

Robert William Sumner

July 29, 1943 - January 10, 2016

The last of Bob's Serious Soliloquies:

It was the summer of 1943, July 29th, to be exact when I made my entrance into this big wonderful world in the town of Bangor, Maine! My dad was serving in the Army in England during WWII, but he was thrilled with the birth of his first and only son!

When I was 4 years old, Mom, Dad and I moved to Latham, NY where we were soon joined by my sister Beth. After spending many years there, we moved to Rio (Brazil) where I completed my high school years and had the best adventures that a young man could ever have. I played the sax in a band and loved every minute performing for others and exploring everything!

After graduating from the American school there, I return to Loudonville, NY, and attended Siena College. In 1965 I met and married Judy Montana and moved to Albany, NY. We had three sons, David, Michael and Stephen over the next few years. After a tour in the US Navy in the Signal Corps living in California and Texas I returned to NY and joined the US Army.

I spent a few years at the Recruiting Command in Albany before moving to Ft. Mead, Maryland to the 1St Army Headquarters.

I was promoted to Major and transferred to Orlando, Florida as the Adjutant General for the 143rd Transportation Command where I was known as Major Dad. I was so proud to serve my country in every way and loved and took care of the men under my command. I was able to participate in Desert Shield and Desert Storm through logistical deployment and was awarded a Certificate of Achievement from Army Central Command. Soon after I was honored to be promoted to Lt. Colonel. In 1996 I was transferred to the 108th Command in Charlotte, NC as the Inspector General (IG).

During the course of serving my beloved country I was privileged to receive several

awards: 2 National Defense Service Medals, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal (I do wonder about that one!), 3 Army Achievement Medals, 6 Army Commendation Medals, 4 Meritorious Service Medals, 3 Armed Forces Reserve Medals, Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar, Expert Marksmanship Badge for Pistol w/45caliber and the Legion of Merit!

In January of 1998 I lost my beloved wife, Judy, of 34 years. Later that year the Lord blessed me with another wonderful wife, Janette, to complete my life's journey. In 1999 I decided to retire from military life and spread my wings in a couple of business ventures and help my wife in her businesses. The next few years were quite an adventure with my "Baby Cakes", with travel, business, church, mentoring others, working with The Red Cross and the Census. I loved people!

I also loved hiking, picnics in the mountains with my bride, taking photos of nature, wandering thru the antique stores wherever we were, taking care of our grandchildren, visiting our parents, children and friends; collecting and selling antiques and vintage cars. We loved the NC mountains so we found our perfect home and decided to move from the big city of Charlotte to the little mountain town of Piney Creek, NC. There we enjoyed the leisurely pace of mountain life with our two labs, Chopper and Butters with occasional visits from our granddog, Roscoe!

For several years I have enjoyed writing Bob's Serious Soliloquies and Amusing Musings and sharing them with others. I loved the English language and always enjoyed seeing how I could use it!

Most of all I enjoyed and became passionate about learning about the Torah and the truths of studying The Word from a Hebrew perspective. I loved my Adonai, my Father, and my Yeshua HaMashiach and wanted to know Him more intimately and follow His Torah and celebrate His Feasts! He had given me life, abundantly and full and I loved Him with all my heart!

And now my beloved bride will finish my life story:

Robert William Sumner, you stepped into eternity at 12:38 am on January 10, 2016, into the presence of your Heavenly Father. You will forever remain the love of my life and you will always remain in my heart. For those of us you left behind there will be a big void. We loved and enjoyed every moment spent with you! Enjoying your way with words, making me laugh, holding my hand, your way with children, praying for others no matter where we

were. The way you always went out of your way to thank a service member for their service, whether it was military, police, fire, rescue, security.

Your integrity was impeccable and your generosity unending. You genuinely cared about others and always remembered to ask about their families and anything they may be going through. You will truly be missed by all those who knew and loved you. You were such a humble man, caring, funny, fun loving, strong, you enjoyed life! Your favorite saying was "life is too short not to laugh and be happy!" And you lived your life that way! Thank you for all your love and laughter! It will be missed but remembered!

