



Robert "Bob" Donald Shoemaker

December 7, 1946 - November 27, 2022

Robert Donald Shoemaker died suddenly in Pensacola FL on November 27, 2022.

He was born December 7, 1946, in Russellville, AL and graduated in 1964 from Russellville High School where he played tackle on Coach Bill Doty's team. After graduation he played football for Sanford University as well as for University of North Alabama (UNA).

In 1966 he enlisted in the U. S. Air Force and served in ordinance in Viet Nam and Okinawa. After discharge he returned to UNA and graduated with a degree in Chemistry. He joined the marketing staff for Koch Industries and made lifelong friendships while working in Koch locations in Tampa, Augusta and Wichita. For many years he coordinated guest services for customers attending the Master's Golf Tournament. He was a member of the Georgia & Florida Oilmen's Association.

After retirement he moved to Kelly Plantation in Destin so he could enjoy playing golf until his vision was markedly diminished by Retinitis Pigmentosa. He volunteered as a mentor and advisor for young men at Haven House, a half way Center for recovering addicts. A lifelong Baptist he was a longtime member of Village Baptist Church in Destin where he developed many enduring friendships. Upon moving to Pensacola recently he joined Olive Baptist Church where he was warmly welcomed and assisted in many ways. He was a loyal, caring friend to many and loved dearly by his nieces and family.

He is preceded in death by his parents Ralph and Gladys Bass Shoemaker as well as his brother Tom.

He is survived by his sister-in-law Phyllis Stewart Shoemaker, Florence, Nieces Neeve Weinberger (Dane) Huntsville, Andrea Shoemaker, Florence, Leigh Smith, Pelham; Great nieces Amanda Nunn (Josh), Elizabeth Kovach (Josh), Emma Tucker (Matt), Julia Smith; Great grandnephews Rowan Tucker and Samuel Nunn as well as many much-loved cousins. His guide dog Vinney has been his companion, and eyes for 7 years. Vinney has been his best friend and comfort during Bob's recent health issues.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to:

Foundation Fighting Blindness

6925 Oakland Mills Rd. #701

Columbia, MD 21045

Guide Dog Foundation

371 E. Jerico Turnpike

Smithtown, NY 11787

The visitation will be held at Spry Memorial Chapel in Russellville, AL from 11:00-1:00 p.m. on Friday, December 2nd, 2022, with the funeral following at 1:00 p.m. in the chapel. Burial will be at Franklin Memory Gardens, Waterloo Rd. Russellville, AL with military honors.

Spry Memorial Chapel assisted the family. To have us sign the book for you, please free to call or to leave private condolences, please visit our website at www.sprymemorialchapel.com.

Tribute Wall

WS

“ Wayne and I want to express our deepest sympathy to the entire Shoemaker family for the loss of one of the finest people we have ever known. 💎Bob was so kind and loving and his laugh was infectious! He will be missed by all who knew him. 💎He is in God?s hands now 🙏

Wayne and Linda Steele-Broome - December 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

WS

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Wayne and Linda Steele-Broome - December 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ What a great friend! You could count on Shoe to be there for you and spice his caring for you with humor. You will be missed ? roomie?

Jim Hattan - December 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

WS

“ Our sympathy to the Shoemaker family for their loss of one of the finest people we have ever known ?? . Bob was a friend for many years. 💎He always had a kind word, a loving smile , and a contagious laugh. 💎He will be missed by all who knew and loved him? he is in God?s hands now.💎

Wayne and Linda Steele-Broome - December 01, 2022 at 12:00 AM

TD

“ Bob was a true friend and will be missed. Our prayers go out to the family. Rest in Peace.

TIM AND ANNA DANGERFIELD - December 01, 2022 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Enjoyed spending several visits with Bob at my son's home in Destin, Florida. Bob was congenial, kind, and easy to laugh. Bob was a special honored guest in my son's home and the hearts of all our family. His precious service dog was superior in caring for Bob.💎



Susan Stone - December 01, 2022 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ After working with Bob for 20+ years I can say that he was a true gentleman. 💎He never complained or used his diminishing vision as an excuse, but always showed concern for those around him. 💎He was always in a good mood and it was infectious! God will be laughing with Bob now and Alabama will have a forever fan in heaven!

Larry & Karen Schlecht - December 01, 2022 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Bob was a dear friend and held a special place in our hearts. 💎He is now well and with our Savior. 💎No more illness, no more pain and no more suffering. 💎

Bill and Diane Bates - November 30, 2022 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ You will be missed my friend. The Stone Family will always cherish the time spent with you and Vinny. We think of you often and we will always remember you with love and fondness. You were a great man and an excellent friend.

Bryan S Stone - November 29, 2022 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ A friend of many years, Bob was one of my heroes. In spite of his blindness, a financial setback and living alone he lived out a faith-centered life focused on others - and was one of the happiest people I ever knew. We spoke and texted frequently, and I always looked forward to our conversations. I am thankful his eyesight is now fully restored . . . 💎

A text from Bob this past Easter: ?Happy Easter. I hope you and your family enjoy everything you do and we keep our Lord Jesus Christ in front of everything we do.?

Rest in peace friend - you are home.

Cy and Gayle Nobles - November 29, 2022 at 12:00 AM