

Bruce Landau



1946–2002

Bruce Landau Passes Away

Posted By: Dick Brach <cabodick@aol.com> (152.163.206.192)

Date: 12/19/02 11:44 p.m.

Just received a tragic phone call that Bruce has died. He was attending his company Christmas Party when he collapsed and had a Heart Attack. He was MY best chipping friend & I will miss him dearly. This hobby has truly lost one of its finest members

Posted By: R.Joseph Myers <hotrodrrjm@lvcm.com> (64.12.104.151)

Date: 12/19/02 11:56 p.m.

This is in fact very sad news.

Rhona and I would like to extend our condolences to Eileen and the rest of the Landau family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Ralph & Rhona Myers

Posted By: Bob Gabel <gabels@attbi.com> (24.98.89.193)

Date: 12/19/02 11:57 p.m.

Carolyn & I feel a deep loss our prayers are with the family I shall never forget Bruce for his concern for me during my illness My God be with his family

Devastating news!!!!!!!

Posted By: Rich Hanover LM-4191-28 <RFHanover@aol.com> (64.12.101.166)

Date: 12/19/02 11:58 p.m.

I considered Bruce a friend. I probably talked with Bruce at AC meetings more than any other chipper. A nicer person is hard to find. This is a tough one to take.

Posted By: Greg Susong LM-31 <greg@chipguide.com> (63.173.37.117)

Date: 12/20/02 12:00 a.m.

Dick,

I'm stunned. I've known Bruce ever since I got into this hobby and there wasn't anyone who was ever any better than Bruce. My heart goes out to Eileen and his family.

Goodbye Bruce, thanks for being my friend!



Posted By: Kevin Aydelott <ybmello@aol.com> (152.163.189.102)

Date: 12/20/02 12:02 a.m.

I am so sorry to hear that. I met Bruce at the convention this year. He was a great guy. My condolences to his family.

I am Very Sorry To Hear This

Posted By: Pete Rizzo "R-911" www.oldvegaschips.com <oldvegaschips@lvcm.com> (24.120.229.87)

Date: 12/20/02 12:05 a.m.

Another Legend passes.

My condolences to his family.

Pete Rizzo

Posted By: Allan Anderson <adesign@accesscom.com> (64.169.5.248)
Date: 12/20/02 12:04 a.m.

A huge loss. Bruce was one of the best people I knew in the hobby. My condolences to the family.

Allan

Posted By: Steve Zacchi R-4686 <Steve@greatcasinochips.com> (205.188.209.103)
Date: 12/20/02 12:05 a.m.

The hobby lost one of the true gentlemen. he will be impossible to replace. our deepwst sympathy and sincere wishes go out to Eileen. I don't think there was a person in the hobby that had the pleasure to meet him, that didn't consider him a friend. steve & linda zacchi

I don't know what to say!!!

Posted By: Mike Quinlivan <treasurer@ccgtcc.com> (67.224.21.203)
Date: 12/20/02 12:07 a.m.

I am shocked.

Bruce was one of the nicest people I have met in the hobby AND in my lifetime. I cannot say that I knew him very well, but the time that I did spend with him will be cherished memories.

My condolences to Eileen and family. You are in my thoughts and prayers. May God bless you.

- Mike

Re: I am shocked

Posted By: David Moore <moored@pacbell.net> (198.93.154.20)
Date: 12/20/02 12:28 a.m.

Although he lived on the opposite coast, Bruce was out here in California frequently enough I'd gotten to know him and he was a great guy, no doubt about it. My deepest condolences to his family.

Posted By: Steve Blust R-4120 <sblust@accessbee.com> (64.66.215.117)
Date: 12/20/02 12:32 a.m.

This is horrible news. I met Bruce for the first time a couple of years ago when Mel Jung hosted the Nor-Cal-Nev chapter at his condo on the north shore of Lake Tahoe. Bruce was there and told some incredibly entertaining stories about chip runs in the early days, when there were only a handful of serious collectors. It is among my favorite chip-related memories. This is a huge loss for our hobby. My thoughts and prayers go out to Bruce's family.

Posted By: Andy Hughes LM-2471-52 <AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com> (64.221.136.149)

Date: 12/20/02 12:35 a.m.

I'm in shock.....I always looked forward to seeing Bruce when he was here for a Show. He was one of the nicest, most honest & enjoyable people I have ever met. He was one of the first chippers I met when I got into the hobby. Rest in peace my friend. My condolences to Eileen and the entire Landau family.

Andy - Las Vegas



Posted By: Walter Dirzulaitis <waltjd13@aol.com> (64.12.96.198)

Date: 12/20/02 3:46 a.m.

Having known Bruce for 13 years, I am truly devastated. Did anyone make this hobby fun more than Bruce? He was a tireless volunteer and a very thoughtful person. Trading with him you were certain to get a fair deal as well as be entertained by his incredibly sharp wit. I saw him go out of his way to help a fellow collector many times. That's just the kind of guy he was. I'll miss you, my friend.

Posted By: Tyrus Mulkey LM-2211-21 <Tyrus@TyrusRex.com> (68.96.110.159)

Date: 12/20/02 12:38 a.m.

I'm speechless right now upon hearing this. I just want to say my thoughts are with the entire Landau family and all his many friends who are feeling a tremendous loss now.

-Tyrus

Posted By: Brian Watts (R-5491) <xxspamxx_BrianWatts@Comcast.net> (68.34.179.117)

Date: 12/20/02 12:53 a.m.

My condolences and prayers to the Landau family during this most difficult time.

My Condolence to Landau family

Posted By: John Massimiani <johnmass@gate.net> (209.86.183.60)
Date: 12/20/02 6:45 a.m.

Nice photo - Thanks Rene

Posted By: al <almancini@lvcm.com> (68.104.101.162)
Date: 12/20/02 1:05 a.m.

I would like to donate that Bruce Landau chip to a place where it will do some good. I figure I'll put it up for sale on eBay. Minimum bid 1-penny. All proceeds to go to?????????? Please. let me know where Mr Landau would have wanted the money to go.

AL

Posted By: Steve Goodrich R-306 <SteveMrPNW@turbonet.com> (206.228.112.232)
Date: 12/20/02 1:54 a.m.

A true loss to the hobby and the world. We'll miss you Bruce. Sad

Posted By: Edwin H. Sugai <ezchips@msn.com> (63.28.92.60)
Date: 12/21/02 1:04 a.m.

Very shocked and saddened by the sudden death of a chip pioneer and friend! He will be surely missed my the Chipping Fraternity ! Thank you Bruce for the many chip deals you got me in the past years and knowledge that you taught me about "Rare Nevada Chips". My condolences to the Landau Family!

I have been sitting and crying ...

Posted By: Jim Reilly LM3606-38 NCN040 SFCM081 <RunTam@PacBell.net> (67.119.191.246)
Date: 12/20/02 1:58 a.m.

... for a half hour since reading this news, completely at a loss for words.

Bruce was a friend when I was new to the club and he hardly knew me ... and a great friend during the most difficult year after my wife died in 1999. I particularly appreciated his kindness and several hours of conversation during his visit for the NorCal meeting at Lake Tahoe in 2000.

He was also often a quiet mentor, privately providing insight and words of wisdom and encouragement regarding the sometimes contentious chipping issues with which I have been involved the last few years.

I can't even adequately express my sadness at the moment. My sincerest condolences to Eileen and the rest of the Landau family.

And to the longtime chippers who were his best friends, I hope that memories of his friendship and many contributions will help ease the pain of his death. Our hobby will go on, but it will not be the same.

----- jim o\-S

Posted By: Sunday Silverman R5757 Palm Springs, CA <Sunday120@juno.com> (66.74.32.30)
Date: 12/20/02 9:20 a.m.

My tears haven't stopped either. Bruce was not a personal friend of mine, but I know he was a great friend of the hobby. His contributions will forever be cherished, and never forgotten. My deepest condolences to his family.

Posted By: Janice & Jerry O'Neal <junkman3@earthlink.net> (65.160.210.233)
Date: 12/20/02 2:22 a.m.

There are no words Janice & I can express concerning the loss of Bruce. We will miss him and our hearts go out to Eileen and her family. We have lost a great friend!

Posted By: Jill B., R-4943, Arizona <jsbitner@cableone.net> (24.117.83.222)
Date: 12/20/02 3:49 a.m.

Oh dear, sad. I JUST got an email from him Wednesday afternoon. He had been encouraging me all week to submit some chips into the Club auction.. I mailed them this afternoon.

My heart goes out to his family... and the chipping community as well.

I don't have words for what I'm feeling right now... Got up to let the dog out and turned on pc while waiting for him to want back in... What a thing to get up to... I am crushed. sad

Please convey my condolences to the family.

Posted By: Murph in VA R-5244 <Murph4qs@msn.com> (67.200.146.120)
Date: 12/20/02 4:07 a.m.

My condolences to the Landau family.

Posted By: TOM LEGGIO <tomdice@aol.com> (66.20.166.138)
Date: 12/20/02 4:28 a.m.

Posted By: BriaN Freiermuth <AINTR1TE@AOL.COM> (205.188.209.103)
Date: 12/20/02 4:34 a.m.

Our condolences to the Landau family. Bruce was one of the nicest guys in the hobby and will be greatly missed.

The Freiermuth Family
BriaN, Mark, and Kathy

What a man!!!!!!!!!!

Posted By: Rene Nezhoda <rene@vegaschips.com> (24.120.112.194)
Date: 12/20/02 5:20 a.m.

Wow !

I just came home from a date and got the news. And it literally made me cry.

Bruce Landau was the the kind of man I inspire to be.

He was a great Family Man. A very sucessful business man. A man that always made you laugh and welcomed you with a smile.

Bruce was one of the first chippers I got close too. He told me many interesting stories over the years and was always friendly. Every show I was looking forward too seing bruce at the shows and often share dinner with him. He even met my dad and my dad told me that bruce was one of the nicest chippers he ever met. I don't even know what too say right now, its hard to believe that bruce passed away so suddenly. Just about a month ago he was in my hotel suite eating donuts and bsing with me. Many of you newcomers don't really know this , but believe me the hobby is loseing a truly genuine person on this sad day.

Bruce Landau will be a man I will never forget and my condolences go out to the Landau Family.

Rene

Posted By: Allan McCurdy <annallan@aol.com> (152.163.189.102)
Date: 12/20/02 6:26 a.m.

My last memory of him was stopping at my table at the last AC meeting to get a piece of candy & chat with my wife. He will be remembered by me as the honest auctioneer. God be with you Bruce.

Posted By: James Campiglia <jvcinsb@cox.net> (68.6.52.56)
Date: 12/20/02 5:00 a.m.

