



Robert William Bowne

January 5, 1960 - June 6, 2009

Robert Bowne, also known as Bill or Bob, was born in 1960 in Nyssa, OR to Maxine and William Bowne. He was the loving brother of Jeanine Jordan and Martina Bowne, both his juniors. He spent most of his life in Oregon, and passed away in Portland, OR at OHSU, due to complications from chemotherapy, after a tough battle with Aggressive NK-cell Leukemia.

Bob went to school in Roseburg and Winston, OR. He attended Douglas High School and graduated in 1978. He went to Umpqua Community College and Oregon Institute of Technology, earning his degree in engineering in 1988. He was licensed as a professional Civil Engineer in Oregon and Washington, a Land Surveyor, and Water Right Examiner in Oregon.

Bob married his high school sweetheart, Donnie Hanna in October of 1979. They began dating at the young age of 14. They had 2 lovely daughters, Heather (30) and Trish (25).

Bob was working for the Oregon Department of Transportation as the Lead Bridge Inspector for southern Oregon, at the time of his death. He started his career with ODOT in the summer of 1992 and enjoyed his work there. He had the opportunity to work in three different office locations during his time there, including, Salem, Eugene and Roseburg. Prior to his work at ODOT, he worked as an engineer at David Evans and Associates in Bellevue, WA. He also worked in Roseburg, for Fields and Ensley and Sunstuds Mill.

Bob and Donnie had an amazing love story, and raised a great family. They became parents at a very young age and worked hard to raise two competent and confident daughters. Together they cultivated a strong pair of women, who went on to be strong mothers themselves. Bob and Donnie became grandparents on May 14th of 2006, when Trish gave birth to a beautiful little girl, named Alexzandrea. A year later in August they welcomed another addition to the family, when Heather gave birth to Brayden. A tribute to Bill's great nature is the wonderful relationships that he had with not only his daughters, but his son-in-laws as well.

Bob enjoyed bowling with friends and was an avid hot-rod builder. He spent most of his freetime building, restoring, changing, and enjoying a 1957 Chevy. He spent many hours with his daughters restoring this car and it became a very special part of their relationship. Bob frequently went to auto shows and swap meets with his father, who is also restoring a classic Model-A.

For their 25th wedding anniversary, Bob and Donnie got the opportunity to travel to Europe. They met their daughter Heather and her husband Brad over there, as Brad was stationed in Sicily with the Navy. This gave them the chance to travel to Paris, France, Dublin, Ireland, London, England and Rome, Italy as well as all over Sicily. Both Bob and Donnie greatly enjoyed this trip and both were glad to visit lands that thier ancestors came from. Bob was one in a long line of Bownes that came from England in the mid 1600s and was very proud of his heritage.

For several years before his passing Bob had the fortune to spend a lot of time with his daughter Trish and his granddaughter Alexzandrea. He was such a wonderful "Papa" and Alex simply adored him. Trish and her father always had a special bond, she really was "daddy's little girl". When Donnie had to go back to work, when Trish was just three months old, Bob was able to stay home and spend time with her. This bond was strengthened over time and anyone who knows the two, could see the similarities they shared including an artistic flare.

Robert Bowne, was a great man, a wonderful husband, a loving father and father-in-law, a fantastic grandfather and an incredible son. He will be missed, more than words can express.

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Comments



“ Though it has been a little over a year and a half I think of you every day. I can only think that truly "Only the good die young", you were much too young and I miss you every day! I know you watch over us each and everyday. Alex and I miss you more than words can say. I am saddened by the thought that you never got to meet your grandson, Robert William Bowne II. I only hope that he can live up to his name:) I love you! You were the one I could always talk to about anything and the hugs were always free;)

Trish Bowne - January 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Love Dotty Maier (Beck)

Dotty Maier (Beck) - June 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ My daughters, Niki and Keleigh, and myself-Aunt Ett-

are so saddened at Bob's death. So young-so loved--so

cherished by so many. I remember taking care of Bob when he was a tiny baby so Bill and Maxine could have a 'date nite' when Bob was about 7-8 weeks old--all he did was eat and sleep!! A good baby that became a good man. He will certainly be missed by his extended family of Aunts, Uncles and cousins. My most sincere prayers will always be with you all. Love, Ett

Etta Theis Family - June 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I first met Bob when he was working in R/W Engineering in Salem and I was a R/W Agent in Roseburg. We worked on a couple of things together when he was in the Springfield PMs office and had fun talks whenever I was in his office. Through out the years he was in Roseburg his area was very near me and I was priviledged to speak to him often. Bob always cared about his work and the people around him. He will be greatly missed and left shoes that can not be filled. May God bless and comfort you all as you traverse the coming days and years.

