



Robert "Bobby" Allen Johns

SEP 1, 1939 - JAN 1, 2022



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Robert "Bobby" Allen Johns, 82, of Spring Lake, Michigan, passed away on January 1, 2022 at his home surrounded by his family. He was the youngest child of the late Brack and Rosa Johns of Rising Sun, Indiana. He is preceded in death by his 8 brothers and 5 sisters; his in-laws, Arthur and Lorraine VanPelt; and his brother-in-law, Daniel Flaska. Bobby is survived by his wife of 40 years, Nancy Ann Johns (VanPelt); daughters, Jennifer (Benjamin) Temple and Sara (Travis) Sali; four adored grandchildren, Alexander and Quinnlyn Temple, and Owen and Ivy Sali; sister-in-law, Jayne Flaska; brother-in-law, Steven (Cathy) VanPelt; his 'honorary son' Little Jon; many loving nieces and nephews; and Sully, their sweet Chipoo. Bobby's greatest joys were holding his Nanny's hand; spending time with his cherished grandchildren, finally meeting his match at checkers with his oldest grandson, a good ole' Hoosier's basketball game and his annual Super Bowl party with his sons-in-law. He loved people and was a born storyteller. Bobby loved sharing the joy of Jesus with his family and his friends at AA. "Today would NOT be a good day to drink" At this time Bobby's family would like to honor his wishes to forgo a formal funeral service. Those who wish to pay their respects are encouraged to send a monetary donation to Heartland Hospice Memorial Fund (333 N. Summit St. P.O. Box 10086 Toledo, OH 43699-0086) HeartlandHospiceFund.org. Please share a memory with the family online at <http://www.sytsemafh.com>. Arrangements by The Spring Lake Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 213 E. Savidge St. Spring Lake, MI 49456 (616) 842-6100.



Tribute Wall

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WD

Willuam Drost posted:

Bob was a great friend and neighbor of ours for many years. He always had a joke or story to tell that made us laugh. He thought the world of his family and we send themour condolences! Bill and Marla Drost

February 10 at 3:36 AM

KS

Kathy Steinbach posted:

Though I didn't actually meet Bob until last summer, I felt like I knew him much longer...he would call periodically to see how jonathan was doing or what he was doing, checking in as I could tell he was really concerned about his well-being. Though it did take a while for my son to reach out to him, well, like we said...God's timing is perfect...we were welcomed with open arms and I finally met Bob face to face along with his wonderful wife Nancy, whom I now consider my friend :) the times we got together were precious to us and we will always be here for Nancy. Love to the entire Johns' family at this difficult time.

January 10 at 3:52 AM



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JS

Jonathan Steinbach posted:

I can't say that I have a memory that stands out more than others. They were all special. Bob and I did much conversing(and drinking coffee of course). But I will add, these conversations revolved around the most important subject one can contemplate in this short life. Yes we talked much of Jesus. We meet in AA. Bob was well loved amongst the AAer's, and they even gave him the nickname Spongebob when he first joined the club. The reason for this is because he was like a sponge when he first arrived, soaking up all he could at the meetings. Then, after he had been around a while, he began (and never stopped) encouraging and urging us young men in AA to turn to God. In fact, Bob went as far as to say; "there is no where else to turn but God, so you might as well stop fighting Him." I remember after the AA meetings he was often giving away CDs or books that helped him on his spiritual journey. Most importantly, he was always willing to give of his time. That is a commodity you can't get back. I really began to draw close to him about 6 or 7 years ago when I began making a serious attempt at sobriety. And when I got serious, I had to hang with those who were serious about God and their sobriety. In my head, I knew Bobby was "safe" to hang with. This was around the time that Bob became less able to do all his house projects because of his poor breathing. I loved to work with my hands, so the timing was perfect when Bob started asking me for a little help here and there on projects. I really thought at the time that he was just trying to help me stay busy and AWAY from alcohol. As time went on I could see he really needed the help as his health declined. My favorite part of working at his house aside from working (I was a bit of a workaholic too), was that every time without fail he would always get make a couple cups of coffee for the both of us and we would talk of life and all of it's aspects (the good, the bad, and the ugly). He was a mentor to me and a friend. His message to me was a simple one that never changed: "God is good." This is a deep truth that is just beginning to finally take hold of me and makes me sad not to have grasped this when my dear friend Bob had more time. But God has his perfect timing and way. I am so grateful to have been able to share in his life these last days of his life. I am so grateful for the brain injury that brought me back home, back to God, and to my best friend Bob. I say best friend not without reason. I realized this past year that I didn't need to be entertained by Bob's stories (though he told the best ones) or even hold long conversations with him (half the time I wasn't sure if he could actually hear me or not), just being with him was enough. I'm crying right now, but not for Bob, but for us and the world. Another one of God's light went out of this world and our world just got a little dimmer. I'm happy for Bob: he's suffering no more and he is finally with Jesus forever. I will surely miss his laugh, but I saved a few voicemails from him with that very laugh on a couple of them. Any of the family is welcome to them. I'm just so glad that I'm terrible at erasing my voicemails. My deepest sympathy goes out to the whole family and your loss.

January 4 at 10:21 AM



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JL

Julie Johns Leap posted:

Uncle Bob was always a staple at all of our get togethers when we live in Michigan and so fun! I loved seeing him when he came to Indiana once I moved back with mom and dad. Dad had a soft spot for his little brother. The Johns family is rejoicing now that they are altogether again in heaven. My favorite thing was his story telling and that soft sweet voice of his. Love to you all. Julie Leap (Artie and Wanda Johns)

January 4 at 1:32 PM

DT

Donna And Matthew Tobin posted:

So sorry to hear about your families loss. Bob was a great guy who always made you feel welcomed! It's been years since we've seen him, but we have fond memories of him. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

January 4 at 10:21 AM

GS

Gloria Smith January 4 at 2:07 PM

Uncle Bobby was the youngest of my uncles who always had a smile on his face. He loved life, his wife and his children and grandchildren and always had enough love left over for every member of his family. I will miss him and his phone calls just checking on me. Gloria Smith.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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