



## Robert Bruce Hughes

March 14, 1951 - March 29, 2020

Robert Bruce Hughes (69)

Robert (Bob) Bruce Hughes, age 69, of Alexandria, Virginia died suddenly on March 29th, 2020 at Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, Virginia.

The oldest of four children of the late Robert and Betty Hughes of Titusville, Florida, Bob was born in Springfield, Illinois on March 14th, 1951. Bob is survived by his wife of 32 years, Laurie Graner Hughes; his sons Benjamin Hughes and Christopher Hughes; his three siblings, James (Jean) Hughes, Kathy (Robert) Bross and Nancy (Michael) Patskoski; nieces and nephews, Justin Hughes, Elizabeth Bross, Neil (Jessica) Bross, Tammy (Brendan) Franklin, Matthew Lare, Michelle Golden (great nephew Jackson and great niece Lexa), Theresa Graner and Jonathan Graner; sisters-in-law Jeanne (Donald) Tulp and Garran Graner.

Bob grew up in a proud Air Force family and was fortunate to live in many places across the U.S. and in France and Germany during his younger years. He attended St. Stanislaus High School in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi and received his BBA from University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) in Oxford, Mississippi. Bob moved to the Washington, D.C. area in 1976 where he started his career in accounting. He worked for many years in support of charitable and nonprofit organizations like Common Cause and American Health Planning Association, where he and Laurie met. He later became Controller of The Funding Center and SOC Enterprises. Later in his career, Bob was Controller for the law firm, Quinn, Racusin and Gazzola. For more than 20 years, Bob was an active member of the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) and because of his close ties to Mississippi delegation staff members, he enjoyed playing softball with a Capitol Hill team called the Mississippi Mudcats.

Bob was a dedicated father and avid volunteer and was privileged to spend many years doing both on a full-time basis. He drove the boys and their friends to soccer practice and games, swim meets, and other sporting events. He valued his role as a soccer coach to

his son Christopher. In addition, he was a long-time member, volunteer timer and Treasurer of the Highland Park Swim Club where his sons both swam competitively during the summers. Bob was also intimately involved in his boys' scouting lives and attended their meetings, volunteered for all of their camping trips, and supported them both in achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Bob enjoyed traveling and live music events, so he and his family often combined the two passions when vacationing. Most of all, Bob loved the beach and could not wait until the day when he could just go fishing for hours on end. He was a bird watcher, lover of nature and an avid fútbol fan, just recently becoming a member of the Washington, D.C. FC Barcelona Penya. For the past 10 years, Bob volunteered his time in finance and accounting for the Bush Hill Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, VA.

A Memorial Service and Celebration of Life will be announced at a later time when family and friends can come together in honor of Bob.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Bob's name to Bush Hill Presbyterian Church, INOVA Health Foundation, World Wildlife Fund or the charity of your choosing.

"It's something unpredictable, but in the end it's right. I hope you had the time of your life."

- Green Day

# Comments

---



“ Dian And Karl Tajudeen lit a candle in memory of Robert Bruce Hughes



**Dian and Karl Tajudeen** - March 14, 2021 at 05:41 PM

---



“ Stephanie Stevenson lit a candle in memory of Robert Bruce Hughes



**Stephanie Stevenson** - January 24, 2021 at 01:08 PM

---



“ Dear Laurie, Ben and Chris,

The entire Muffler family is holding you very close in our hearts as you try to figure out life without Bob. Highland Park still holds some of our most fondest memories of an easier time where life was good and our children were so happy. We can't imagine the suddenness of this and can only pray that God gives you the strength and purpose to carry on. Knowing Bob's personality he would most likely tell us all to Keep Calm and Carry On as he listened to some great music on his earphones. We wish you peace and comfort in the coming days and send our love to all. God Bless.

Kim & Joe Muffler

**Kim Muffler** - April 06, 2020 at 03:16 PM

---



“ Dear Laurie, Sending you my heartfelt condolences to you and your family. Ruth and I have been talking daily and sharing memories of you and Bob. Although it has been a few years, I remember you and Bob fondly. Ruth sent me such a wonderful picture of your beautiful family. Laurie, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Ann Hamlin

Christopher Lee Hamlin - April 04, 2020 at 07:38 AM

---



“ Laurie and family, I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. You spent many happy years together and raised a wonderful family. I remember the stories you told about taking trips together, I hope those memories will bring you comfort. You and your family will be in my prayers.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to bring you and your family comfort.

