

Brad Steiger

Brad Steiger (February 19, 1936 – May 6, 2018) was an American author of fiction and non-fiction works on the paranormal, spirituality, UFOs, true crime, and biographies.

| Brad Steiger | |
|---------------------|---|
| Born | Eugene E. Olson February 19, 1936 Fort Dodge, Iowa, U.S. |
| Died | May 6, 2018 (aged 82) |
| Occupation | Author |
| Nationality | American |
| Education | Luther College (Iowa) University of Iowa |
| Genre | Paranormal |
| Years active | 1956–2018 |
| Spouse | Sherry Hansen Steiger (m. 1987) |
| Website | |
| | bradandsherry.com (http://bradandsherry.com) |

Contents

Biography

Reception

References

External links

Biography

Steiger was born as Eugene E. Olson on February 19, 1936,^[1] at the Fort Dodge Lutheran Hospital during a blizzard. He grew up on a farm in Bode, Iowa. He identified as Lutheran until the age of eleven, when a near-death experience changed his religious beliefs. His parents encouraged him to become a teacher.^[2] He graduated from Luther College (Iowa) in 1957 and the University of Iowa in 1963. He taught high school English before teaching Literature and Creative Writing at his former college from 1963 to 1967.^[1]

Steiger claimed to have written his first book at age seven.^[2] His first book, *Ghosts, Ghouls and Other Peculiar People*, was published in 1965. He became a full-time writer by 1967.^[1] He authored/co-authored almost 170 books, which have sold 17 million copies. He wrote biographies on Greta Garbo, Judy Garland, and Rudolph Valentino, the latter of which was adapted as a film in 1977.^[3] With his wife Sherry Hansen Steiger, he was the author of *Four-legged Miracles: Heartwarming Tales of Lost Dogs' Journeys Home*.

Steiger appeared as a radio guest on Coast to Coast AM^[4] and the Jeff Rense Program.^[3]

Steiger wrote that he believed Atlantis was a real place. In his book *Atlantis Rising* he argued that Atlantis was the home of an all-powerful civilization with sophisticated technological achievement.^[5] He also declared the tracks at Paluxy River to be evidence for an ancient civilization of giant humans.^[6]

He was a proponent of the ancient astronauts idea. Steiger stated that many humans descend from alien beings. He referred to these beings as "star people".^{[7][8]}

Steiger was married to Sherry Hansen Steiger, an author and minister, from 1987 to his death in 2018. They have five children and nine grandchildren.^[2] He died on May 6, 2018 at the age of 82.^[9]

Reception

Steiger's books have sold well to the public, but have been criticized by academics for spurious content, lack of scientific evidence and failure to cite sources, among other reasons.

Anthropologist Bonita Freeman-Witthoft gave Steiger's *Medicine Power* an entirely negative review. She noted that Steiger failed to cite scholarly sources, gave faulty documentation and his reporting of mythology was inaccurate. She concluded that "It is a disappointing work of no use to scholars and of little use to a person sincerely interested in American Indian spirituality."^[10]

Sarah Higley gave Steiger's *The Werewolf Book* a mixed review and concluded "with a definite penchant for the sensational at the expense of the accurate, the casual reader will find much in it informative and entertaining as well."^[11]

Skeptical investigator Joe Nickell considers Steiger an unreliable source and has noted that he "endlessly cranks out books promoting paranormal claims".^[12]

His books have also drawn criticism from Jason Colavito who has stated they are filled with pseudoscientific claims.^[13]

References

1. "Steiger, Brad (1936–)" (<http://www.encyclopedia.com/doc/1G2-3403804325.html>). *Encyclopedia of Occultism and Parapsychology*. 2001.
2. "The Dan Schneider Interview 10: Brad Steiger" (Interview). *Cosmoetica*. 8 Apr 2008.
3. Steiger, Brad. "Brad" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20110722130952/http://www.bradandsherry.com/brad.htm>). Archived from the original (<http://www.bradandsherry.com/brad.htm>) on 22 July 2011.
4. "Brad Steiger" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20090915180314/http://www.coasttocoastam.com/guest/steiger-brad/5860>). *Coast to Coast AM*. Archived from the original (<http://www.coasttocoastam.com/guest/steiger-brad/5860>) on 15 September 2009.
5. Simms, L. Moody. (1976). *From Atlantis to UFOs*. *Social Science* 51 (2): 97–104.
6. Williams, William F. (2000). *Encyclopedia of Pseudoscience: From Alien Abductions to Zone Therapy*. Facts on File Inc. p. 257. ISBN 1-57958-207-9
7. Hicks, John. (1992). *Alien Encounters*. Time-Life Books. p. 126. "The world is apparently full of such star people, a term used by Brad Steiger, who believes himself and his wife to be among the alien-descended elite."
8. Battaglia, Debora. (2005). *E. T. Culture: Anthropology in Outerspaces*. Duke University Press. p. 89
9. Brad E Steiger Obituary (<http://www.majorericksonfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Brad-E-Steiger?obId=3083724#/obituaryInfo>)
10. Freeman-Witthoft, Bonita. (1977). *Reviewed Work: Medicine Power: The American Indian's Revival of His Spiritual Heritage and It's Relevance for Modern Man by Brad Steiger*. *Journal of American Folklore* 90 (357): 354–356.
11. Higley, Sarah. (2000). *Reviewed Work: The Werewolf Book: The Encyclopedia of Shape-Beings by Brad Steiger*. *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts*. Vol. 11, No. 3 (43). pp. 314–317.
12. Nickell, Joe. (2004). *The Mystery Chronicles: More Real-Life X-Files*. University Press of Kentucky. p. 235. ISBN 0-8131-2318-6
13. "Brad Steiger, the Nephilim, and the Lizard People" (<http://www.jasoncolavito.com/blog/brad-steiger-the-nephilim-and-the-lizard-people>). Retrieved 12 June 2017.

External links

- [Brad and Sherry \(https://web.archive.org/web/20070826222747/http://www.bradandsherry.com/\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20070826222747/http://www.bradandsherry.com/)
-

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Brad_Steiger&oldid=919978754"

This page was last edited on 7 October 2019, at 00:43 (UTC).

Text is available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License](#); additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.