I got a call about Bruce earlier tonight. I am in shock. I just can not believe Bruce will not be at every show like he always was. He made more shows than anyone. He was one of my closest chip friends. There wasn't a nicer guy! I will miss him forever & so will my parents. He used to come over nearly every time he was in Vegas. We had great times & many laughs. Wonderful memories. We go back 12 years or so doing our chip deals. He always joked as he said I always got the best of the deal and he always ended up having to give me money at the end of the deal. I bet we made 100 deals!

My prayers go to his wife & family.

Posted By: Vince Mowery <bvinlv@aol.com> (198.81.26.208)
Date: 12/20/02 9:09 p.m.

Fond memories will always be with us. Many of our chips are Bruce's traders. Some from the early days when we traded stack height for stack height. A most trusted friend, always eager to help. Eileen: you have our deepest sympathy.

Bettye & Vince

Posted By: Terry Lazarus <pachipper@aol.com> (64.12.101.168)
Date: 12/20/02 5:24 a.m.

I am shocked and saddened. Bruce was a beautiful man, a mentor, and a friend. I will miss him greatly as will our hobby...forever.

Posted By: Russ Diaz <rndiaz@prodgy.net> (64.197.145.45)
Date: 12/20/02 6:53 a.m.

I was shocked and devastated upon hearing about Bruce's passing. Bruce was also a personal friend. I spent a week in the hospital last year and he called me every day to see how I was doing. He was that kind of guy. His contributions to the hobby are endless. Everyone enjoyed his stories and quips while volunteering as the AC's club auctioneer. He will be sorely missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Landau family.

Russ and Nancy Diaz

Posted By: Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> (68.80.130.219)
Date: 12/20/02 7:27 a.m.

I can't believe what I just read. I feel numb.

Bruce was one of the finest people who I ever knew. Always willing to help a fellow chipper with kind words of encouragement and a good deal on a chip. When I was a newbie chipper, I didn't make a move without consulting with him. And through the years, he has always been there for me and for the club.

I will miss him dearly. My condolences go out to Eileen and his entire family.

Nate

Posted By: Wayne Thompson HLM-2733 <wayne@casinocheques.com> (209.255.2.35)
Date: 12/20/02 7:33 a.m.

To say I'm stunned doesn't begin to convey my feelings. Bruce and Eileen have been dear friends since I got in this hobby. I'm really struggling to imagine what a hole he is going to leave for all who knew him. Bruce is the type of person who has helped make this hobby what it is.

I really don't think the Convention and certainly the AC meetings will ever be the same. We have lost a true gentleman and friend. I can't imagine what Eileen is going through right now.

I'm just glad I had the opportunity to get to know him, it really was my pleasure.

Wayne

Posted By: Jim Sarra <chipboyjim@aol.com> (64.12.101.177)
Date: 12/20/02 7:39 a.m.

What a horrible loss for all of us. No one has had a more positive influence on our hobby than Bruce. No one had more enthusiasm for our hobby. No one made our hobby more fun. No one worked more tirelessly for the Club. The hobby will never be the same. There are so many stories about Bruce to be told. And all of them will bring smiles to our faces. I miss him.

Posted By: Larry Hollibaugh R-4038 <Larry@RenoCasinoChips.com> (216.82.143.89)
Date: 12/20/02 7:43 a.m.

Bruce was one of the nicest people I have ever had the pleasure of enjoying a chip with. Please share my sincerest sympathy and condolences with Eileen and the rest of his family.

My condolences to the Landau family also

Posted By: Mark Lighterman <mlighter@bellsouth.net> (216.78.232.135)
Date: 12/20/02 7:46 a.m.

He was one of the best!

Mark, Ch-006

My sincerest condolences.

Posted By: Rick Miner- A "LOT"of "SNOW" <mrchip02@citlink.net> (207.173.231.54)
Date: 12/20/02 8:23 a.m.

Posted By: James L. Perlowski <jamesp@accessnv.com> (209.170.222.44)
Date: 12/20/02 8:29 a.m.

I remember the meeting like it was yesterday. A friend brought me to the 1993 CC>CC convention. I paid the admission fee to Michael Knapp who was working the door. As I entered the room the first table I walked up to was Bruce Landau's. I knew nothing about chips their values or what I was doing.

Mr. Landau told me to take a seat. Two hours later I had made one of my close chipper friends. I learned more in those two hours than I thought I would. Bruce sold me a few chips. In fact the very first chip I ever bought was from Bruce.

He informed me about Prodigy and the many collectors who were on line. He introduced me to Doug Saito who, over the years, became my closest friend.....The rest as they say is history.

We will miss you Bruce. We dearly "loved you". Eileen, our heart breaks for you. God Bless!!!
Jim & Rena Perlowski

Posted By: jim episale r2824 <jime@unshreddednostalgia.com> (68.39.177.151)
Date: 12/20/02 8:50 a.m.

He PERSONIFIED our code of ethics an honest and gentlman. Our condolences.
Jim and Barbara Episale

Posted By: Charles Kaplan, LM-2558-48 <ckaplan@attglobal.net> (24.185.194.184)
Date: 12/20/02 8:53 a.m.

He was the nicest guy I know in the hobby. We will not be the same without him. This loss is tragic.

My condolences to the family

Posted By: Mark Cotton R-5355 <mcotton@gte.net> (63.106.39.247)
Date: 12/20/02 8:56 a.m.

I never had the pleasure of meeting Bruce, but the sentiment expressed in the messages posted here speaks volumes about the kind of person he was and how he lived his life.

Posted By: Gene Trimble-Slabfree Chapter CM 1 <poker@lvcm.com> (68.104.77.24)
Date: 12/20/02 9:08 a.m.

I am sad. Bruce was a friend. The hobby will miss him.

Horrible News

Posted By: Marc Shapiro <mshapiro@chequers.com> (67.115.226.138)
Date: 12/20/02 9:09 a.m.

I am shocked & sadden to say the least . My condolences to his family and Many fellow freinds in the chipping family

Marc

My condolence to the Landau family.

Posted By: John Benedict (FL) R-388 <Benedict@webtv.net> (209.240.198.63)
Date: 12/20/02 10:10 a.m.

Our hobby lost one of the best.

JB

Posted By: Jeff Buckner R-5478 <shackmgr@directvinternet.com> (64.192.148.205)
Date: 12/20/02 10:19 a.m.

I never had the opportunity to meet Bruce, but it's obvious from all of the posts that he was a well loved and respected member of the hobby. He will be missed.

Peace to Landau family.

Posted By: Tom Hitselberger <tomhitselberger@pWSC.com> (151.200.228.130)
Date: 12/20/02 10:34 a.m.

I just heard the news this morning. I have known Bruce for almost 14 years and have always considered him a friend. He was always willing to share his vast knowledge with others without asking for anything in return. I will miss him greatly.
Tom in Virginia

Posted By: Ron Lischak <RLischak@comcast.net> (68.45.128.120)
Date: 12/20/02 10:38 a.m.

I'm deeply saddened by the news of Bruce's passing. I had the honor of working with Bruce at the last two convention auctions and there wasn't a finer person in this hobby. He will be truly missed by all. My condolences go out to his wife and family.

Posted By: Paul A. Sax--Citrus Heights, CA #4423 <paul@xenic.net> (158.222.224.167)
Date: 12/20/02 11:01 a.m.

Wow, what a shock. I woke up late this morning, logged on the board and faced this horrible news.

Needless to say, I admired and liked Bruce as much as anyone on this board even though I only knew him for a few years. We had many get togethers and enjoyable times. The last time was in Reno. A nicer person I have yet to meet.

I will always remember you Bruce. May God rest your soul in peace forever.

Posted By: Chuck Tomarchio (R-377) <cmtomarchio@ameritech.net> (216.141.249.242)
Date: 12/20/02 11:25 a.m.

I just received the news of Bruce's passing and am numb from shock and disbelief, I'm having a difficult time functioning. I am comforted by the fact that at our last convention, in a small way, I helped lightheartedly honor Bruce's service as our first Treasurer with the presentation of "The Shoe Box". For years Bruce allowed us to rib him about his abbreviated method of record keeping. I always viewed Bruce as a quiet leader who was instrumental in molding the Club into what it is today.

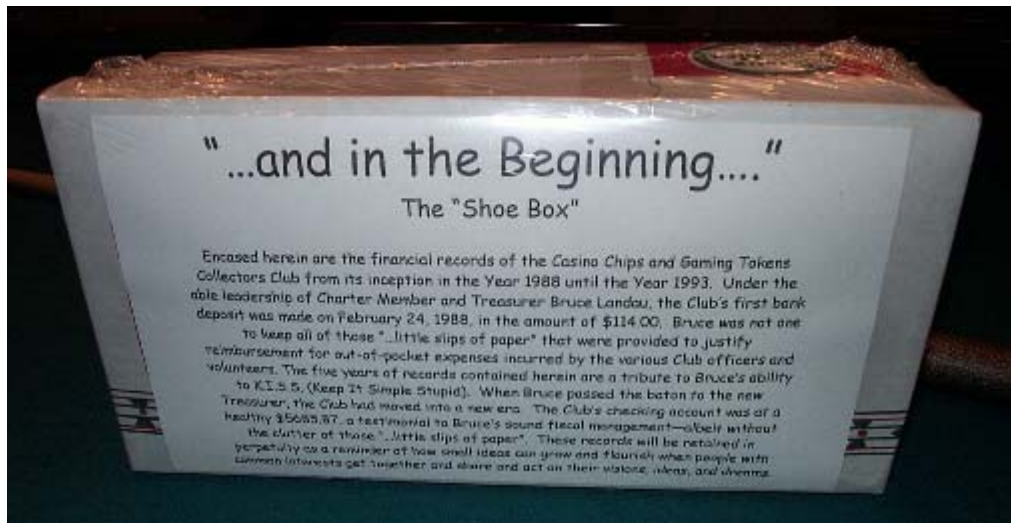
My deepest sympathy to Eileen and the Landau family. Rest in Peace, My Friend.

Here is the Shoe Box, Chuck!

Posted By: Andy Hughes LM-2471-52 <AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com> (64.221.136.208)
Date: 12/20/02 2:19 p.m.

Chuck wrote.....

I'm keeping "The Shoe Box" safe until we get a permanent home for it. Andy - Las Vegas



THANK YOU ANDY!!

Posted By: Chuck Tomarchio (R-377) <cmtomarchio@ameritech.net> (216.141.249.242)
Date: 12/20/02 3:57 p.m.

Andy:

A million thanks for finding a picture of the box and sharing it with us. I am crying as I remember that night and the look on Bruce's face as we presented him the "Shoe Box". Chuck T.

Posted By: Andy Hughes LM-2471-52 <AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com> (172.170.31.209)
Date: 12/20/02 5:00 p.m.