You leave behind your loving wife, Janette Sumner; sons David Sumner, wife Alisa and granddaughter Hannah of Tampa, FL.; Michael Sumner and grandson Mike of Albany, NY; Stephen Sumner, wife, Janet and granddaughter Shannon and grandson Ryan of Pasadena, MD. Also daughter, Samantha Smith of Marietta, Ga.; son Tracy Maples, wife Maureen and granddaughter Tanner and grandson Tommy of Charlotte, NC, granddaughter Alyssa of Raleigh, NC and grandson Mason of Charleston, SC; also surviving Bob's sister Beth Norwood and her husband Dave of Kalama, WA and nephew, Mark Norwood, wife Tami, of Washington state, and their four children and niece Amy Pearson of Washington state and her three children. He is further survived by numerous other relatives and friends. Bob was preceded in death by his parents.

Bob loved being unconventional! We will celebrate Bob's life on January 25, 2016, at 11 am at Draught Charlotte, 601 S. Cedar St., Charlotte, NC www.draughtcharlotte.com just behind the Bank of America Stadium. He will be laid to rest in his beautiful NC mountains.

Immediately following his service by Rabbi David Liebe of Newnan, Georgia and Eulogy by his best friend Will Dallas of Hopkinsville, KY, and full military honors. Please join us in fellowship in celebrating Bob's life with the best things you remember about him. We will share his favorite songs, pictures, food and drinks. All will take place at the downstairs part of the restaurant. Entrance at back, plenty of parking in back, front and side.

Please make any memorials to The Gary Sinise Foundation. (www.garysinisefoundation.org). Bob loved the work that Gary's foundation does because it helps those who have served our great country!

Previous Events

Gathering of Friends and Family

JAN **25**. 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM (ET)

The Draught House
601 South Cedar Street
Charlotte, NC 28202
<http://www.draughtcharlotte.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert William Sumner*



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - January 24, 2016 at 05:39 PM



“ *Robert William Sumner*

October 05, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *Robert William Sumner*

October 24, 2022 at 08:52 PM



“ *26 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - February 03, 2017 at 09:41 AM



“ *1 file added to the album LifeTributes*



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - January 26, 2016 at 11:06 AM

JW

“ About 3 years ago Bob and Janette introduced us to the Messianic movement. We have been part of that movement ever since. We are eternally grateful for Bob and Janette's willingness to share their faith with us.

*Bob was bright, witty, and so easy to be with. We will miss you Bob.
Johanne and Dorman*

Johanne and Dorman Woodall - January 25, 2016 at 08:09 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *LifeTributes*



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - January 25, 2016 at 07:38 AM

DN

“ One of our memories was eating at Beantown Tavern in Matthews with Bob and Janette. We had a table outside and were admiring the big, full moon. Lots of fun and laughter. Thanks for introducing us to burnt ends at Midwood Smokehouse now one of our favorite eateries. We miss your humor and wit. Always loved reading Bob's Amusing Musings. You will be missed friend.

Dale and Anna Newman - January 24, 2016 at 08:35 PM

GE

“ 1 file added to the album *Memorial Day 2009*



Gisela Elps - January 24, 2016 at 06:41 PM

GE

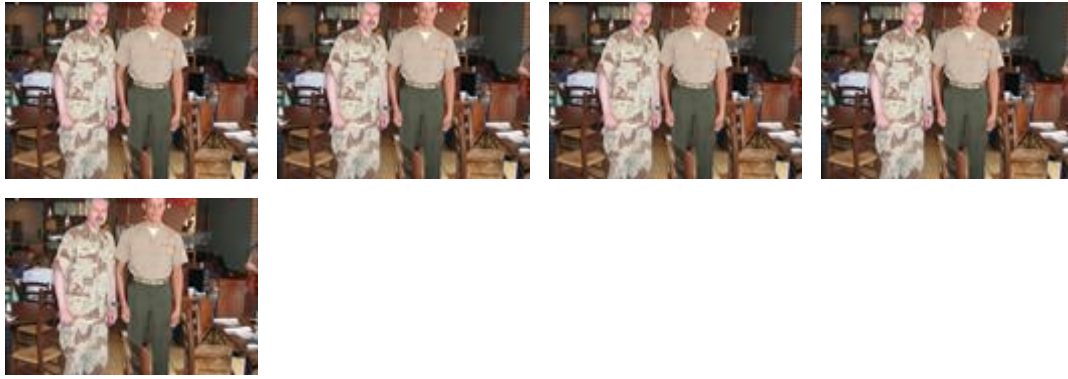
“ 1 file added to the album *Memorial Day 2009*



Gisela Elps - January 24, 2016 at 06:40 PM

GE

“ 5 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Gisela Elps - January 24, 2016 at 06:33 PM



“ 117 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - January 24, 2016 at 04:58 PM

JS

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Janette Sumner - January 24, 2016 at 11:37 AM

JS

“ 40 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Janette Sumner - January 23, 2016 at 06:01 PM

RC

“ *Bob Sumner was a genuine treasure to the community known as River Country Estates. Once he assumed responsibility as the Chairman of the Roads and Grounds, he never stopped working. In the last year, there have been many grounds improvements made to our community; they wouldn't have come to fruition with his efforts. Eventhough, he couldn't have been feeling well, he never mentioned or gave any indication to anyone. Bob is the example to all of us of responsibility, commitment, and dedication. He will be truly missed.*

The Board of Directors of River Country Estates

RCEHOA - January 22, 2016 at 09:20 PM

GL

“ *Shalom Janette and family, I didn't know Bob that long, only met him and Janette at Bible study once a month for about a year. He was a very upbeat person and helpful. Had a wonderful smile and I am sorry not to have known him longer. Be blessed. Only time will heal your hearts, and the knowledge that his spirit is with YHVH. Shalom, Georgianna and Millard Lee.*

Georgianna and Millard Lee - January 22, 2016 at 06:30 PM

LG

“ *Love Jessica and Greg purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Robert William Sumner.*



Love Jessica and Greg - January 21, 2016 at 08:49 AM

TR

“ I have many fond memories of serving with Bob at the 143d Transcom in Orlando. I was called to active duty for several months during Desert Storm and Bob was my designated "word smithin" guy editing many news releases during that time. He lived out his Christian Faith and was an inspiration to many, many soldiers. He had the respect of privates and generals. I spent several weekends with the Summers during my assignment at the 108th Division in Charlotte. I take great comfort in knowing I will be reunited with my friend someday in paradise.

Tom Rusk

West Union, SC

Tom Rusk - January 20, 2016 at 04:42 PM

NA

“ Janette and Family,
You are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Bob was a wonderful, kind, caring Christian man. He will be missed by many. May you have peace and comfort until you see Bob again. Sending you love and hugs.

Gary and Nancy



nancy - January 20, 2016 at 03:32 PM

 Kathy Rusk

“ Bob was such a good friend. Tom and I had the pleasure of visiting with Bob and Janette in Clearwater, FL while he was going through his treatments there. It was so good to spend time with him and still see his smile in spite of his weakness. Little did we know that it would be our last visit together on this earth. How assuring it is to know that we will see him again one day. Bob will be missed but he will never be forgotten. The good times he and Tom shared together will last forever. Our love to all of this family and may God be with you during this difficult time.

Love

Tom and Kathy Rusk



Kathy Rusk - January 20, 2016 at 02:47 PM

Ann
Burr

“ *My husband and I would like to extend our sincerest condolences for your loss. We have a home in River County Estates and understand the love that your husband had for this beautiful, serene area. I know what he will be missed. Please know that we will be in prayer for the comfort of your family in the days ahead.*



*Sincerely,
Mitch and Ann Burr*

Ann Burr - January 20, 2016 at 01:30 PM