



## Robert Lee Nicol

December 26, 1962 - November 23, 2009

I have to approve Guestbook entries before they show, you do not have to send them more than once.

ROBERT LEE NICOL

"Bob"

MEMORIAL SERVICE

NOVEMBER 27, 2009

WHEN I LEAVE YOU

When I must leave you for a little while,  
Please do not grieve and shed wild tears  
And hug your sorrow to you  
Through the years, But start out  
Bravely with a gallant smile'

And for my sake and in my name,  
Live on and do all things the same,  
Feed not your loneliness on empty days,  
But fill each waking hour in useful ways,

Reach out your hand in comfort  
And in cheer, And I, in turn,

Will comfort you and hold you near;  
And never, never be afraid to die,  
For I am waiting for you in the sky!  
Helen Steiner Rice

I would like to share with you some thoughts and memories about Bob's life and legacy...

We all know that Bob died way too early and that it is such a tragedy that he is gone. Bob was just getting started with his life with his wife Jen and their three darling little children Bobby Jr., Dakota Rose, and Sebastian. Bob's perfect day was a day he could stay home with his family. Bob was not afraid of work; he worked hard, sometimes six days a week. He was trying to figure out how to work and support his family and be able to be home with them as well. He changed diapers, took care of the children, and loved it on Saturday morning when he could lay in bed with them and watch Sponge Bob Square Pants. Bob always went to the grocery store with Jen and all the kids in tow. It was an outing he loved and said they always had room to all go together. Bob was a good man, a good human being, always looking out for his family. Now, don't get me wrong, Bob was a jokester. He loved stirring the pot and getting something going between his wife and her mother. But he was also the peacemaker because he couldn't stand it if someone was really fighting. Bob was busy and always on the move; if there was a project to get done he couldn't stand leaving it until it was finished. If you asked Bob to help you with something you better mean it because his answer would most likely be, "If you want my help I can

help you right now, let's get it done". Bob's brother Rick said that Bob has kept his cars running since they were kids. I want us also to remember that

Bob served our country and each of us here in the United States Air Force. We

all owe him our thanks for giving of his time for each of us. Anyone serving our country and being honorably discharged deserves our respect and Bob will be honored with a flag today. What I know about Bob for sure is that he loved his wife, his children Bobby, Dakota, and Sebastian, his mother and step father Carol and Wayne, his father Robert and step mother Margaret, his brothers Rick

and Kelly and their families, his in-laws Debbie and Dave, and his sister-in-laws Kayla and Angela, brother-in-law Jake and many others and they

all loved him in return. I think that in the scheme of things in this world that love is the most important part. Today we will honor Bob, pray together, listen to music Bob liked, have a time to share stories, and I have the privilege of telling Bob's life story. Today is all about Bob.

Bob is survived by his loving wife Jen, his sweet darling children Bobby Jr., Dakota, and Sebastian, his mother Carol and her husband Wayne, his father Robert

and his wife Margaret, his brothers Rick and Kelly and their families, his mother and father in law Debbie and Dave, and his sister in law Kayla. Bob is also survived by many co-workers and numerous friends.

Bob was born on a winter day December 26, 1962 in Stanton, California to Carol

and Bob Nicol. Bob was one of three boys in the family and it was a lively household to be sure. Bob spent most of his childhood in California except for

a

brief time that he and his brother Rick went to live with their father in Oklahoma. Bob was back in California to finish high school and graduate from Woodrow Wilson High School in Long Beach in 1981. Bob went to Community College

for a while but it just wasn't for him. Bob decided to join the United States Air Force April 5, 1984. He spent 1984 – 1986 in Okinawa working as an Aircraft Environmental Systems Mechanic. Bob was involved in the maintenance of

all the systems in the aircraft from the air conditioning system to the bombing systems. The thing Bob remembered most about his time in Okinawa was the very

large spiders that lived there. Bob hated spiders. He got out of the Air Force March 1, 1988. Bob was not interested in seeing the world, as he was always happiest close to home.