Chuck,

I'm sure Bruce would have had a laugh at this so I'll tell it here. A while after reading Dick's post I too remembered the Convention & the talk you gave showing the box. I really enjoyed hearing it. So, as I sat here I was trying to remember a bit of what was written on the box. I thought someone must know or have a copy. I put it out of my mind & figured somewhere down the line I would E-Mail you & you would tell me what it said. THEN I read your post & it hit me that I had the box here at the house. rofl Jim Kruse gave it to me to hang on to with some other things which will go into our new building down the road. At that point I dug it out & took the picture to post here. Andy - Las Vegas

Posted By: Janice & Jerry O'Neal <junkman3@earthlink.net> (206.107.221.251)
Date: 12/21/02 5:31 a.m.

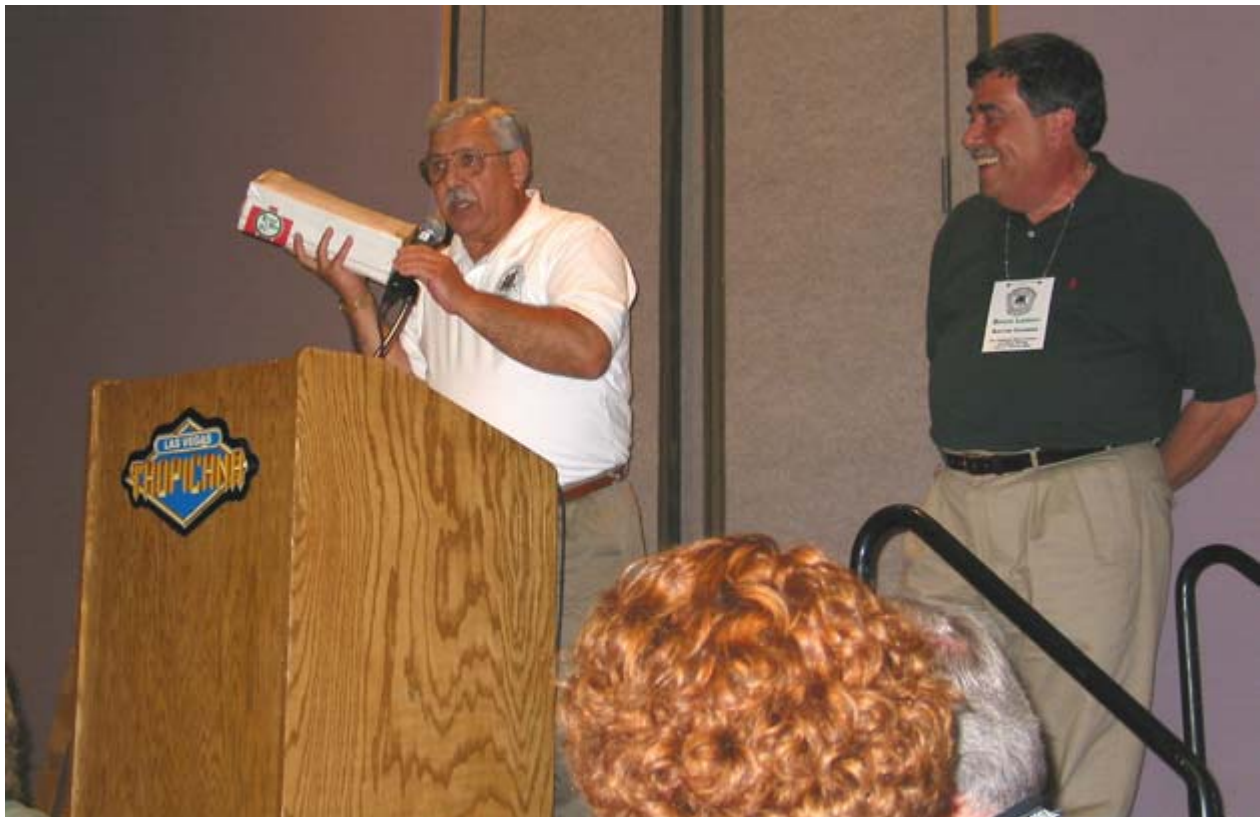
I am so glad to know that Bruce's "shoebox" is in good hands to be preserved for its own special place someday. There never failed to be some banter about that box when we would see him. We have known Bruce for 14 years and oh how many joyous times we have had. It is just impossible to think those times will be no more. But we will always have the great memories to hold onto.
Janice & Jerry O'Neal

Chuck - More Images of you, Bruce & the box...

Posted By: R. K. Covington LM-0967-42 <R_K_Covington@Prodigy.net> (68.68.202.197)
Date: 12/22/02 12:22 p.m.

Hey Chuck,

Here are some additional images from the last convention of you presenting the Box to Bruce...



Posted By: Archie Black <ablack2@optonline.net> (24.189.211.24)
Date: 12/21/02 11:11 p.m.

Thank you Andy for posting the story of Bruce's Shoe Box. It's so fitting now, only six months later after Chuck Tomarchio presented it at the club's 2002 convention banquet earlier this year during happier times, that it now serves as an appropriate reminder of the giant that Bruce Landau was in the hobby. I'm sure that many of the club's newer members are not aware of that part of our club's early history. Bruce's Shoe Box will remain like a time capsule as the years go on. Many of those little slips of paper Bruce kept inside the shoe box undoubtedly have stories to tell of their own.

Posted By: Jay Sands LM-4390-60 <jsands1@hotmail.com> (64.14.248.62)
Date: 12/20/02 12:02 p.m.

I'm stunned. A nicer and more knowledgeable man I couldn't imagine. I'll miss him.

My condolences to Bruce's family.

Posted By: Kent Hedberg R-5055 Fremont, Ca. <Hedberg@Prodigy.net> (64.156.226.236)
Date: 12/20/02 12:50 p.m.

I had only met Bruce briefly. That was enough for me to easily understand that this hobby and the world has lost a great man. My sincere hope is that all the love and positive energy from this board will make it to Bruce's family.

My sincerest condolences to the Landau family.

Posted By: Steve Bedo <gimmechips@adelphia.net> (66.12.5.138)
Date: 12/20/02 3:24 p.m.

Posted By: David Feavel - R-3965 - Southold, NY <dfeavel@optonline.net> (24.189.2.37)
Date: 12/20/02 5:39 p.m.

I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Bruce Landau. My sincere condolences go out to his family, co-workers, and his many friends. He will be missed.....

David Feavel

Posted By: Ted Brown R2812 <WTBIBR@AOL.COM> (205.188.209.103)
Date: 12/20/02 8:26 p.m.

I am so sorry to hear of this tragic event. Bruce was a dear friend and I will miss him very much. I remember having many fun chats with him and hearing many of his fascinating chip stories. It is a deep loss for all.

Posted By: Steve Piccolo R-821 <spiccolo@prodigy.net> (64.157.77.162)
Date: 12/20/02 8:37 p.m.

He will be missed. A better man would be hard to find. My condolences to his family.

A Very Sad Time

Posted By: Scott Brodsky - R-424 & Slabfree M-101 <scotski99@yahoo.com> (209.178.185.210)
Date: 12/21/02 10:24 a.m.

Bruce was the first collector that I got to know. He was always there with his hand out to shake me as I walked up to him. As everyone has already said, he always had a story to tell and would go out of his way to help anyone or the club in any way. My condolences to the family. Bruce will be missed and remembered.

Scott

Bruce Landau - Pioneer

Posted By: Howard W. "Howdy" Herz <chipmaster@chipmaster.com> (207.228.63.199)
Date: 12/20/02 12:50 a.m.

Very few things on this board shock me these days, but the news of Bruce Landau's death is beyond comprehension. Bruce was one of the most enthusiastic chippers that I have ever known. I used to have this crazy man always bothering me at Harvey's for chips. That was before we called it a hobby, before we had a club, before there were "chippers" and before even the gaming industry knew what collectors were. Over the years I began to understand that Bruce was truly the Ambassador of chipping for the entire United States and the world. He used his numerous travels with Bogan Photo to find chips in every corner of the world. If you want to know the truth, Bruce worked at chipping and played at chipping. There was a reason that he was club member No. 2, just behind Archie Black the CC>CC founder - because he was also a founder of the hobby. In the early years there was Harvey Fuller, Phil Jensen, Dale Seymour and Bruce Landau and not very many others. If you could say that all of us liked chips and collecting at a level 10, you could say that Bruce liked chip collecting at around level 15! When the CC>CC started, it was Bruce who was one of the most enthusiastic collectors. When I first published the Guide to Collecting Nevada Checks & Chips, it was Bruce's Landau's collection that provided the vast majority of photographs. I remember spending 12 hours in Bruce and Ilene's kitchen with Gregg and a camera. I can remember spending hours of work with Bruce conducting the club's auctions. Few people have given our hobby the attention that Bruce gave to all of us. It is really difficult to think of this hobby without Bruce Landau. I will miss him greatly as a personal friend, as a fellow collector, and as a man who made enthusiasm in chipping an art form.

Posted By: Jim Kruse <blkchips@swbell.net> (66.140.93.249)
Date: 12/20/02 3:15 a.m.

I can only think of one word- devastating. Last month Bruce and I spent time at Rene's show thinking of ways to improve the club auction this year. I was kidding him about his chip from the show and we had a ton of laughs. The club, the hobby, and all of us have lost a great person. I'll miss him. Jim

Re: Bruce Landau - I Remember

Posted By: Chuck Smorse <theothergeneral@lvcm.com> (68.108.74.176)
Date: 12/20/02 5:03 a.m.

A quick Story....

Bruce chased me for 3 block trying to catch me as I was walking down Fremont Street going to work at the Four Queens and after catching me, he asked me if I had some FQs chips he needed.....I had 2 of the 3 and made a few inquiries and got the other for him.....With his BIG SMILE he said "thanks," the next day.....Lord I miss him already....

The General (he called me that)

Posted By: James Campiglia <jvcinsb@cox.net> (68.6.52.56)
Date: 12/20/02 5:21 a.m.

Howdy that is a very wonderful story. I am sure many more can be written & should be about "the Ambassador of chipping" as you said. He was! He was THE man when it came to chips. He was the original. He pushed this hobby to make it what it is. It was beyond business & chips knowing Bruce. It wasn't just a chip deal dealing with Bruce it was an exciting experience. A trade or deal was fun. He touched everyone who met him. I am honored to know him so well & to of shared his joy & happiness for life. I know we will miss our chip buddy & mentor forever.

Posted By: Ralph Pollack <rpollack@ma.ultranet.com> (24.218.41.25)
Date: 12/21/02 8:50 p.m.

I was out of town and recently heard of Bruce Landau's passing away. Bruce was instrumental in starting me on this great hobby. In 1992, I read his ad in the Club Newsletter. I asked him to send me some chips. Not knowing what they were worth, I paid him and immediately called to have him explain where they were from. He always pleasantly gave me a history of each chip. After about 15 orders, and constant phone calls, Ilene knew me well via the phone. I met them both at the 1992 first CC>CC convention. We have been friends ever since.

