



Robert Frederic Starr

June 12, 1953 - July 6, 2015

Robert Frederic Starr, age 62, died on July 6, 2015. He was born on June 12, 1953 in Bethesda, Maryland and spent his childhood traveling and living the “military life” with his family. He received his degree from the College of Engineering at the University of Maryland and spent his career as a programmer/geophysicist. He was a brilliant man. He had an unstoppable imagination and there was nothing he couldn't figure out or make better. As Frank Zappa once said, "Without deviation from the norm, progress is not possible." Robert made a lot of progress in his life by abiding by these words. He loved his Harleys and could build a motorcycle out of a pile of parts any day. He was also a proud member of the NRA.

He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Starr; grandparents, Alice and Luke Bertinot and Thelma and Jack Starr. He is survived by his daughter, Jennifer Starr-Longoria; son, Mark Starr and wife Nikki; grandchildren, Collin and Conner Longoria and Shane Starr; mother, Billie Starr; and siblings, Dawn Thornton and Evelyn Starr.

A private, family service will be held in Grand Isle, Louisiana. Robert believed strongly in the fight for freedoms. Contributions in his name may be made to the NRA or to MD Anderson Cancer Center (Head and Neck Center). The family would like to thank Dr. Yelena Bracchini for the care and dedication she showed to Robert.

Comments



“ I'm truly sorry for your loss.... Bob and I joked that we were like in-laws "connected by ex's" I wish I had been able to visit with him when he invited me for a cold adult beverage but I had to work and then time slid by. I will miss him.

Dona A. Martin

Dona A. Martin - September 09, 2015 at 02:52 PM



“ I just learned of Bob's passing recently. Bob was already at Shell when I arrived in 1980. He was typical of the individualistic, creative, and innovative geophysicists that Shell brought on at that time. He wrote software tools that we all used, brought new ideas to the job ahead of the researchers.
Bob was a rebel at heart; one of the few people that was so good, he could get away with cutting through organizational lines to get things done. That made him in some ways larger than life for the younger guys like me.
My condolences to his family and many friends.
Jerry Coggins

Jerry Coggins - July 28, 2015 at 12:52 PM



“ Thank you Jerry for your kind words. It means a lot you our family. I miss my dad more & more each day & your thoughts have brought a smile to my face.

Jenn - July 30, 2015 at 07:16 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Paul Terry Bob pics



Paul Garber - July 19, 2015 at 12:39 PM



“ I love this! I miss his smile! Thanks for sharing!

Jenn - July 30, 2015 at 07:17 PM



“ 4 files added to the album BOB PICS 1977- 1979



Carlos Guzman - July 10, 2015 at 01:31 PM



“ My name is Paul Garber. Bob has been a good friend since 1977, when we were both new geophysicists at Shell Oil Company in New Orleans. I don't recall exactly the first time we met, but I would guess it was over a beer talking shop after work. A prolific programmer, Bob had a brilliant, practical, new idea every time we got together, revealed to me in an endless stream of cocktail napkins. His sense of humor was skewed in the same direction of mine and you could say it was the exact of opposite of politically correct.

I recall the first time I went to Bob's apartment. One entire bedroom was filled with electronic circuit boards and programming sheets on several drafting tables. Bob invented and programmed a special hardware device for controlling seismic airgun arrays in offshore vessels. You see, Bob was an electrical engineer, graduated from the University of Maryland. A pretty good achievement for a high school dropout. Bob turned his life around and got his GED degree, earned a BS in EE, and ultimately a professional job with Shell. Such was his determination and character.

Determination is not why we have been good friends for 38 years. Bob was loyal and supporting, always there for you. A solid person and all round good guy in every way. Probably the most upbeat person I have ever known. Terry, my wife of 33 years, has known Bob almost as long as I have. I can thank Bob in part for our marriage. One day at the close of work, Bob and I were going to a service company party and as we were leaving, I asked if I should ask Terry if she would like to come along. He said something like, "If you don't, I will" and we dated and ultimately got married. Bob was my best man. During our wedding ceremony, Bob straightened the train on Terry's gown, something she still talks about today. You see, Bob was a person of action. A problem solver. He figured out a creative solution and fixed it without fanfare, whether it was his car, motorcycle, work issue or helping a friend.

Bob I will miss your infectious laugh and the long technical discussions we have had over the years. But most of all, I miss my good friend of all these years and the joy you brought to me and Terry. May you rest in peace.

Paul Garber

Paul Garber - July 08, 2015 at 01:36 PM



“ What a beautiful story of my husband's father. Thank you for sharing.

Nikki - July 08, 2015 at 04:12 PM



“ Thanks Paul for sharing such a beautiful story with us! I miss my daddy so much.

Jenn - July 08, 2015 at 06:16 PM



“ My name is Carlos Guzman, I met Bob in 1977.

Bob and I parked our motorcycles near where we worked and became good friends right away. We had just begun to work for Shell Oil and Gas Exploration.

Bob and I were partners during basic training and rode our motorcycles all the time. We rode fast and devised creative relay techniques to keep refreshed without stopping. It was

fun and scary. We were carefree. We were young.

"Starr" had a wit about him and a contagious laugh. His face, with that witty smile flashes in my mind when I think of him. I can see him laughing, joking. looking for an excuse to get me to go riding; Bob didn't need one. Sometimes I think his eyes were also smiling. Bob could ride, and ride ...and ride. He was happy on his Harley, destination: no worries.

Bob excelled as a geoscientist. He was programming at the machine level; Bob was that rare software and hardware expert. He was very creative and intelligent, and enjoyed a successful career in the oil and gas exploration business.

Genelle and I visited Bob at Paul and Terry's in May. He was fighting a terrible illness then, but he was very strong. We laughed and joked and talked late into the night. Bob was still going when it was too late for his once-young friends.

Bob lives in all my memories; all good ones. I wish that my good friend would have had more time to spend with us but it was not in his destiny. I would have joked with him about getting on his Harley at 90, and think he would have tried it.

Bob is now as free as one can ever be. He is riding his Harley in the highway in the sky. He is riding fast and he is not looking back.

Ride on Starr my good friend. I'll catch up with you someday.

Carlos - July 11, 2015 at 06:38 PM



“ Awww, Carlos! That's a great story. Thanks for making me smile & cry! My dad sent me a picture of you all the morning after. He enjoyed that time so much. I'm glad you all were able to share so many good times together.

Jenn - July 17, 2015 at 03:11 PM