Bob moved back to California and went to work for McDonnell

Douglas/Boeing for

13 years from 1988 to 2001. Bob loved to surf and was in the water as much as he

could be. He even tried to teach Wayne to surf; he got Wayne up before the crack

of dawn so they could be on the water as dawn broke. I think that Wayne thought

that Bob might be trying to get rid of him and was very glad to be back on the beach. He said it was hard work and it was even hard just to paddle all the way

out to the breakers.

Bob was quite a bike rider, first with bicycles and then on motorcycles. When he

was a boy he could do wheelies that were amazing and he was exciting to watch on a motorcycle as an adult as well.

Due to an economic down turn in 2001, Bob was laid off from McDonnell Douglas/Boeing. He then moved to Oregon to live and work with his father in construction/painting. The Swanson family lived next door to the house that Bob lived in. Bob soon met their daughter Jen. They met and that was it; they didn't date, they knew they were meant to be together from that first moment. Bob and Jen moved to Oklahoma in 2004. Bob was building houses with his friend Jim Cummings. February 5 of 2005 Bob and Jen were blessed with Bobby Junior's birth. Bob could not have been happier and adored his son. On October 22, 2005 Bob and Jen were married in Laughlin, Nevada on a riverboat on the Colorado River. Bobby Junior was all decked out in a little tux. This was such a happy day for Bob and Jen. They added to their family November 19, 2007 when Dakota Rose was born. Bob was thrilled with his baby girl and always called her Sissy or Boo Boo. Bob was so happy to be a family man. He lived for it.

Bob had started breeding French Mastiffs in Oklahoma to see if he could make this work and have a dream come true. He wanted to have money to support the family and get to be home with them too. Bob and Jen, Bobby Jr. and Dakota, Jen's mom Debbie, 5 dogs, Coupe the family pet, and some puppies all made a cross country road trip back to Oregon to live. This was quite a trip and one

that the family will be talking about for a very long time.

They settled in when they got here and Bob stayed home for a while enjoying his family. Then he went back to work for his old painting company Shield's Painting out of Happy Valley.

Bob loved his in laws so much and he liked helping Dave do things around the place, but once again it was, "Come on Dave let's go get the part and fix what needs to be fixed". Sometimes Dave was just ready to sit down and kick back after work, but Bob would be ready to go and get the project done. Bob was like the energizer bunny, with the energy of three guys. It was hard to keep up with him.

Bob worked hard to get Kayla, Jen's sister to talk to him and be more outgoing, because she is so very shy. He was always teasing and goading her. One time he shocked Kayla and embarrassed himself when he came into the kitchen and saw Jen at the stove cooking, he gave her a little smack on the behind and then realized it wasn't Jen at all but Kayla. Bob felt so embarrassed and I think Kayla just didn't know what to think; everyone else thought it was hilarious.

On September 14 of 2009 Sebastian was born and once again Bobby was a happy man.

He stayed home for a while again enjoying his family and helping with the new baby. Life was good for Bob whenever he was with his family.

Jen had some surgery a short time ago and Bob took time off to be with her, of course. He was at home doing everything so Jen could recover well. He loved this time with Jen and the kids. Bob loved taking the kids outside to play and playing with Bobby Jr. on his little motorcycle.

Bob went to work on Monday November 23rd and he talked to Jen at lunch. He talked to Jen a bit later and said he really didn't feel good and she told him to call an ambulance. The Paramedics came and checked him out and told him he was ok but to follow up with his doctor. Bob talked to Jen his whole way home, he said he felt better, but he was only home for a few minutes before he started feeling bad again. Jen stepped out of the room for just a second. When Jen came back into the room Bob was on the floor. They called 911 and Jen held Bob in her arms until they arrived. They tried to revive Bob, but he had already left this world. Bob died at 46, just as his life with Jen and his babies was starting, as I said earlier; this is such a tragic loss. Bob was such a loving husband and father, such a great son and brother, such a good brother in law and such a good friend and co-worker. We have lost someone very special from our lives. I am sure that Bob has gone to heaven and will be always watching over his babies and Jen. He will be there at the gates of Heaven waiting for each of you to arrive and welcoming you home.