I always wanted the chips that were uncirculated. Bruce informed me that you can't always have chips in that condition and that I was ahead of my time. Today we all try to get chips in as great condition as possible.

My wife Judy and myself will truly miss Bruce. He was the epitomy of a chip historian and collector!

Bruce Landau

Posted By: Michael Knapp <ChipProf@aol.com> (24.210.73.23)
Date: 12/20/02 5:12 a.m.

It is impossible to describe how I felt when I signed on this morning to read Dick Brach's note. I have known Bruce from before the beginning of the organization of the Club, and I cannot begin to imagine the chipping community or me without him.

Bruce was a friend to all chippers, a generous, optimistic good-natured person who was a tireless promoter of the hobby and everything best about it. He rarely had a bad word to say about anyone, and he helped incalculable numbers of people get started in the hobby.

Those who knew Bruce were his friends. I know of no one in the club, and few people I've ever met, who embraced everyone with the enthusiasm and good will Bruce did. He was always willing to help those who needed his support, no matter what the reason, and his work for the Club should be well-known to all.

His wife Eileen is a sweet woman who loves chip collectors almost as much as Bruce did. Not because she collects chips, because I don't think she does, but because she loves people and was always at Bruce's side when she could be, participating in the hobby and helping the Club as well.

There is a reason Bruce Landau was an early inductee into the Club's highest and most honored group: The Hall of Fame. Everyone who knew Bruce has as many reasons as I do. Those of us who knew him well all have Bruce stories, and once we gather our wits, I'm hoping they'll be told.

I'd like to say more - it's so difficult to pay adequate homage to a man like Bruce - but frankly I'm too shocked to think straight or say more right now.

Bruce will live on in the memories of all who knew him, and his contributions to the Club will stand as memorials as long as there is a Club.

We will miss you, my friend.

Michael

Posted By: Barry H. LM 4196-49 <BFH120@aol.com> (205.188.209.103)
Date: 12/20/02 6:21 a.m.

I am shocked at this news. Bruce is one of my first AC chipper friends. I happened to buy a chip from him on e bay and I picked it up from him at the first AC meeting I went to. I just spent time with Bruce in Vegas at the first Hank Boss auction. He will be missed. Barry

Posted By: Paul Liscio R-2949 <goto66@optonline.net> (67.84.162.141)
Date: 12/20/02 6:59 a.m.

Bruce will surely missed by all who knew him. What a GREAT person. I always looked forward to seeing him at the AC Chapter meetings. Great chips, great stories, great man.

Posted By: Archie Black <ablack2@optonline.net> (24.189.211.24)
Date: 12/20/02 8:59 a.m.

Brenda and I were deeply saddened and shocked as many of you were to read the disturbing announcement of Bruce Landau's untimely passing this morning. Words can not express the deep sense of tremendous loss and the sympathetic ache in my heart I have for his soul-mate wife, Eileen, and for the empty hole that will remain within the chip collecting community forever. This club will never be the same without Bruce.

Bruce was truly one of the early pioneers in this hobby and THE MOST respected chipper I've ever had the pleasure of knowing, barring none. He was a big part of my life when the CC & GTCC was initially formed in 1988 and throughout his term of office as Treasurer of the club and up until the present. He was a trusted good-natured and generous friend to everyone who ever met him. I still can't believe that he's gone.

Bruce possessed a rare gifted gregarious personality, that upon meeting him for the very first time you would immediately like him and instinctively know that he was a good person. The guy who would give you the proverbial shirt off his back and always asked if he could do more. He was truly an amazing man. The world would be such a nicer and friendlier place to live if there were more Bruce Landaus living in it.

Rest in peace my good friend. I shall miss you and your warm ever-present smile, your quick-wit and funny stories dearly!

God bless you Eileen, Bruce's loyal and adoring wife. You were an inspiration to Bruce and you played a huge part in developing his wide-spread friendship and trust with others.

Posted By: Mike & Donna Herhold R-4067 <chipperherhold@aol.com> (205.188.209.103)
Date: 12/20/02 9:13 a.m.

We were very sad to hear of Bruce's death. Our condolences go to his family and friends.

Posted By: Robert Touts N.J. R-4583 SFCM-18 <mustang333@worldnet.att.net> (12.89.135.16)
Date: 12/20/02 9:22 a.m.

A tragic loss. You will be deeply missed. Our A/C chapter meetings will just not be the same.

My condolences go out to his family

Posted By: Dick Bartley <DBartguy@aol.com> (64.12.104.189)
Date: 12/20/02 9:47 a.m.

What sad, terrible news to receive this morning. Bruce was a generous, kind and knowledgeable man. A giant in this hobby. Every time I asked Bruce, "What's the story behind this chip?" - he always knew the details and the numbers. What a fine and irreplaceable fellow - he will be sorely missed.

Posted By: Jerry Birl "Mr.Roulette" R-774 LM -27 <jerrybirl@mchsi.com> (12.219.86.57)
Date: 12/20/02 11:55 a.m.

I can't believe Bruce is gone. I will certainly miss him, he was a very special person. Bruce was always so upbeat and friendly. I remember him saying literally hundreds of times over the years "For you Jerry, anything you want." I remember at the last A.C. Chapter meeting Bruce was showing people HIS chip from Rene's Show and he joked how he thought he looked like Saddam Hussein on the chip. I asked him if he had an extra one of the chips and he said "No", but, "For you Jerry anything" and he gave me the chip. I will always cherish this chip since it represents the last Chipping experience I had the pleasure of sharing with Bruce and as usual he was sharing with one of his multitude of friends. Eileen my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Sincerely, Jerry

Posted By: Jane Voller (R5769) <mjvoller@columbus.rr.com> (131.167.70.225)
Date: 12/20/02 12:34 p.m.

I did not know the man, but from all the responses and comments I see posted, Bruce was obviously very special and very much loved. It's never a good time to lose a member of the family, and especially so around the holidays...My heartfelt condolences to the Landau family, and also to all my fellow chippers who knew him...

Re: Bruce Landau - Nice tribute Michael

Posted By: Pete "cheap chips" Porro #1040 <pporro@prodigy.net> (67.37.48.156)
Date: 12/20/02 12:57 p.m.

Posted By: Alan Borenstein, R-1611 <alanb19@aol.com> (67.81.215.185)
Date: 12/20/02 2:29 p.m.

I just checked in on the board and can not believe that Bruce Landau is gone. It is so hard to comprehend in my mind's eye that I see Bruce in Las Vegas and A.C. behind a table talking with me and I see him in A.C. conducting the auction, yet he is not here any more! I always kidded him that we were distant relatives because my wife's maiden name was Landau.

Bruce was really a "Good Person". I knew him for a long time and I will miss him at any chip event. Thanks Michael and Archie for your words, and condolences to Eileen and Bruce's family.
--Alan.

Posted By: Alan Borenstein, R-1611 <alanb19@aol.com> (67.81.215.185)
Date: 12/20/02 2:32 p.m.

I hope that someone prints out all the lovely messages for Eileen and sends them or presents them to her. Thanks--Alan.

Posted By: Joe Shaw <databzr@casino-chip.com> (12.234.153.116)
Date: 12/20/02 5:03 p.m.

I've been out of town since Monday and just got back. Only to find this shocking news about Bruce. I recall Bruce helping me out when I first started collecting. Always willing to help or just share a story. I'm going to miss going to his table at the conventions, listening to his stories, looking at the chips, his help, but most of all, I'm going to miss that smile that was always on his face.

Our deepest condolences to Eileen and the family.

Posted By: Max Smith R-2614--PACK34 <maxsmith@pcii.net> (216.165.188.33)
Date: 12/20/02 5:13 p.m.

I never really knew Bruce besides a few words here and there at the conventions. He was more than thankful for a package of slot cards I sent a while back. My condolences to Bruce's family. Max

Posted By: Bill Kaar <wrkaar@aol.com> (152.163.189.102)
Date: 12/20/02 7:45 p.m.

Bruce was a true friend to me and was always there to answer a question or two regarding a particular chip that I was curious about or had an interest in. He was a true gentleman who would always have the time and patience to discuss the hobby that he truly loved and knew so much about. I enjoyed our A.C. Chapter auctions that Bruce would conduct in a most capable and at times in a most humorous manner. I will forever have fond memories of a great person who made our hobby and chapter meetings that much more special and rewarding. Bruce, you will be sorely missed. My condolences to Eileen and the entire Landau family.

Bill Kaar

Posted By: Bob Orme R-3576 Colorado, SlabFree CM-20 <NitroBobO@prodigy.net> (209.244.76.72)
Date: 12/20/02 8:42 p.m.

We have lost a good man. My condolences to the Landau family in their time of such sudden and tragic loss. God bless you Bruce.

Posted By: Bob Ginsburg (FL) <ginsbur1@bellsouth.net> (216.77.221.92)
Date: 12/21/02 1:22 p.m.

I too am deeply shocked by Bruce's untimely passing. My heartfelt condolences to the Landau family. I remember that one of the first trades I ever made was over the phone with Bruce. I had one chip that he wanted & he told me that he would send me equal value in trade. I sent off the lone chip & in a few days a rather heavy package arrived with 30 to 40 chips, some of which I knew were of greater value than the chip I sent. I phoned Bruce later that week & told him how pleased I was with the trade. I recall him saying something like, "If you're pleased, so am I." This was the unselfish way in which Bruce conducted himself with others in the hobby. Be in peace & rest your gracious & kind soul.

Bruce Landau Memorial Fund

Posted By: Michael Knapp <ChipProf@aol.com> (24.210.73.23)
Date: 12/20/02 5:59 a.m.

As I've thought about our loss and Bruce's contributions to the hobby, it occurred to me that the hundreds of chippers Bruce helped and touched might want to pay tribute to Bruce in a tangible way.

I can think of no more fitting a tribute to Bruce than to continue building the hobby to which he devoted so much of his time and energy.

I will make a donation to the Club building fund in Bruce's name, and I urge others to do the same if they would like. I would ask that Jim Kruse, on behalf of the building fund, keep track of donations made in Bruce's memory, and after a suitable period of time, to write to Eileen to let her know that the donations have been made.

Michael

Posted By: Archie Black <ablack2@optonline.net> (24.189.211.24)
Date: 12/20/02 9:10 a.m.

Michael; I think that your idea is an excellent one and I'll support it fully in the hopes that other chippers will be encouraged to do also. I will donate an additional \$250 in Bruce Landau's memory towards the club building fund.

Posted By: Nate Pincus <president@ccgtcc.com> (68.80.130.219)
Date: 12/20/02 9:43 a.m.

