



Steve Irwin – Hollywood Star Nomination (extended response)

Brief biography:

Stephen Robert Irwin was born to Lyn and Bob Irwin on the 22nd February, 1962, in upper Fern Tree Gully, Victoria. He moved with his parents and two sisters to Beerwah, Queensland, where his folks opened the Beerwah Reptile and Fauna Park in 1970.

In 1991 Steve took over managing the wildlife park and met Terri Raines, a visiting tourist, on 6 October. Steve and Terri were married in Eugene, Oregon, on the 4th June 1992, and instead of a honeymoon, embarked on filming a wildlife documentary with John Stainton from the "Best Picture Show" company. The successful show is now known as the Crocodile Hunter Series and is hugely successful around the world.

After Steve's parents retired in the 1992 Steve worked tirelessly to improve and expand his wildlife park. Renaming it Australia Zoo in 1998, Steve's vision for the world's best Zoo was coming to fruition.

Steve and Terri Irwin filmed over 300 episodes of The Crocodile Hunter, Croc Diaries, Croc Files, New Breed Vets, Ghosts of War and starred in the feature length film The Crocodile Hunter: Collision Course, which is the 2nd highest grossing film ever to be shot in Queensland. These programs have been seen in more than 140 countries by 500 million viewers worldwide.

In 2006, Steve provided his voice for the animated film Happy Feet, as an elephant seal named Trev. The film was dedicated to Steve, as he died during post-production. Steve also appeared on Dr Dolittle 2 in 2001, in 5 takes of Pacific Rim in 2006 and the Mystery Hunters in 2002. Steve was the feature of The Wiggles "Wiggly Safari" 2002 DVD release.

Steve Irwin passed away in September 2006 at the age of 44, while snorkeling at the Great Barrier Reef in north Queensland.

Today, Steve's presence is felt through Australia Zoo and the ongoing conservation efforts carried out by his wife Terri, and children Bindi and Robert Irwin at Australia Zoo.



List of contributions to the community and civic-oriented participation:

1997 – Steve discovers new species of turtle and is given the honour of naming the species.

2000 – Awarded the Sunshine Coast Tourism Memorial Award 2000 for ‘Most Outstanding Contribution to Tourism’.

- Awarded Honorary Senior Fellow by the University of the Sunshine Coast.

2001 - Awarded the Centenary Medal for his services to global conservation and tourism.

2002 - Awarded a Queensland Museum Medalist for his work in conservation.

- Winner of Brisbane’s Best Export Award.

2003 - Named Queenslander of the Year.

2004 - Nominated for Australian of the Year.

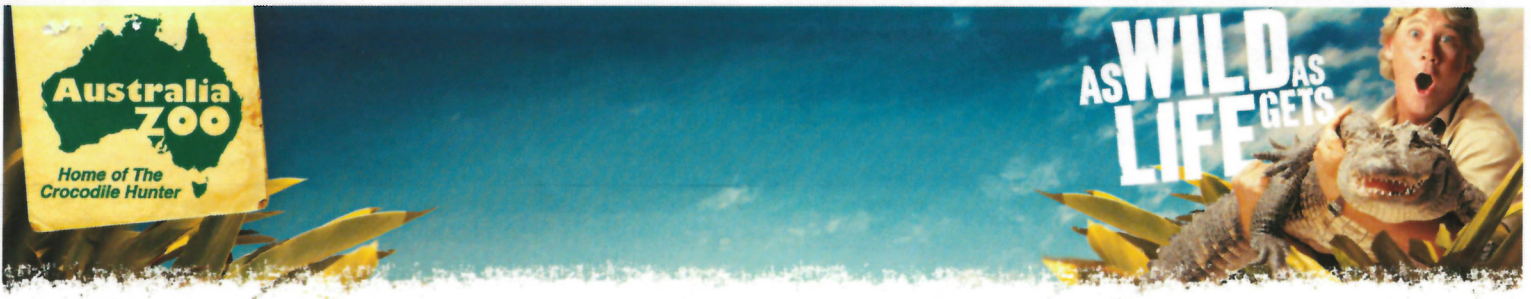
- Recognised as Tourism Export of the Year.

2007 - Steve was named the favourite male personality on pay TV at the ASTRA Awards and is inducted into the Logies Hall of Fame.

- The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society re-name its ship ‘Steve Irwin’ in honour of Steve’s conservation efforts.
- The Rwandan Government named a baby gorilla after Steve as a tribute to his work in wildlife conservation.
- The Crocodile Rehabilitation and Research Centre in Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary was named by the Kerala government after Steve.
- Steve was awarded the Adjunct Professorship posthumously by the University of Queensland’s School of Integrative Biology.
- Queensland Tourism creates the Steve Irwin award for ecotourism in his honour.

2009 - A khaki-coloured tree snail was named Crikey in memory of Steve

- Queensland honoured Steve’s contributions, naming him as one of the twelve ‘greats of Queensland business’ to be inducted into the Queensland Business Leaders Hall of Fame.



- Steve was also commemorated in the Royal Australian Mint's Inspirational Australians series, appearing on an uncirculated \$1 coin.