

# 'Crocodile Hunter' dies in stingray accident

by Eric Grafton  
Staff Writer

Steve Irwin, the beloved Crocodile Hunter, died Monday, September 4, during the filming of a nature documentary.

He was snorkeling on the Great Barrier Reef when a poisonous stingray, which Irwin's crew was filming for the documentary, stabbed him in the heart with its barb. Irwin was able to remove the barb, but died shortly after the incident.

The entire incident was caught on film, and there is currently a debate passing in the media whether to actually destroy the film or not.

When asked about the tape, friend and manager John Stainton told CNN talk show host Larry King that "It should be destroyed. I would never want that tape shown." The footage itself shows Irwin removing the barb from his chest before he finally passes away. The film is currently in police custody for further investiga-



Steve Irwin, right, poses with his family.

tion.

Furthermore, friends and relatives continue to call Irwin's incident a "freak accident." When FOX News asked about the tragedy, Jack Hanna, director emeritus of the Columbus Zoo said, "I mean, it's like I told someone the other day, I said, it's like me getting killed by a poodle..."

Family of Irwin held an impromptu press conference at the Australia Zoo, which Irwin Sr. founded. When Mr. Irwin spoke of his son, he described him as his "best mate." He also went on to say that he never thought of Steve merely as a son; instead, he regarded the Croc Hunter as his best friend. Irwin Sr. also spoke on his thoughts

about his son's chosen line of work.

"Steve knew the risks involved with the type of work he was doing and he wouldn't have wanted it any other way," he said.

On the Queensland's Sunshine Coast, the Australia Zoo has become an unofficial shrine to Steve Irwin. Flowers and messages of support surround the grounds and show the world's compassion toward the friends and family of such a loved man.

When asked about a state memorial service, the Irwin family denied the possibility.

"He is just an ordinary bloke and he wants to be remembered as an ordinary bloke," Irwin Sr. said. Queensland Premier, Peter, said that he would respect the family's position but hoped that a lasting memorial to Steve Irwin could be realized.

While the Irwin family grieves their lost son, the nation grieves the loss of a great television star and leader in animal preservation and education.

## Impeachment

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House member Gattis Tyler moved to reconsider the four-vote system and, ultimately, the final motion changed to one vote.

The motion read:

"We, the house of club representatives and senate of the Brevard College SGA, hereby impeach President Aaron Motley, in that we find him to be in violation of the Brevard College code of conduct."

In the end, 14 members approved the motion, 10 members opposed the motion and 2 members abstained. Abstaining votes moved to the majority, but it was still not enough to impeach the president.

When the outcome was announced, members of the gallery

erupted in a burst of mixed emotions.

After the hearing, Motley expressed concern that the situation may have caused a divide in SGA.

"My job now is to get everyone on the same page for the common good of the school," Motley said.

Since the hearing, several members of SGA have indicated their possible resignation, SGA vice president Kody Kinsley said.

Motley later addressed the four violations for which he had been charged.

"It was not clear that I was taking responsibility for all four of these charges," he said. "It was a case of miscommunication between Campus Life and myself."

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