I can't think of any better way to honor Bruce and to remember all that he has done for the club and the hobby. I too will be making a donation in Bruce's memory to the Building Fund.

Nate

Posted By: Mike Skelton, HLM-1003 <Bugsy46@aol.com> (152.163.189.102)
Date: 12/20/02 10:24 a.m.

Michael, I agree this is a great idea and a small tribute to one of the finest persons I've ever known. Ann and I will be forwarding a check to the Building Fund in honor of our dear friend.

I would like to donate...help

Posted By: Ellen Springer R-5370 <arianacharlie@aol.com> (64.12.96.198)

Date: 12/20/02 12:27 p.m.

Can someone please email me or post the address for the bulding fund please. I would love to donate in memory of a great fellow chipper.

Thank You,

Ellen

All donations to the Building Fund can.....

Posted By: Andy Hughes LM-2471-52 <AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com> (64.221.136.208)

Date: 12/20/02 1:16 p.m.

.....be sent to:

Mike Quinlivan

Treasurer ccgcc

P.O. Box 249

Atwood, CA 92811-0249

Make the check out to the ccgcc Building Fund and either write in the memo area of the check that it is in memory of Bruce or attach a note. Andy - Las Vegas

BUILDING FUND DONATION ADDRESS

Posted By: Mike Quinlivan <treasurer@ccgcc.com> (216.237.48.18)

Date: 12/20/02 1:16 p.m.

To All,

You may send your contributions for the Bruce Landau Memorial Fund to the address below. I will keep track of the donations and provide the information to Jim Kruse. Please make the check out to CC & GTCC Building Fund. Thank you for your contributions. Bruce will be sorely missed.

Mike Quinlivan

Treasurer - ccgcc

PO Box 249

Atwood, CA 92811-0249

Posted By: Charles Kaplan, LM-2558-48 <ckaplan@attglobal.net> (24.185.194.184)
Date: 12/20/02 1:12 p.m.

Mike, Great idea. I will also send a contribution.

Posted By: Andy Hughes LM-2471-52 <AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com> (64.221.136.208)
Date: 12/20/02 1:36 p.m.

Michael,

Great idea! I think what I will do though is have an auction here on The ChipBoard which will start on January 2nd with all the money going to the ccgtcc Building Fund in Bruce's name. I'm starting it on the 2nd to go along with Bruce's ccgtcc number which was 2 for those who did not know & right behind Archie. I'll be putting a group of chips together & will also include a chip that Bruce bought one of from me not too long ago. What a sad day this is, but what great memories we have of Bruce. Andy - Las Vegas

Andy...my first dealing with Bruce...

Posted By: Steve Bedo <gimmechips@adelphia.net> (66.12.5.138)
Date: 12/20/02 3:14 p.m.

was a \$1 Landmark that I won from him on eBay. I was brand new to chip collecting, but that chip auction led to numerous e-mail exchanges and several more chip deals. When I finally met him at a Casinorama show and at every other meeting afterward, his first comment was always how I "stole" that chip from him. grin

He was a true prince among men, always with a great smile and time to talk...a wonderful, wonderful man. I will miss him...

In his memory, I wish to donate that very special \$1 Landmark chip to your Building Fund chip auction... a very small way to say thanks to a very big man.

Posted By: Andy Hughes LM-2471-52 <AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com> (64.221.136.208)
Date: 12/20/02 3:30 p.m.

Steve, It's a nice story & I will add it to the auction! grin Andy - Las Vegas

Posted By: Mitch and Cheryl Heller <cmrheller@aol.com> (152.163.189.102)
Date: 12/20/02 6:10 p.m.

I am in shock! This is a sad day. I feel like crying! I am so crushed! We all have lost someone very special. This really hurts. I spoke with Bruce less than 2 weeks ago concerning my chips going into the club auction. All I said to myself when I hung up the phone was (I really like that guy and I can't wait to see him at the show)

My prayers and condolences to the family. Bruce was one in a million and that's being conservative. It is a true loss and when that building fund is finally built and all chippers are enjoying its existence. We all can say Bruce had a lot to do with it. He will not be forgotten but remembered for all his achievements but mostly for being one of the kindest and most generous persons on our planet!!
Cheryl and I will be making a contribution on behalf of Bruce.
Mitch and Cheryl Heller

Posted By: Steve Blust R-4120 <sblust@accessbee.com> (64.66.215.79)
Date: 12/20/02 5:47 p.m.

Andy, I would like to donate a set (\$25, \$5, \$2.50, \$1) of the Palms 2002 convention chips to your building fund auction in Bruce's memory.

Posted By: Andy Hughes LM-2471-52 <AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com> (64.221.136.49)
Date: 12/20/02 7:46 p.m.

Steve, I'll add the chips to the list I am making for the auction. Hang onto the chips & once the auction is over I'll E-Mail you the winners address to mail it out. Andy - Las Vegas

Posted By: george g. <ggintel@aol.com> (205.174.22.20)
Date: 12/20/02 7:17 p.m.

andy, i am a new collector, but would be honored if i could contribute something...i would like to know where i could donate a \$5 hard rock bunny chip if that would be ok...please let me know...thanks and god bless the landau family...g.g.

Posted By: Andy Hughes LM-2471-52 <AndyHughes@NevadaCasinoChips.com> (64.221.136.49)
Date: 12/20/02 7:44 p.m.

George, I'll add the chip to the list I am making for the auction. Hang onto the chip & once the auction is over I'll E-Mail you the winners address to mail it out. Andy - Las Vegas

Posted By: Barry H. LM 4196-49 <BFH120@aol.com> (205.188.209.103)
Date: 12/20/02 8:23 p.m.

Andy, I would like to add to the auction a Bally's 25 NCV chip. I will also be sending a check to the Building fund in his name. Barry

BRUCE LANDAU

Posted By: TRAVIS H. D. LEWIN <thdlewin@law.syr.edu> (128.230.125.253)
Date: 12/20/02 10:25 a.m.

Just once in the past many months I did not turn on my computer as I sought to finish grading and so it was only now that I learned of Bruce's death. Like Jim, I sit in tears for the loss of a man who was a friend to all of us.

I join Michael in the hope we can provide an appropriate memorial in Bruce's name and will contribute to the building fund in his name.

Re: BRUCE LANDAU

Posted By: Jill B., R-4943, Arizona <jsbitner@cableone.net> (24.117.83.222)
Date: 12/20/02 11:51 a.m.

Bruce and I had been communicating daily since the 11th about the Club Auction. In fact, I mailed the chips I had to him yesterday... I was anxious to hear his opinion on them... since I value it deeply. I respected his commitment to ensure this year's auction would be the "best" ever. When I read the announcement this morning, I was reeling in disbelief. For those never got to meet Bruce in person... one phrase keeps coming to mind: "Bigger than Life". Bruce WAS a big man... not only in size, but in heart, soul, knowledge, generosity, humor, commitment and integrity. One thing I keep hearing is a common sense of shock. I'm not sure how old he was... but he wasn't "that old". sad It seems impossible that such a vibrant, energetic man could leave us without warning. Sad. I sit here - wanting to say something... but instead am filled with a sense of unreasonable, childish anger. It doesn't seem fair - he was SO full of plans... and DAMMIT!! He would have NEVER (willingly) bailed when he was working so hard to finish the catalogue! mad

About Bruce Landau...I'll miss his kindness and generosity. I'll miss him telling me, "Ahhhhhhh... don't worry about it. We'll work ya deal." (and he did!) Grin. I'll remember his unconditional trust at the 2001 convention when he handed me boxes and boxes of his finest chips (for the C-notes Exhibit)... and he and Mel's good natured bantering. And I'll miss his appreciation of "newer collectors". I'll never forget his amusement when I was rendered paralyzed & "chip-struck" by the beauty of his black Flamingo die-cut. He just laughed and laughed! because I just stood there in awe - holding the chip, carefully cupped in both hands, saying over and over (almost reverently), "Ohhhhhhhh my gosh. LOOK at this one."

Bigger than life... yeah... that's Bruce.

It seems fitting for a man that was never "too big" to help others.

Bruce will be missed - and I'm sorry there are no words to express my sorrow to his beloved friends & family.

Landau Family Address

Posted By: Dick Brach <cabodick@aol.com> (205.188.209.103)
Date: 12/20/02 10:57 a.m.

I have many requests for the Landau Family address to send sympathy cards;
Address as follows:

44 West Gate Road
Suffern,N.Y. 10901

I spoke with Eileen very early this morning, and the Family is in the process of making funeral arrangements for Sunday. As soon as there is a place and time,I will post on the BB.

Eileen thanks all the chipping community for the expression of love and sympathy.

Bruce Landau

Posted By: BERNIE <BERNSLOFL@AOL.COM> (172.129.122.158)
Date: 12/20/02 10:59 a.m.

When Dick called me last nite at 12pm I thought it was a dream. It was not it was a nitemare. We lost one of the finest people I have ever met!!! I spoke to Bruce at least 3 times per week about chips and other things. He called me at the hospital for up-dates on my operation. He will be sorley missed, by all. My condolences to the family. Bernie

Bruce Landau

Posted By: Belinda Hixon <b.hixon@attbi.com> (12.238.211.18)
Date: 12/20/02 11:58 a.m.

May God bless his soul and may he rest peacefully.

BRUCE LANDAU

Posted By: Archie Black <ablack2@optonline.net> (24.189.211.24)
Date: 12/20/02 1:36 p.m.

ALL OF A SUDDEN, THINGS THAT WERE CONSIDERED IMPORTANT YESTERDAY ARE NO LONGER IMPORTANT TODAY!

IT'S TRULY A SAD, SAD DAY ALL ACROSS CHIPTOWN, USA.

Re: BRUCE LANDAU

Posted By: Lin Weisenstein and Dad <pollyester17@hotmail.com> (67.80.112.203)
Date: 12/20/02 3:25 p.m.

I am greatly saddened to hear of Bruce's passing. My prayers and condolences to the Landau family. I looked forward to see Bruce at the AC chapter meetings, always with a smile and a thermos of coffee, and from rummaging through his big pile of bargain chips (and sometimes finding the real good ones he slipped in there for dedicated searchers. Bruce was the first person I ever traded a chip with at my first AC chapter meeting, even though I had no idea what I was doing and was questioning why I was even there. He always made new chippers feel most welcome. His AC chapter auctions were legendary, and often quite humorous. It won't be the same without Bruce. I will be contributing to the memorial fund.

Posted By: Scott Hartman "The Chip Man" LM-501-06 <scott@chipman.com> (66.51.221.203)
Date: 12/20/02 4:25 p.m.

We just read the news of Bruce's passing. We're still in shock! We will miss him. He was a chipper, leader and most of all a friend. Our deepest sympathy to Eileen and the Landau family.
Rest in Peace. Scott & Estelle

Posted By: Steve Piccolo R-821 <spiccolo@prodigy.net> (64.157.77.162)
Date: 12/20/02 8:27 p.m.