Gary Taylor - June 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ From the first time that I met Bob I knew he would fit right in with ODOT's Bridge Inspection unit. Throughout the years his humor, quick wit, and seemingly gruff demeanor kept the bridge crews "on their toes". As others have mentioned Bob's tough exterior soon gave way to a joking, laughing, and a very caring man. I will always cherish my time working with Bob and will miss sharing our inspection experiences on Oregon's Coastal bridges. Every time that I inspect these bridges I will think of Bob and his commitment to his job, co-workers, and the public.

Jeff Swanstrom - June 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ What a guy. His outgoing/open personality initiated our friendship oh so many years ago when he moved to Pilger St. in Roseburg. Our friendship started then and continued when he moved out to Lookingglass. We stayed in touch even though he was at a different hi school and then the contacts became less frequent but we did meet on rare occasion and now I wish we would have met more. We tried to see him a couple of summers ago at the store in Tenmile but he was in town to testify in a situation he became involved with. I never thot of him as anything less than my friend. My thots and prayers are with the family.

Don Herriott - June 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Bob was one the best. When he started to work at ODOT he was a part of the group I took breaks with. Always enjoyed his thoughts and outlook on life. He always said he was "Bob with one 'O'"

My thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time. His passing was much too soon.

Dave Polly - June 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I'm deeply sadened by Bob's passing. My thoughts and prayers go to the family as you go through the healing process and enjoy the time that you had with him. Bob was agreat guy to work with and will be missed by all that had the oportunity to be with him.

Gary Lollar - June 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I was privileged to work with Bob in the Right of Way Engineering Unit in Salem. In all the years I knew and worked with Bob, I never saw him without a smile on his face. He was a good friend and coworker and will truly be missed.

Scott Morrison - June 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ To Bob's family my deepest sympathies. Bob was too young to go he had a lot to offer and I know he always liked teaching. If I wanted to know the rules and regulations Bob was the one to see. I will miss him

Jim Stanley - June 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ It has been an honor to work with and know Bob. Bob was as passionate about his Bridge inspection duties as he was about living life.

Philip Moore - June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Bob and I went to school together (as well as Donnie). Then we worked at ODOT together. Having left ODOT in December of 2008, I just learned of his illness and was saddened by his quick passing. I hope he did not suffer much. We had some good times and good conversations and it was a credit to him how much he loved and cared for Donnie and his family. He talked about you all to me, often. I suppose that had something to do with my knowing them from our high school days.

I will/have missed those stories since leaving ODOT.

I hope all of you know my heart feels for your loss and I hope his memories will get you through the sad times you are dealing with now.

Linda Buckle - June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Bob,

I'll continue to look for you "under the bridge". I love you and miss you!!!

Lee

lee sparks - June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ we had some great times, and some good memories,

you were a good friend for 28 years.

we weren't supposed to be done yet.

godspeed bill.

william marc vaughn - June 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest thoughts and prayers are with you Donnie, Heather, Trish, Grandma, Grandpa, & the Grandkids. I have never experienced such a loss so my words are few. If you need anything at all you know you can call us! Sincerely, The Coils

Trina - June 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Our time together was too short but unforgettable. I know that there isn't much I can say that will ease your pain and sorrow but please know I am here for you to help in any way I can. Love You.

Justin & Leanya Maxfield - June 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ As a peer and co-worker, Bob was generous, opinionated, and dedicated. To me, Bob was a softy who projected a tough-guy image. His passing is a big loss to our work unit, Bridge Maintenance Operations. I will miss him.

Bob Schmidt - June 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ May the holes in your hearts be filled by the many rays of fond memories and times that you had shared and may you embrace each other with strength for the future. In each of you lives the memories of the past and though your thoughts he will live on. May this warmth fill your hearts to know you have shared this earth with him.

Bill, for thoughts that you touched your memory shill lives on. dsh

dsh - June 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I was thinking this morning of the last time I visited with Uncle Bill--he was so interested in all that Craig and I had done in school, and had lots of smiles for my babies. He will definitely be missed.

Lots of hugs and prayers for you all.

Carrie Skinfill - June 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Donnie, Heather and Trish, Our love and support are with you in this difficult time. You are in our prayers and lean on the Lord for your strength when moments get hard.
Lynn & Chris

Lynn & Chris Antis - June 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Donnie, Heather, Trish & family...I am so very sorry for your loss.

I am at a loss for words because I cannot imagine the pain you are feeling at this time. I know how loved Bill was & how much he loved his family back just from the brief meetings we had and from the stories I've heard from Heather.

I am wishing you hope in the midst of sorrow and comfort in the midst of immense pain. May the memories deep in your heart help to soothe your spirit at this difficult time. I hope that you will find peace in the days ahead and know that he will always be with you.

Wunnea Cason - June 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM