



Robert Milton Durham

April 16, 1931 - January 18, 2021

Robert Milton Durham was born April 16, 1931 to Rev. Clayton and Stella Durham in Florence, NJ. He passed away in N.K.C.H. Hospice care peacefully on January 18, 2021. Bob married Jane Dunstan in 1953 and after her passing, married Joan Lee Christman on July 20, 1974. The Lord blessed both of them with singing voices and they sang together for 35 years until Bob began losing his voice. While living in New Jersey, he organized and led the campground ministries in Willamstown, NJ for 6 years. He also was the worship leader at the First Wesleyan church in Florence, NJ.

Bob worked for U.S. Pipe in Burlington, NJ for 39 yrs, and was their chief Estimator the last 7 yrs before the company closed the business. A competitor, Shenango Industries in Terre Haute, Indiana hired him as their sales manager, working until he retired. Bob & Joan then moved to Mt. Moriah, MO. Attending the Baptist church in town he became the worship leader and was ordained as a Deacon.

In 2000 they moved to Salinas, CA where they started church services at the Salinas Care Center running it for almost 4 yrs. Before settling down in Carmel By the Sea, CA. In 2016 the couple moved back to Bethany, MO attending the Bible Baptist church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his son Robert Jr., sisters Grace

(Horace) Estelow, Jean (Dave) Petty and Doris Durham. Brother Clayton (Alice) Durham and his first wife Jane Dunstan Durham, Grandson Jamie Lee Christman and Granddaughter Theresa Christman.

He is survived by his wife Joan of 46 yrs, daughters Gloria (Joseph) DiBiase of Cherry Hill, NJ. Kathleen (Mark) Nettesheim of Monterey, CA. Son Chris (Ann) Christman II of Bethany, MO. Mark Christman of Gladstone, MO. Along with 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Chris Christman II - February 17, 2021 at 11:48 AM

DK

“ Bob and I came from two different worlds. His work clothes were a three piece suit, with a button down, long sleeve shirt and a long tie. Many times he came to our house dressed, in his work clothes. My work clothes and everyday clothes were jeans, with button down short sleeve shirts. My first thoughts were, he is a stuffed shirt, but he and Joan kept coming to our home. The night of their wedding we invited them to spend the night in our motor home, which had a full size double bed. We decided that it would be a hoot, therefore we short sheeted their bed. The next morning they came, in our house laughing, due to the fact that Bob had never experienced a bed that been short sheeted. From then on I knew that Bob was no stuffed shirt. We became the best of friends. Over the years he began to dress in jeans and button down, short sleeve shirts. We had a motor home, in which the four of us would spend many weekend trips. Two of which were, Flemington, NJ and Niagara Falls. We took a two week vacation, which took us to Denver, CO, where we spent a week with Nancy's sister and brother-in-law. Bob and I shared the driving. We worked on each other's houses. We were working, on our house, in the basement. Bob was using the circular saw. When the saw stopped running, Bob called me to where he was. He looked concerned due to the fact that he had just sawed the power cord in half. I started laughing as soon as I saw that he was alright. He asked why I was laughing. I said that I had cut cords in half before. He asked if I had another saw, I replied no, we'll just repair this one. In about ten minutes he was back sawing again. Bob moved to three places in the mid-west, we moved to FL. Then they moved to CA., then back to MO. We were able to visit them at each place they lived. When they lived in Mt. Moriah, MO., he called to ask if I would drove out to build him a front porch. I was happy to do that. Many years and many miles kept us apart, but the few times that we were able to spend time together, it was as if we had never been apart. The internet has been a great help. Bob I'm going to miss you, a whole lot.

Dan Nancy Kramer - February 10, 2021 at 12:12 PM

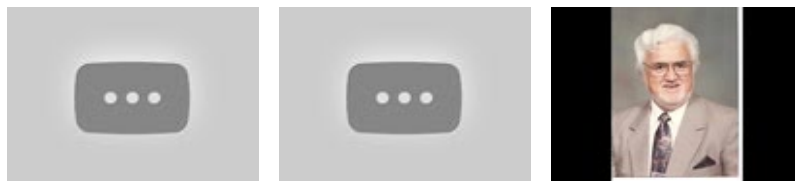
CI

“ Bob married my mom Joan Lee Christman the summer of 1974, and I was happy for her. She now had someone besides me to take care of her. Bob took good care of her throughout their married life. Taking her on trips with friends Dan & Nancy Kramer. They always had a nice home to live in, although Joan took care of him physically the last twenty years of his life. He did love her. Even though Bob & I disagreed on many things, I could always go to him for advice. Knowing that he would give me his honest opinion whatever the subject may be. I am glad he is now free of the physical struggles of life and at peace with his heavenly father.

Chris Christman II - February 09, 2021 at 04:50 PM

CI

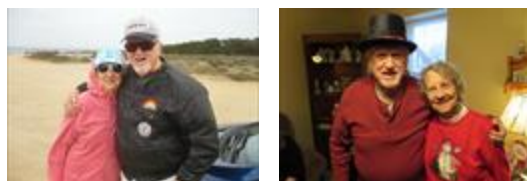
“ 3 files added to the album Robert M. Durham



Chris Christman II - February 09, 2021 at 04:33 PM

CI

“ 2 files added to the album Robert M. Durham



Chris Christman II - February 07, 2021 at 04:16 PM

DW

“ I knew Bobs dad first as he pastored a church in Burlington, NJ which he asked my Dad to take over when he retired. After my parents retired from that church is when i met Bob and Joan. They were by far, my parents dearest most beloved friends! They visited as often as possible while Bob and Joan were on the east Coast. After that my parents always looked forward to the correspondence between them.

*I can only imagine the joyful reunion in heaven when he entered!!
My thoughts and prayers are with Joan and all who are grieving.
What a life well lived!!*

They say You only live once, but if you do it right, once is all you need....well done Bob...well done!!!

Dixie Wolf - February 07, 2021 at 01:45 PM

BS

I married Bob's son Robert M. Durham Jr. in October of 1985 till he past a- way! His son and I had two children Clayton Robert Durham and Cassandra Durham(Dallas) He was a great Father - in - law! He had a great sense of humor ! I remember his jokes! And I Loved to hear him sing! He had 6 great Grandkids from his Granddaughter Cassandra Durham (Dallas) He will be greatly missed!

Betty Jo Swart - February 09, 2021 at 06:37 PM