A sad day it truly is, Bruce will be missed by his family and all of us in his "collecting" family. It's still a shock to me and it still hasn't settled in my mind that I will not be seeing him at our chapter meetings in AC anymore. My sincere condolences go out to his family.

Posted By: Allan Myers CH-027 <myersmyers@insightbb.com> (12.220.208.72)
Date: 12/21/02 9:23 p.m.

Diane and I are still in shock. No words can adequately express our deep sadness. Bruce was an exceptional individual. His fabulous smile and wonderful sense of humor endeared him to all. We will treasure our memories of the times we spent with Bruce and Eileen. Our thoughts are with you, Eileen. We love you.
Diane and Allan

Bruce will be missed...

Posted By: ... (24.184.122.57)

Date: 12/20/02 2:23 p.m.

I am(was) a fellow co-worker with Bruce. I work at Tamron USA, the company he was president of. Let me just say that he was one of the most nicest, kindest people you would ever want to meet. He would always grace us with his humorous jokes at meetings and company gatherings. One of the funniest people I have ever had the priveledge of meeting. If you came up to me and told me that Bruce had given you the cold shoulder over something or was mean to you...I would tell you that you are lying. The man didn't have a cold bone in his body.

My condolences go out to his wife and daughter. So sad becuase of the time of year this had to occur plus the fact that he recently became a grandfather. May God rest his soul.

Bruce Landau Dies

Posted By: Steve Hess <shess1@frontiernet.net> (65.37.82.243)

Date: 12/20/02 3:47 p.m.

I wanted to let Bruce's chip collecting friends know that my very dear friend, Bruce Landau died suddenly last night of an apparent heart attack at his company's Holiday party.

Posted By: Fred Lamb (68.5.135.84)

Date: 12/20/02 4:27 p.m.

I never met and didn't know Bruce. After reading 90 BB posts, I haves tears in my eyes, and a broken heart. What a great loving man, oh how many true friends he had. Why do the great people often die young? God be with his family and friends. What a out pouring of love for this hobby's super star.

Posted By: Chuck Tomarchio (R-377) <cmtomarchio@ameritech.net> (216.141.249.242)

Date: 12/20/02 5:19 p.m.

Fred:

In a quiet and unassuming way Bruce Landau was amongst those at the top of the list of our hobby's super stars. He will be missed far and wide within our great hobby.

Posted By: larry markman <larrymarkman38@prodigy.net> (64.158.48.151)

Date: 12/21/02 9:23 a.m.

Just to add my name to this list of many shocked friends of this great person who gave more too the chiping hobby than any one I know--he will be missed!!!--May God be with his family--Larry

Funeral Services Bruce Landau

Posted By: Dick Brach <cabodick@aol.com> (64.12.96.198)
Date: 12/20/02 4:26 p.m.

Funeral services for Bruce will be held this coming Sunday, December 22nd at 12 Noon at the Schom Menorah Chapel
150 Route 4 East
Paramus, New Jersey
1-201-843-9090
Bruce would have been 56 this coming Monday,
December 23rd

Posted By: Rich Figarotta <RFigarotta@aol.com> (152.163.189.102)
Date: 12/20/02 9:18 p.m.

I'll be 56 on December 24th....Makes you wonder. My deepest sympathy to his family, and our hobby.
Bruce was one of the best....
Rich Figarotta R-1593

For Bruce Landau ...

Posted By: Charles Kaplan, LM-2558-48 <ckaplan@attglobal.net> (24.185.194.184)
Date: 12/20/02 5:39 p.m.

Can we name the auction at the CC>CC annual convention: The Bruce Landau Memorial Auction?

Posted By: Mike Skelton, HLM-1003 <bugsy46@aol.com> (152.163.189.102)
Date: 12/20/02 5:54 p.m.

Charles, I made an informal request of President Pincus that the BOD do exactly that early this morning! I am sure they will consider it at the proper time.

Posted By: John Zoesch R-3145 <vicepresident@ccgtcc.com> (68.155.5.102)
Date: 12/21/02 7:20 a.m.

In Response To: For Bruce Landau ... (Charles Kaplan, LM-2558-48)

I am speaking only for myself at this point but I can't think of any reason why the BOD would oppose such a move. I think it is a great idea.

Posted By: Gene Lonstein <Jebsam2000@attbi.com> (66.176.210.220)

Date: 12/20/02 7:38 p.m.

I have never posted a message on this board eventhough I'm an "old timer" in the club. However, upon learning the shocking news and now reading the many loving tributes to Bruce, I felt the need to add my condolences to the long list of friends who are saddened and stunned by this unexpected tragedy. The Lonstein family will be sending a check in Bruce's memory for the building fund that is being established in his name. Gene

Jim Steffner <casinojim@prodigy.net> (209.156.146.15)

Date: 12/21/02 7:48 a.m.

This is a great idea and a perfect way to carry on Bruce's memory and hard work in this event. This is also a fitting tribute so future club members who did not have the privledge of knowing this fine man will ask about the memorial. We who shared our membership and many meetings and dealings with Bruce, will have the opportunity to relay how much he did for the club. I know I will miss him, his smile, relentless hard work at the auction, and everything he did for all the membes of the club. Keep a lookout Bruce, in June you will be able to see that your past efforts are being carried on in your honor.

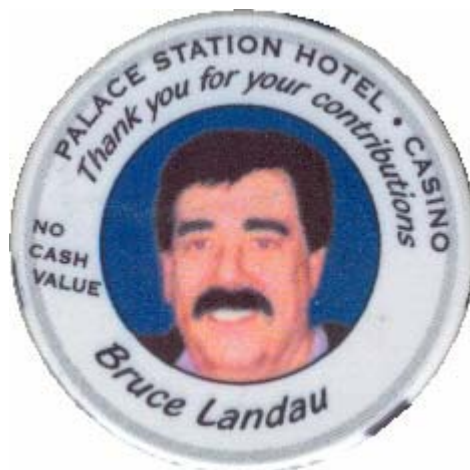
Bruce Landau ... The Chip

Posted By: Charles Kaplan, LM-2558-48 <ckaplan@attglobal.net> (24.185.194.184)

Date: 12/20/02 8:43 p.m.

Issued recently at the Palace Station show. Bruce gave me this chip at the AC Chapter meeting last month. It wasn't the first chip that Bruce just gave me, but it will be the last. I can't believe that I just said that. It is so sad. This chip is a NCV, that is No Cash Value, which is fitting because my friendship with Bruce was priceless.

At this time of year, I just can't help myself from thinking that Bruce was always jolly. And he was a pound or two away from his ideal weight. And he just gave and gave and gave of himself to everyone, friend or stranger. He was the chip hobby's Santa. That's it, Santa Bruce.



Bruce Landau Memorial

Posted By: Jim Kruse <blkchips@swbell.net> (66.140.93.127)
Date: 12/21/02 1:54 a.m.

I guess I'm still kinda shocked but the ideas to donate to the fund in Bruce's memory and to name the auction after him our great ideas. He loved that auction from day one and you have no idea how hard he worked to make it successfull. If someone asked me to figure who put what in the auction to make it the great success it's been, I'd have to say: Jim 5%, Howdy 20% and Bruce 75%. God we'll miss him.

Bruce Landau Rememberance

Posted By: Jim Gardner <J7BGardner@aol.com> (64.12.96.198)
Date: 12/21/02 1:19 p.m.

The family is not accepting flowers at the Chapel but suggested donations to either THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION or THE AMERICAN CANCER ASSOCIATION.

Bruce Landau... 123k byte image

Posted By: R. K. Covington LM-0967-42 <R_K_Covington@Prodigy.net> (68.68.202.197)
Date: 12/22/02 11:46 a.m.

I'm still stunned, and am not sure what to think or say. I received an e-mail on 20 Dec. from Jim Gardner, and couldn't believe what I read. I also read the post on this bb, and still couldn't believe it...

My God.

Bruce is my friend - he is a friend of all, especially chippers. I always looked forward to talking with Bruce at the Convention & at various chip shows. Especially the impromptu chip trade sessions. He always had great stories, and truly loved life. He always treated everyone with respect, and most of all fairly. He would frequently give chips to new collectors, and he loved seeing people that had a spark or should I say a love for chips as he did.

My condolences to the Landau family - as always is there is anything I can do - PLEASE LET ME KNOW!!!

Below is an image I took at the last Casinorama show (Oct 19th 2002), of Bruce looking over some chips for the upcoming convention chip auction. I know the file is large - yet I think it shows how Bruce really enjoyed looking at chips.



All the posts about Bruce, really drives home the point that good people that really care about people, are truly missed - and rare.

This time of year makes it even harder to believe that it was his time to go...

Rest in peace my friend - you will be missed - you will be remembered.

Your friend,

Dick

Posted By: Jim Munding <mun3335@aol.com> (152.163.189.102)

Date: 12/22/02 5:51 p.m.

Bruce attended CASINORAMA back when it was the BELLFLOWER SHOW.....He visited me at my home once and I traded some casino security patches to him. He mentioned recently that he still enjoyed looking at them.....Bruce recently became a FULL FLEDGED slot card and room key collector. Bruce Landau was my friend and I will miss him....

Bruce Landau's Funeral

Posted By: Charles Kaplan, LM-2558-48 <ckaplan@attglobal.net> (24.185.194.184)

Date: 12/22/02 2:31 p.m.

I am just back from Bruce's funeral. Bruce had as much respect outside as he did inside the chip collecting hobby. Over 200 came to pay their last respects, family, friends and business associates. Standing room only. Bruce has a wonderful family. We all know Eileen, she was always by his side, but his children reflect all the wonderful qualities that we saw in Bruce. Humble, strong, intelligent, a good sense of humor and a winning personality. Among the chippers in attendance were Charlene and Dick Brach, Brenda and Archie Black, Jerry Birl, Eric Rosenblum, Jack Weingarten, Frank Caccavone and David Harber. I am very impressed by the turn out of the chipping community. Especially so Dave Harber who came in all the way from Las Vegas. Please pardon me if I left anyone out. It was very crowded and I was not able to see everyone there.

Even though I was there and saw it myself, I am still in shock that he is no longer with us. As were most of the audience. Only a very few left with dry eyes. The central theme of the service was that we should not mourn his death, but instead celebrate his life. We never know what the next moment will bring. Live life to its fullest. Since the time of Bruce's mothers death, 9 years ago, he called his father every single day. No matter how busy he was or were he was traveling, he called his father to check in on him and tell him that he loved him. He was also always in touch with his children and always told them the he loved them. He was a role model to all who knew him.

