Thank you for being in my life'. He was honest and always straight forward in his communication. Swami always loved the Russian devotees for their sincerity and simplicity. Steen had always kept this beautiful relationship with our Lord Sai.

Please join in me in my prayers to Swami to help the family in coping up with the tremendous loss of their loved one, and give strength to all of the devotees who had the good fortune of knowing him and working with him to continue the legacy that he has left behind with renewed vigor.

Jai Sai Ram.

With loving regards, Narendranath Reddy Chairman, Prasanthi Council