



Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell

March 28, 1955 - July 3, 2021

Coxsackie- Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell, age 66 years, passed away suddenly on July 3, 2021, at The Albany Medical Center, Albany, N.Y.

Robert was born on March 28, 1955, in Troy, N.Y. and is the son of the Francis and Louise (Quackenbush) O'Connell.

Besides his parents, Robert is preceded in death by his two brothers Patrick and Mark. Rob retired from I.B.M. in December of 2013 after nearly 34 years of employment in various positions. Robert spent his retirement pursuing many of his passions including skiing, cycling, hiking, running road races and fixing up his 1906 Victorian home that he shared with his wife.

Rob leaves behind his wife Rebecca of 28 years, son Robert and daughter in law Lalainya of Glenmont, N.Y., four grandchildren, Emily, Meghan, Rhys and Brodie O'Connell, three siblings Frances Milligan (Patrick), Maureen Messenger (Ronald) and Gilbert, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial gathering will be celebrated on Saturday, July 10, 2021, at The W. C. Brady's Sons, Inc. Funeral Home, 97 Mansion Street, Coxsackie, N.Y. 12051, from 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Donations in Rob's memory may be made and mailed to The Coxsackie Area Food Pantry, C/O Charlotte Carter, 961 County Route 54, Hannacroix, N.Y., 12087.

Condolences may be made at <http://www.wcbradyssonsinc.net>.

Events

JUL Memorial Service 11:00AM - 01:00PM

10

W.C. Brady's Sons. Inc.

97 Mansion Street, Coxsackie, NY, US, 12051

Comments



“ I miss you Dad, its been a rough couple of days and I've been listening to Rush non-stop for you. Tell Neil that you're a long awaited friend.

Robby - July 15 at 03:02 PM



“ Becky and Family:

I was shocked and saddened to learn of Rob's sudden passing. I am still in disbelief. He was such an inspiration to me in many ways from his wit to his humor and intelligence. He would always encourage me when I was having a difficult time pedaling up a steep hill on my bike, and his darn if his encouragement didn't help! I enjoyed the many bike rides he organized, and I'll always remember the tour that you, Rob, and a few of us did in Western NY several years ago. I am honored to have known Rob and I'm glad he touched my life in the ways he did. Know that he will be missed! May your fond memories of Rob last forever for you all!

Ron Checca

Ron Checca - July 11 at 09:22 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell.



July 09 at 04:19 PM



“ Becky and family,

Our hearts go out to you. What a loss. Rob made everything more fun, just by being there. His wit & exuberance were a welcome addition to whatever it was we were doing, be it a poker game, watching the opening games of the NCAA tournament every year at McGillicuddy's or being the elderly statesmen at a Phish concert in Saratoga. Whatever we were doing, it always seemed like he was enjoying himself and wanted to make sure everyone around him was having as good a time as he was.

We will always remember his humor and kindness. He will be missed.
Keith & Debbie Cummings

Keith & Debbie Cummings - July 08 at 07:58 PM



“ So many memories...He was more than a friend to us. He was family. His loss has left a huge hole in our hearts. Rob had a joy for life and a smile which we found contagious. In his words of advice " He would tell you what he knew and what he didn't he would make up."

Sherry and Bruce Deitz - July 08 at 07:07 PM



“ From your friends at Athens Generating purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell.



From your friends at Athens Generating - July 08 at 03:12 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell.



July 08 at 10:21 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Alex Feinberg - July 07 at 08:02 PM



“ The Cibolo Center for Conservation in Boerne, TX purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell.



The Cibolo Center for Conservation in Boerne, TX - July 07 at 04:26 PM



“ Dear Becky and Family,
I am so sorry for all of you. I have such fond memories of Rob from our IBM life. Having him across the hall brightened my days. He was always ready with a smile and a joke to lift everyone's spirits. We had such great times with you and Rob in Saratoga. He always had such fun getting us together for those group bets. Rob will never be forgotten. I hope that happy memories help you all.
Take care,
Ann Paleveda

Ann Paleveda - July 07 at 01:44 PM



“ Bob, Julie & Sarah Cook purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell.



Bob, Julie & Sarah Cook - July 07 at 07:14 AM



“ Becky and family, I am at a loss for words. I can't stop thinking about his abundance of energy that he had whenever we were together bike riding or just socializing. He was always looking for ways to take everything in life up a notch. I am so, so sorry for all of you and hope that the wonderful memories with him will help in the days, months and years ahead.

Bob Cook - July 07 at 07:07 AM



“ Becky, I am in shock, your loss is our loss. Rob was more than a friend. He was a big brother. It was his encouragement that helped reinvigorate my cycling and even got me into triathlons for a while. Riding with Rob was a joy. I wish we had done more. We played poker for more years than I can count, and he helped me expand my game from basement and lake house to casino, where we shared some amazing days and celebratory post-tourney meals. At both the poker table and the dinner table, you always wanted to sit on Rob's left, at the former to protect your chips from his raises, and at the latter to protect your pants from his beer spills. We shared a love of skiing, but only got to ski together a couple of times; there'd always be next winter. We also had a mutual love of history and he had the perfect book recommendations. Rob will live on in so many cherished memories.

Alex Feinberg - July 06 at 11:25 PM



“ Last memories of Bob: hanging for a little while at the Farmers Market, his proudly showing his and Becky’s gardens and reset patios in the backyard and walking by our house with his beloved Becky and waving at the house just in case we were waving. He always had a smile. Eric and I are so happy to have gotten to know him and Becky.

Ranita Voellm - July 06 at 06:47 PM



“ Becky and family....we are so sorry for your loss. Rob was/is a wonderful friend. We have many fond memories from bike riding. Wings and beer at the Otter and his warm smile which would light up a room. He along with you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers . Glen and Deb McAllister

Debbie McAllister - July 06 at 04:16 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell.



July 06 at 04:13 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell.



July 06 at 02:36 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell.



July 06 at 01:46 PM



“ Becky, so sorry for your loss. Robo was a great inspiration and friend to many of the bike riders, including myself. He was a delight to be associated with , and always inspired and befriended people. We will all miss his cheerful demeanor and encouraging comments.

Benjamin Ebersman.

Ben Ebersman - July 06 at 11:52 AM



“ Paul R. Seney, Jr. And Staff lit a candle in memory of Robert "Rob" Lester O'Connell



Paul R. Seney, Jr. and Staff - July 06 at 10:20 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



W C Brady's Sons - July 06 at 10:17 AM



“ It was our joy and privilege to be listed among Becky and Robert's friends. We knew them for only a short time. We basked in their love for one another. Robert had a joy for life which we found contagious. He was a singer, a teller of tales, a lover of history and lived an active and healthy lifestyle.

Becky, our heart goes out to you and to Robert's family. We pray that he and his beloved brother, Patrick, are united in heaven singing bawdy songs. We love you,
Andy and Helen Cohen

Helen - July 06 at 11:14 PM



“ What a shock. What a bloody tragedy. What a loss to the world. As an IBM Oz person, I met Rob in 1992 when on a biz trip in upstate NY. He and Beck and I easily slid into a friendship. We had some great times-and we kept in touch through all those years since. I will never forget them. Rob and I solved so many of Life's Huge Metaphysical Dramas together via email! He will be so sorely missed by so many.

- Wendy and Bruce Kelley, Sydney Aust.

Wendy - July 17 at 03:18 AM