I hope that I was able to learn something from Bruce. I hope that we were all able to learn something from Bruce. I hope that we can look past the small problems that confront us from day to day and that we can focus on the important things in life. To paraphrase from the service ... Bruce was a great collector, a collector of not material items, but of friendships.

Good bye, Bruce, my friend. I will remember you always.

Posted By: Jill B., R-4943, Arizona <jsbitner@cableone.net> (24.117.83.222)

Date: 12/22/02 3:00 p.m.

Thank you Charles for a wonderful summary of today's events and sharing such a personal goodbye with those of us who can't be there. My son asked me this morning "How come every time you go on the computer lately, it makes you cry?" I'm willing to bet for every person who was there, there are a 100 more who couldn't - that were also touched by Bruce - in and out of the hobby. Where there is grief, there is love. One thing seems clear, Bruce was loved by many.

Steve Piccolo R-821 <spiccolo@prodigy.net> (63.208.114.225)

Date: 12/22/02 6:24 p.m.

In Response To: Bruce Landau's Funeral (Charles Kaplan, LM-2558-48)

I'm glad to hear the services were well attended. I drove around the area that Dick posted for the services for about an hour and couldn't find it and I feel terrible that I couldn't. I left the name of the chapel and phone number home so I really had no alternative but to go home. My heart was there.....

Posted By: Charles Kaplan, LM-2558-48 <ckaplan@attglobal.net> (24.185.194.184)
Date: 12/22/02 6:49 p.m.

I had problems getting there as well. If you followed directions from Yahoo Maps, you would never get there. It was about 2 miles west of where Yahoo told you it would be. After circling for 20 minutes, I called the chapel and got the real location.

Posted By: TRAVIS H. D. LEWIN <thdlewin@law.syr.edu> (24.29.69.231)
Date: 12/23/02 7:36 a.m.

Aside from the Building Fund memorial, did the family have a request for a memorial?

Yes

Posted By: Charles Kaplan, LM-2558-48 <ckaplan@attglobal.net> (24.185.194.184)
Date: 12/23/02 8:27 a.m.

American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society.

Bruce

Posted By: joe fiore <jafiore@prodigy.net> (64.252.235.67)
Date: 12/22/02 5:35 p.m.

I was away and just learned of Bruce Landau's passing. Bruce was a rock for all of us to lean on and take for granted so many times and in so many ways. His heart was soft and kind and larger than he was tall. No A.C. Chapter meeting will ever be the same for those of us who, for years, have come to thrive on his friendship, knowledge, sharing, good humor, and just plain decency. I dare say, no Convention can ever be the same either. May God watch over his wife Eileen and his children, and give them strength to survive their deep loss. Bruce will always be respected and remembered for the outstanding human being that he was.

Bruce Landau

Posted By: ralph pollack <ralph.pollack2@verizon.net> (151.199.21.192)
Date: 12/23/02 6:53 a.m.

I am sitting at my desk in the office and still am numb about the loss of Bruce. He was a friend to most of us and also a sounding board to me. I had many questions about our terrific hobby and he was always there to answer them. He will truly be missed and a great void has developed in our club. Bruce, it was an honor and pleasure to have known you.

Bruce Landau Memorial Fund

Posted By: Michael Knapp <ChipProf@aol.com> (24.210.73.23)
Date: 12/20/2002 6:00 a.m.

As I've thought about our loss and Bruce's contributions to the hobby, it occurred to me that the hundreds of chippers Bruce helped and touched might want to pay tribute to Bruce in a tangible way.

I can think of no more fitting a tribute to Bruce than to continue building the hobby to which he devoted so much of his time and energy.

I will make a donation to the Club building fund in Bruce's name, and I urge others to do the same if they would like. I would ask that Jim Kruse, on behalf of the building fund, keep track of donations made in Bruce's memory, and after a suitable period of time, to write to Eileen to let her know that the donations have been made.

Michael

To All,

You may send your contributions for the Bruce Landau Memorial Fund to the address below. I will keep track of the donations and provide the information to Jim Kruse.

Please make the check out to CC & GTCC Building Fund.

Thank you for your contributions. Bruce will be sorely missed.

Mike Quinlivan
Treasurer - ccgtcc
PO Box 249
Atwood, CA 92811-0249

Bruce Landau

Posted By: Michael Knapp <ChipProf@aol.com> (24.210.73.23)
Date: 12/20/2002 5:18 a.m.

It is impossible to describe how I felt when I signed onto Greg Susong's Chipboard this morning to read Dick Brach's note that Bruce Landau passed away last night. I have known Bruce from before the beginning of the organization of the Club, and I cannot begin to imagine the chipping community or me without him.

Bruce was a friend to all chippers, a generous, optimistic good-natured person who was a tireless promoter of the hobby and everything best about it. He rarely had a bad word to say about anyone, and he helped incalculable numbers of people get started in the hobby.

Those who knew Bruce were his friends. I know of no one in the club, and few people I've ever met, who embraced everyone with the enthusiasm and good will Bruce did. He was always willing to help those who needed his support, no matter what the reason, and his work for the Club should be well-known to all.

His wife Eileen is a sweet woman who loves chip collectors almost as much as Bruce did. Not because she collects chips, because I don't think she does, but because she loves people and was always at Bruce's side when she could be, participating in the hobby and helping the Club as well.

There is a reason Bruce Landau was an early inductee into the Club's highest and most honored group: The Hall of Fame. Everyone who knew Bruce has as many reasons as I do. Those of us who knew him well all have Bruce stories, and once we gather our wits, I'm hoping they'll be told.

I'd like to say more - it's so difficult to pay adequate homage to a man like Bruce - but frankly I'm too shocked to think straight or say more right now.

Bruce will live on in the memories of all who knew him, and his contributions to the Club will stand as memorials as long as there is a Club.

We will miss you, my friend.

Michael

Re: Bruce Landau

Posted By: Wayne Thompson HLM-2733 <wayne@casinocheques.com> (209.255.2.35)
Date: 12/20/2002 7:40 a.m.

To say I'm stunned doesn't begin to convey my feelings. Bruce and Eileen have been dear friends since I got in this hobby. I'm really struggling to imagine what a hole he is going to leave for all who knew him. Bruce is the type of person who has helped make this hobby what it is.

I really don't think the Convention and certainly the AC meetings will ever be the same. We have lost a true gentleman and friend. I can't imagine what Eileen is going through right now.

I'm just glad I had the opportunity to get to know him, it really was my pleasure.

Wayne

Archie Black <ablack2@optonline.net> (24.189.211.24)
Date: 12/20/2002 9:25 a.m.

I still can't believe it! What a tragic sudden loss for Eileen and the family ... and for the hobby.

Bruce was quite a man. Those who never met him, missed knowing one of the greatest persons I've had the pleasure of sharing a part of my life with. I guess I was one of the many fortunate ones who could call Bruce a "friend". I'll miss him deeply. For me, the hobby will never be the same without him....

Robert Pardue LM-0003-40 <pardue@cox.net> (68.5.60.233)
Date: 12/20/2002 11:00 a.m.

I too am shocked and saddened to learn of Bruce's passing. I've known him since the club began. I will fondly remember him for his congeniality, his passion for chip collecting, and his willingness to share his time, talents and information with fellow collectors. This is a huge loss for our community.

Posted By: neal <neal@chequers.com> (64.115.119.57)
Date: 12/20/2002 12:39 p.m.

What a shock.....The hobby has lost one of it's finest.

Neal

Posted By: Marty Kaplan <marty@chequers.com> (68.38.248.216)
Date: 12/20/2002 3:17 p.m.

There are far too few gentlemen in the world, today there is one less. This is just terribly, terribly sad and shocking news.

Dave Shron <dshron@msn.com> (67.24.2.111)
Date: 12/21/2002 1:50 a.m.

Bruce was one of the truly honorable people I have every had the pleasure of knowing. Our friendship goes back to the early days of Atlantic City chip collecting. He will be missed my all who knew him. My sincere condolences to Eileen and their family.

Posted By: Charles T. Rodgers <ctcoins@aol.com> (198.81.26.241)
Date: 12/21/2002 6:13 p.m.

It was people like Bruce that made this such a fun hobby to be in. Without him it will not be the same. Our small group of Charter Members has just gotten a little smaller.
C. T. Rodgers

NY Chippers,

It is my saddest responsibility to report the passing of Bruce Landau.

Bruce suddenly died earlier this week from a heart attack.

Bruce was one of the early members of our chapter.

He was one of the pioneering members of our hobby and the CC>CC.

For many years he was the treasurer of the CC>CC.

He has been the Auction Chairman of the CC>CC Convention for many years.

He was elected to the CC>CC Chippers Hall of Fame.

He was a charter member of the Atlantic City chapter and their auction chairman.

Bruce started in this hobby when there was no Club, when there were no dealers.

There were only collectors who gathered chips and traded among themselves.

The trades were "my stack of chips for your stack of chips".

At that time there was no regard for or even a concept of a monetary value assigned to chips.

Bruce collected and traded chips because he loved the chips and the collectors.

He was a personal friend and we traded together often.

He was the finest gentleman that I know of in this hobby.

It will not be the same without him.

I extend my condolences and the condolences of all NY Metro Chapter members to his wife Eileen and the Landau family..

--

Charles Kaplan

Dick,

Shocked to hear of Bruce's demise. Had a confirmation letter from him yesterday of chips I put into the LV auction. As I stated at the meeting, I will be in PR the first two weeks of the new year. I know the club will do something for him under your leadership, but if the older members of the chapter are planning something, please count me in. Contact me by e-mail or telephone, as I do not read my e-mail every day. (914-963-6436)

May I suggest the club make a donation to a suitable charity in his name. If you bring it up at the next meeting, I wish to second the motion. May I also suggest if you feel it necessary to make an immediate contribution, that a resolution of the executive board of the chapter should be sufficient in this case to do what ever is necessary.

May the good Lord accept him in heaven as speedily as he conducted our chip auctions.

George Davis

This is such an unexpected shock. I have not been chipping long, but Bruce was always a gentleman and treated me with respect even though I was "green" about chipping. He will be truly missed.

Marie Austin

MY BRUCE LANDAU STORY

Posted By: R.Joseph Myers <hotrodrrjm@lvcm.com> (64.12.96.198)
Date: 12/23/02 11:41 a.m.

A while back one of the Las Vegas casino's issued a very very limited \$100 chip. I posted a picture of it here on the board, and Bruce emailed me inquiring if I had an extra for sale. I didn't, but as luck would have it I was able to get another one a couple of weeks later. I emailed Bruce, and we struck a deal. Bruce was on the road, but told me he would send a check that same day. Sure enough, a check arrived two or three days later. Here's the kicker... Bruce in his excitement to get this new chip for his collection sent me a check completely blank. No pay to, no dollar amount, no signature, no nothing. I still have that check, and every time I saw him after that, I would say gee Bruce if I knew you were going to be here, I would have brought a check for you to sign.