I would like to share a letter that was written to Jennifer from Bob's long time friend Jim Cummings:

"Hello Jennifer,

It is Thursday morning and I am not sure if I am flying down tonight or not,  
Bob

told me about your family and I am sure you have lots of them around today, I just wanted to tell you that I loved Bob like a brother and he has been in my life for 30 years, there is nothing I can say to make you feel better and you may not want to feel better yet, that is understandable. I learned a lot of things from Bob and one of them was to appreciate life, Bob enjoyed his life with you very much he was happier than I have ever seen him, he enjoyed the little things in life like having coffee in the morning or giving you or someone at work a hard time, there are so many people here that cared about Bob and have

asked me to tell you how they felt, everyone enjoyed being around him, he was a

genuine person and a very loyal friend. They say the measure of a life is how many friends you leave, if so he was very successful. You guys have three great

kids and he loved that more than I can tell you, he talked about them all day long and could not wait to get home to all of you. It may not be my place, I was

only his friend but I hope you can teach your kids to enjoy life and have the great attitude each day that their dad had. I know that is what I am taking from Bob. Life will be different without him but I know he would want us to live it to the fullest. Your kids have a great dad; you have a great life, that is what Bob would want.

Love Jim"

If you have a good story or memory of Bob and would like to share it you may do

so by clicking Life Stories on this website. If you would like to share your

comments or condolences with the family you may do so within this website at Sign Guestbook. Your memories shared will help this family work through their grief. Each memory shared is like a gift-wrapped package that will only grow more precious with time. Our grief is a necessary part of losing someone we love. We must work through it so we can get to that wonderful place of peace and

gratitude for Bob's life. Our grief tries to tell us we are less than whole because we have lost someone we love, someone so significant in our lives, but

really we are so much more because they lived. Bob was so important to his family and loved by them and his friends. He will stay alive in your hearts as long as your memories are shared.

I would like to share a special reading with you. This was on the Queen Mother's Memorial Folder and the author is unknown.

You can shed tears that he is gone  
Or you can smile because he has lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that he'll come back  
Or you can open your eyes and see all he's left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see him  
Or you can be full of the love you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday  
Or you can be happy for tomorrow, because of yesterday.

You can remember him, and only that he's gone  
Or you can cherish his memory, and let it live on.

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back  
Or you can do what he'd want; open your eyes, love, and go on.

Yes, I think that is exactly what Bob would have to say to all of you if he could; open your eyes, love, and go on. Bob was such a warm-hearted guy, always wanting the best for his family and Jen's family, and his friends. The standing joke at Bob's work was that they didn't need a stereo when Bob was there because they could just listen to him. I know the people he worked with will miss Bob. He was always helping someone and I know everyone he ever helped will miss him.

Eli worked with Bob and he was always borrowing money from Bob. Bob said to Eli,  
"I will tell you what, when you get paid just give me a hundred bucks and I will keep it and feed it to you until you get paid again". Bob figured that way at least it was Eli's own money he was giving him. Bob knew how to save money and was always putting his money in a little pill bottle and putting it away.

Bob was a very unique soul doing his work here on earth and was loved by and loved many. Bob lived a life that he chose; you can't get much better than that.

When I was with the family the other night I asked them to give me a word that they would use to describe Bob. They answered from their hearts but had trouble keeping it to one word. Jen's words are Generous, Kind, and a Goofball. Kelly's words are Fun to be around, and Happy. Rick's words are Happy and

Very Obnoxious. Wayne said his word is Considerate. Carol said Bob was a Sensitive Soul; he didn't like people to fight, A Good Son, and a Loving Goofball. Kayla said her words are Friendly and a Good Person. Dave said his word is Helpful. Debbie said her words are Loving and Fun and a Goofball.

