REMEMBERING STEVE GOWE

Steve came to the University in 2001 as grounds manager and was promoted to assistant director in 2011. Steve was a graduate of Cornell University with a degree in landscape architecture. His legacy can be seen everywhere on campus through the projects he and his team executed.
In 2006, flowering pear trees were planted along Bartle Drive greatly enhancing the main campus entrance especially in spring.
The Memorial Courtyard was a project close to Steve’s heart. A stark and largely paved area with little color was transformed into a beautiful place of contemplation and remembrance. The Courtyard was created following the loss of 15 alumni in the attacks on September 11, 2001.
Colors change with the seasons and the Courtyard evolves as memorials are added. Alumni Michael Radner donated design services and Steve and his crew brought it to life.

Grounds crews moving the main monument in place in summer 2002. Initial work on the Courtyard was completed in time for ceremonies at Homecoming in 2002.
A transformation of the peace Quad began in 2006. Traffic was no longer permitted around the area. Blacktop walks were replaced with pavers. A large planter was constructed in front of the University Union. Planting areas with a variety of grasses and flowers frame walkways. Benches and shade parasols were added as well making the entire area much more inviting.
The space continues to evolve as plants mature. In the spring, the planter is filled with tulips.
Another highly visible and visited area, the Anderson Center entrance, was greatly improved in 2007.
An avid sports fan, Steve cared deeply about the appearance and function of the athletic venues. He and his team worked tirelessly to ensure they always look their best.
In summer 2010 areas around and leading to the Events Center were improved.

Visitors can now find rest on benches overlooking the athletic venues on one side and campus on the other.
The east and west entrances to the University Union were improved in 2012. Before and after photos of the west entrance.
East entrance before and after.
Plantings were added around the Lecture Hall in 2012.
In an operation called Operation Green Space, Steve led an effort to transform paved areas into green space. A redundant walkway adjacent to the Library was transformed in these photos.
The Library was surrounded by pavement until this project.
We in Physical Facilities were proud to work beside Steve. There is some comfort in walking the campus grounds and seeing his handiwork in so many beautiful places. He is deeply missed.