If you look up "CLASS ACT" in the dictionary, you'll find Bruce's picture.

Ralph Myers

Posted By: Skip Cohen <skip1786@aol.com> (64.51.102.48)
Date: 12/26/02 2:13 p.m.

In Response To: MY BRUCE LANDAU STORY (R.Joseph Myers)

In speaking with Eileen Landau this morning, she told me about this site and the ongoing tribute to Bruce. I'm not a "chipper", just a knucklehead from the photographic industry who had the good fortune to work with Bruce many times over the last 15 years.

Whether a chipper or involved in photography, we've all lost a good friend. His absence will leave a huge hole in all of our lives. His integrity was unquestionable. His sense of humor set the standard. His dedication to his friends, his family and his business unmatched.

If the measure of a man's life is the number of people who smile when they hear his name, then tell you a story about him, then Bruce came as close to achieving immortality as anyone could reach.

I cannot find the words to describe how much he'll be missed.

Skip Cohen

Posted By: Allan Myers CH-027 <myersmyers@insightbb.com> (12.220.208.72)
Date: 12/25/02 7:57 p.m.

Diane & I spoke to Eileen last night. She said to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and messages. She is taking Bruce's passing very hard, but she has friends and family who are with her. She wants to stay active in CC>CC as she knows how much Bruce loved the club and its members.

A message from the Landau Family...

Posted By: Jim Follis - OLCD <olcd@ccgtcc.com> (65.56.152.163)
Date: 12/25/2002 11:18 a.m.

Yesterday I called the Landau's to express my condolences and talked a bit with Bruce's daughter Jodi.

Jodi said that she has access to Bruce's email account and has received several messages of sympathy. Anyone wishing to use this method of communication to the Landau Family may do so, as Jodi is printing the messages and passing them to Eileen. Bruce's email address is: brucechips@aol.com

Jodi also asked for the "message board" address, to which I gave her "thechipboard.com" address. She will be reading those messages and passing them to Eileen as well.

On a more personal note, I was very saddened to hear of Bruce's passing and recognize that while we have lost a significant member of our community, my heart goes out to Eileen and the rest of the Landau Family for their greater loss.

He will be sorely missed.

Jim Follis
On-Line Communications Director
CC>CC

Bruce Landau

Posted By: Bob Feeney <Chips250@aol.com> (198.81.26.208)
Date: 12/27/02 9:10 p.m.

Since we were out of town until December 24th, we did not learn of Bruce's death until Christmas day. My wife and I, like all of you, were stunned and deeply saddened. We last saw him at the Palace Station show in November. I bought a set of the portrait chips from Rene and had Bruce autograph his chip. As he was signing the chip, I remarked that his picture on the chip bore a remarkable similarity to a certain mid-eastern dictator and part-time employment as a stand-in or double might be something to consider. Little did I know that the laugh we shared was to be our last one.

We all will miss his sense of humor, his candor, his honesty and his amazing knowledge. How many times have we heard "Ask Bruce"? He was a true force in our hobby and his loss is yet to be comprehended.

Bruce was one of the true "good guys" - a human being of the real "kind and gentle" variety. Is it not interesting that we have never seen his name as part of a malicious "Thread"?

Perhaps in keeping with the true meaning of the season and as an honor to Bruce, we might all try to be a little more like him.
Bob Feeney

Bruce Landau Pic #1

Posted By: Dick Brach <cabodick@aol.com> (64.12.96.198)

Date: 12/23/02 12:00 p.m.



Here are some pictures of Bruce and Eileen at some of our chip runs through Nevada.







Posted By: Barry H. LM-4196-49 <BFH120@aol.com> (205.188.209.103)
Date: 12/23/02 4:03 p.m.

Thanks for posting the pictures. IM sure going to miss him. Barry

Thank you for the pictures, Dick...

Posted By: Steve Bedo <gimmechips@adelphia.net> (68.68.10.104)
Date: 12/23/02 6:17 p.m.

Also, I just went to Tamron's (where Bruce worked) website (tamron.com) and they have a nice message about Bruce there. He is (and will continue to be) missed.

(An article to be printed in CC&TN by Archie Black)

BRUCE LANDAU CH-#002



1946 -2002

The chip-collecting world was stunned early morning on Friday, December 20th when they turned on their computers to learn that one of the pillars of the hobby had collapsed the night before while attending a company Christmas party with his co-workers. By the time the para-medicals, after being summoned to the party via a 911 call, had reached the restaurant where the party was being held ... Bruce was already gone.

A mighty Oak has fallen in the heavily wooded forest of chip collectors. This oak tree was so huge that its roots, branches and leaves affected untold numbers of nearby trees of all sizes. Much older trees, younger trees, and even small saplings were dramatically affected by the falling of such a huge dependable mainstay of the forest. The upper branches on this tree were so high above all the trees surrounding it, that it could be seen from as far away as the outer edges of the forest.

This huge tree did not fall un-noticed. The shock waves that trembled the forest floor were felt from coast to coast ... hundreds and thousands of miles away.

During its lifetime, this tree bore many acorns which dropped from its sturdy limbs, from which sprang up hundreds of smaller trees and provided much nourishment in the way of food for many creatures scurrying about the forest.

Bruce Landau was like that mighty tree. His strong family roots that absorbed nourishment from his wife Eileen and sons Jason and Mike, and daughter, Jodi, supported the rest of the tree from which we as collectors benefited from Bruce's strength, friendship and comrade. Bruce was the proverbial tree of knowledge. His sharing of anything and everything he knew about chipping is the standard that we should all try to emulate. Many adjectives have been used to describe Bruce. Caring, giving, generous, humorous, affable, gregarious, gentle, smart, enthusiastic, positive, humble, etc.

Bruce only got one shot at life after his mother, Emily, gave birth to him in 1946. Most adults in their middle years, usually get a wake up call before they exhaust their final breath. Single; double; triple; even quadruple bypass operations are not uncommon in today's medical miracle world. People recovering from these serious operations usually go on with their activities and resume productive healthy lives.

Unfortunately for Bruce, he never got that second chance. He was instantly taken from us as soon as he fell to the floor during that fateful day on December 19th, 2002 after walking off the dance floor with his ever-present wife, Eileen. In spite of a couple of doctors' presence at the company Christmas party Bruce and Eileen were attending, they were unable to revive Bruce's failed heart.

Bruce Landau was my inspiration to forming what we know today as the Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club. Bruce, along with Janice O'Neal, Michael Knapp, Earl Donley, Howard Herz, and a small handful of others, were simply a few chip collectors who regularly corresponded with each other during the late 1980's. We thought that we were the only crazy people in the world who would not cash in chips and tokens from our visits to casinos but instead take our treasures back home with us to add to our collections. It wasn't too long afterward that we discovered other people who were as crazy as we were. When it was suggested that a club be formed in 1988, it was no accident that Bruce became Charter Member #002 after agreeing to serve as Treasurer. He was there from day one, ever the optimist, all the time pushing for a nationwide club of chip and token collectors.

Bruce's stories are legendary. Like when Bruce used to trade chips with other collectors simply by measuring up his stacks of chips on the kitchen table against whomever he happened to be trading with. No attention was paid to the denominations... just the evenness of the tops of the stacks. Of course that was a different time and different circumstances that we knew back then. Chuck Tomarchio, Bruce's successor as Treasurer, at the club's 2002 convention annual banquet presented Bruce with the very shoe box that Bruce had stored all the receipts and bills and scrap paper from his Treasurer's days for the club. After Bruce's terms of office were over, he continued to be active in the club by serving as the convention's Auction Chairman. His quick-wit and charming smile would win over the most grumpiest of floor bidders. Bruce had the uncanny ability to predict in advance how much the prices realized for the annual convention sales gross. Usually Bruce's guesstimate was within a few hundred dollars. During the break at one of the earliest convention auctions held at the old Aladdin Hotel & Casino, Bruce leaned over to me and said, "*Archie, I can't believe the prices these chips are bringing. We're rich!*" Of course he was referring to the value of chips in our personal collections that few of us had really thought to be overly valuable at the time... and that ended the trading by the stack scenario I described earlier.

From chippers early on, to the most recent chippers just joining the club, virtually all are eager to tell stories about how Bruce was the first person they traded chips with, and how generous he was with them. He truly loved people... not only people in the hobby, but his co-workers have nothing but glowing words to say about Bruce. Bruce was a unique person with a unique personality. Men like Bruce Landau come along only once in a lifetime.

Bruce was a dependable, hard-working, mainstay of the Atlantic City Chapter, where he also served as Auctioneer ... a job he loved to do. Bruce always had time for the new-comers who eagerly solicited his advice ... as did the veteran collectors as well, who would seek out Bruce's opinion on values of rare or seldom seen chips. When I would ask Bruce for a price on one of his chips... Bruce would say something like; "well, I normally would get \$100 bucks, but for you ... make it \$65. I found out later that Bruce did that with almost everybody... that was part of Bruce's congeniality trait. Always the smile, always the

laugh, life was just a bunch of fun for Bruce. His wife Eileen was always at Bruce's side, like they were joined at the hip. Eileen told me at her surprise 50th birthday party that Bruce threw for her at Trump Marina, that she and Bruce were soul-mates ... and their deep love for each other was obvious everywhere they went. They were an inseparable couple.

Bruce became involved in several disputes among club members in which he served in the role of peace-maker to resolve differences between members... not in any official club capacity, but simply as one who took it upon himself to make peace among chippers. He had a deep love of the hobby, and did not like anyone taking advantage of anyone else and encouraged everybody to get along with each other.

Bruce and another well-known departed club member, Gene Grossblatt, were the motivating forces behind initiating the CC>CC Hall of Fame... without question, the highest honor the club can bestow upon individual members for meritorious service. Gene and Bruce were responsible for setting up and administering the HOF program, and when Gene passed away, it became the sole responsibility of Bruce to continue the program. Bruce Landau; always the un-assuming guy to give recognition to others would not take any credit for himself. Now Bruce is gone.

Bruce Landau died just a few days short of his 56th birthday ... far too young for a man who just became a grandfather a year ago, whom his grand daughter Emily (named after Bruce's mother) will never remember. The hobby will never be the same without him. Bruce was robbed of his quality adult years in the prime of his life as he looked forward to a well deserved retirement with his beautiful high school sweetheart, Eileen ... and the hobby was robbed of a man who gave us his all ... and who had so much more to offer.

We are all saddened by the sudden loss of this giant of a man. However, life goes on in the forest. Hopefully, some of the seedlings that Bruce has nurtured and guided will grow to be huge oaks in their own way during their years growing in the forest.

Rest in peace my good friend. Those who were a part of your life will always remember you and your infamous shoe box. There will never be another tree quite like Bruce.