Debbie

also said that Bob always looked for the good in everyone. From this we see that

Bob was a Loving Goofball for sure. I think this is a good thing. He did not care one bit what anyone thought of him and was quite content to be a 'goofball'. Bob Nicol was an authentic man, just who he was with out airs or apology. There can be no better blessing than that. He left all of who he was, and how he viewed the world and all of his wisdom behind for each and every one

of us. And he had plenty of wisdom to leave us. All we have to do is pick one or

more of his traits and make it our own to make our life better with it, and carry on Bob's legacy in our own lives, therefore keeping Bob alive in our hearts always. The world is better because Bob Nicol lived and his life was a gift to us all.

You all have a very important job now and that is telling Bobby Jr., Dakota, and

Sebastian stories about their daddy whenever you are with them. It is your stories that will keep his spirit alive for his children. Bob was a husband, father, son, brother, friend and will be missed by so many people. Fill that void with Bob's children, spend time with them, tell them stories, and be there for them. God bless you all on your own personal Journey's through life and may you take this from Bob's story: always look for the good in others, finish what you start, don't be to afraid of what other people think, and it is ok to be a bit of a goofball. God bless you and thank you for the privilege of telling Bob's story today.

## REMEMBRANCE

I won't forget my days with you.  
Your memory will not leave my view  
For you have changed my life; you see,  
And in my heart you'll always be.

Your friendship is my greatest prize.  
It warms my heart like summer skies.  
In darkest moments of the night,  
Your friendship brings a guiding light.

And Now I see through all my tears,  
I'll never lose you through the years,  
No Matter what, we'll never part,  
For I have locked you in my heart.

PDF Printable Version

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

NOV 27. 10:00 AM (PT)

Hillside Chapel  
1306 7th Street  
Oregon City, OR

# Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Lee Nicol*

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January 28, 2023 at 02:51 PM



“ *With deepest sympathy. Bobby was a great guy...I knew him as a kid, so I will say he was a great kid and jokester. My prayers go out to all of you!*

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**Sue Frazier** - January 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Though I myself did not know Bob well, he ran around with my brothers, and most of all, I do remember him always making everyone laugh. My deepest sympathies to all of his family.*

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**Garry D. Smith** - December 31, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *My condolences to the family, all of you, I grew up in and around Bob and Rick, as a graduate of Chandler High School Class of 1985, and as a widow at 38 myself, my heart aches for you and your babies. Bob will always be remebered as a very fun and loving person, please know that our community morns this loss and we will miss him as well.*

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**Cheryl Rozell Raper** - December 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *My heart breaks for you. Bob will be greatly missed by all that knew him. I went to school with Bob and Rick in Chandler, Oklahoma and was shocked to hear the news. Please know that he was a special guy and loved by so very many here. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

---

**Jan Greenfield** - December 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *We'll miss ya Bob!! You always kept us laughing, no matter what circumstances.*

---

**Larry Smith** - December 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ *I will miss my Uncle Bob alot, I loved listening to all his stories, he really made me laugh. I will never forget him.*

---

**Derek Nicol** - December 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ *I will truly miss you Bro. You knew I loved you Because I told you so.*

---

**Big John** - December 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Jen, I dont have the right words to say how sorry we are for the loss of Bob,, we have you and the kids in our thoughts and prayers.K*

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**Jim Swanson** - December 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TI

“ Jen, Thank you for sharing these wonderful words and photos of my cousin, Bob. I know that we have never met in person, but Aunt Carol always tells me how the kids are and shares her photos with us. There aren't words to convey how sorry we are. For you. For the kids. and for Bob. He loved you and the kids sooo much. He was the happiest I have ever known him, and it is all because of you and the kids. Thank you for loving him so much. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Tammy, Aaron, Max and Owen.

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**tammy Izbicki** - December 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Carol, Wayne, & Jennifer  
We are so deeply sorry for the loss of Bobby. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time. May your memories of Bobby bring you comfort in the days ahead.  
God's Blessings and Love  
Alan, Dianne, Sarah, AJ & Jen Fontana

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**Dianne Fontana** - November 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM