

Steve Mancini

Steve Mancini was born November 24, 1960 in Port Huron, Michigan, the youngest of three, to an Italian father (second generation) and an Irish, English and Scottish mother. He played baseball from the ages of nine through eighteen, and also played football in high school. He went out for wrestling as a junior in high school because the coach convinced him to, but quit for many reasons. Okay, he quit because he hated it. It was the only sport he ever quit.

He loved fireworks and did just about everything possible to get his hands on them, including making his own using gunpowder and ground up match heads or other fast burning substances. Fortunately, he still has all of his fingers and most of his hearing. When he was in ninth grade he began taking classical piano lessons and continued with them through high school. His mother once asked what he was going to do with his piano training and he told her he was going to make a lot of money so he could put her in a special home.

As a senior, he was the Emcee for three different assemblies in front of about 1400 students and teachers and won the dubious honors of "Class Clown" and "Cutest Behind - Boy". Seriously. He still has the plaques. Another interesting fact about Mancini is that he graduated from Barbizon School of Modeling and Fashion in 1981. Of course, he did it just to meet girls. It worked.

After high school he went to Michigan State University as a Mathematics and Statistics major. He graduated six years later with a BA in Communications. His emphasis was on radio broadcasting, and he was a DJ at the college station. He was fired from the Easy Listening show for playing Jimi Hendrix's version of "Star Spangled Banner" and was fired from the late-night show for throwing Journey albums out the window onto the street.

In September 1984 one of his roommates convinced him that California was the place to be, so he packed everything he owned into his 1980 Pontiac Sunbird and, sight unseen, headed west. He took a job as a desk clerk in a motel in Mission Hills and met the owner's daughter. They were married in 1987. During that time Mancini had a weekly comedy radio show in Simi Valley with a friend whom he had also met at the motel.

Steve and his wife ended up in Morro Bay, a tourist town about half way between Los Angeles and San Francisco, where they owned and operated a motel named the Best Western San Marcos Inn. The motel was very successful. The marriage was not. They parted ways in July 1995 after eight years and he moved to San Luis Obispo, where, among other jobs, he was an account executive for radio ad sales and wrote ad copy. He took a water color painting course in San Luis Obispo – to meet women. That didn't work. However, he painted two apples.

Mancini moved back to Los Angeles in early 1998 to work with a friend on a screenplay. That partnership was a bad idea. He met Geoff Hoff, with whom he eventually created the on-line satirical serial Weeping Willow, when both were asked to write for Tony Mack's Swingin' L.A. Tony Mack was an episodic stage show presented in Hollywood that ran for two years and won "Best Cabaret in Los Angeles" in 1999 in the LA Magazine. Steve has given up looking for good places to meet women and his main focus now is on writing and promoting Weeping Willow. His favorite color is plaid.

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