Dawn Morgan

Dawn Morgan - April 03, 2020 at 08:33 PM

---



“ Thank you for the great tribute to Bob. I don't know how you can put into words how much we loved and will miss Bob, a good friend and neighbor. The Hughes's were the glue that kept our little cul-da-sac together. He was always ready for that big snow to clear our sidewalks and his chicken soup often was a cure when feeling sick. Bob and I could talk hours on end about the menagerie of animals in our backyards. He would listen to me about that yellow breasted sap sucker I watched for days peck at a tree by their house. Most people were bored by my discussions in 5 minutes, not Bob. We watched Ben and Chris grow up to become Bob's best legacy. He was so calm as our grandkids would go tearing through their house usually unannounced. A pay back when he brought Ben over long time ago and Ben was caught lighting the fireplace while we were visiting. We could always count on Bob to collect our papers and watch our house when we were gone. So many memories. One reminds us of another. We love you all and wish we could be with you especially today. Peace and God bless. Steve, Gail, Russell, Kimberly, Kimmie, Drew, and Jake.

Steve and Gail Edwards - April 03, 2020 at 02:21 PM

---



“ All I can say is...He was a good man. Would run into him periodically at the grocery store or out and about in Alexandria. His calm slow-talking demeanor was contagious to listen to. Methodical thoughts would follow about anything that was on his mind. Almost like a hearing advice from a local farmer, but with all the heart of a preacher. He was a real soul man. Our family remembers him well and are blessed to have known him and the whole Hughes gang. I believe he truly lived his life the way he wanted. And now peace to you Laurie, Ben and Chris. - The Andahazy Family

Joseph Andahazy - April 03, 2020 at 02:05 PM

---



“ Dear Laurie, what a wonderful tribute written for Bob. My sincerest sympathies and sadness go out to you. Indeed, he was a great fellow, and we'll miss him. As you know, I met Bob and you when we were playing softball team in Washington DC with the Miss. Mudcats. We all had many great times together as a result of that. Godspeed you and your boys at this difficult time. much love, Ney Williams

ney williams - April 03, 2020 at 10:36 AM

---



“ Dear Laurie, Ben and Chris. Since you move next to us over 25 years ago, we have been blessed with your family, specially with Bob, whom we were so lucky to enjoying daily. There are countless moments that come to our minds now and will remain while time passes by. The day he came to help to remove a tree and roots from our yard, when he came with his snowblower to help everyone in our “ cul-de-sac “, and so many other occasions. Those happy days at the Barça penya to watch soccer games. His happy and warm smile was loved There. He touch Judith and my life, my five children families and very specially my five grandchildren, who loved him. I felt a little jealous with my loved dog Pimienta, who also passed this March, and I hope is now with him in heaven, who until recently look happier when Bob often came to visit us. What a happy days just a month ago. We are very sad now but that sadness is result of the endless happiness brought by Bob to everyone that was touch by his magic. Good bless him!!

Miguel Gomez - April 03, 2020 at 10:18 AM

---



“ Our love, support, and condolences to Laurie, Chris, and Ben. We’re so blessed to have gotten to know Bob over the last few years. His calm and sweet demeanor brought us type-A personalities a smile. We loved how he surprised us with his knowledge of how to manage wine vineyards. We tried to convince Bob to relocate with Laurie to Lake Frederick. But, his love of the beach and fishing far outweighed the lure of the Shenandoah Valley wine country. We were lucky recipients of Bob’s homemade banana bread. So, for today in his honor we are having tea, eating banana bread, and listening to his favorite music. Peace and comfort to you all. Much love, Anne and Frank.

**anne imrie** - April 03, 2020 at 07:53 AM

---



“ Spent many happy hours one on one with my buddy Bob reliving college days gone by. From fishing in my boat to sampling music events we always had fun and many laughs. Though we got together rarely he was always a friendly voice to call and a real 'brother.' I feel blessed to have known him so many years, and he made my life more joyful.

**Bill Boyles** - April 02, 2020 at 11:49 PM

---



“ My condolences to Laurie, Ben and Chris. A tragic death but oh, what a wonderful life. I met Laurie in a pre-natal exercise class. We were not-so-young couples with a first child living away from our families and so we became family to each other. My earliest memory of Bob was how gentle and patient he was as a new Dad. He went with the flow and was always the calm to any storm even those that Laurie may have conjured up. (I love you, Laurie). We spent our holidays together and watch our families grow. Bob always cherished his role as Dad and it was not surprising that he chose to be so very involved in everything his boys did. I grieve for them to have lost their Dad too soon. I’ll be your “sister” always, Laurie! All our love and prayers.  
Louise and Chuck Williams  
(plus Leanne and Ryan)

**Louise Williams** - April 02, 2020 at 08:12 PM

---



“ Fond memories of our very first cruise taken with our friends Nancy & FT Eyre and Bob and Laurie. We enjoyed his company a lot. Our hearts go out to Laurie and her boys.

**Sharon Walton** - April 02, 2020 at 07:51 PM