

## Robert Albert Flint

January 4, 1942 - March 30, 2020

Robert (Bob) Flint, 78, died March 30, 2020 at Willamette Springs Memory Care, in Corvallis, Oregon. He was the widower of Helen Flint, the love of his life and best friend.

Bob met Helen when he was stationed in the Army at Fort Belvoir, VA, where he taught mechanical engineering. A year later they were married on April 16, 1966 and started their family in Detroit, MI. They enjoyed long walks hand-in-hand exploring either their own neighborhood or the city they traveled to. Bob lost Helen to ovarian cancer in 2009.

Bob received a bachelor's degree from Northern Michigan University, Marquette, and a master's degree from Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. Both degrees were in mechanical engineering.

Bob was a career engineer with both Ford Motor Company (1963 - 1974) and Hewlett Packard (1974 - 1999). At Ford, he was on the design team for the rear end of the '72 Gran Torino. At HP, he was hired on to design the first ever automated production line, which was built for the calculator division located in Corvallis, OR. He retired from HP Corvallis in 1999.

After a brief stint to the east coast, he and Helen tried once again, in 1980, to settle down in Oregon. This was with good intent, until 1984 when Bob, with Helen's support, thrust their family into the expat world of the Orient. Bob accepted the position of the manufacturing manager for HP-Asia headquartered in Seoul, South Korea which the Flint family called home from 1984 - 1988.

When the family traveled, Bob insisted they only pack carry-on luggage so they could sprint to their connecting flight in Hong Kong in the '80's or grab his favorite shrimp cocktail at Chicago O'Hare airport in the '90's. He always prepared for the worst and celebrated the best.

Bob was raised off of 10 Mile road in Detroit, Michigan. His father owned his own gas

station, called Flint's Service and Muffler Station, with a prime location across the street from the Chrysler plant. His father taught him how to turn a wrench which he passed down to his son Adam when they restored a Triumph TR3A together when Adam was in high school.

In his retirement years, he played golf and poker with the boys and looked forward to his daily coffee with his friends and at the end of the day, enjoyed a scotch on the rocks as the sunset.

In his final years, he traveled the oceans with his daughter, Jenifer, where he went to places he had only read about, like the Panama Canal.

His friends called him a fine man, his kids called him their compass and his grandchildren just called him papa.

Surviving are daughter, Jenifer and her husband Greg Curtis and son, Adam and his wife Stacey and four grandchildren: Mason and Noah Curtis and Bailey and Addison Flint; a sister, Carolyn and her husband Bob Nechal; and a sister-in-law, Mary Clare Gosse. He was preceded in death by his wife Helen and a brother Ed, a Jesuit priest.

Committal of ashes will be at St. Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery in Corvallis, OR.

Please leave messages of condolence here on the website.

# Cemetery

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## St. Mary's Cemetery

Corvallis, OR,

# Comments

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“ 2 files added to the album Photo Memories of Bob and his Family



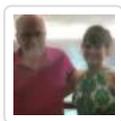
Jenifer Flint-Curtis - May 14 at 02:43 PM

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“ Bob was my husband's life-time best friend. Jim Herbst and Bob met some time in high school. Jim was not a car guy but an engineer type like Bob. Somehow they both ended up working for Hewlett Packard. Bob was the best man at both of Jim's weddings to Ellen Anderson and later me, Maida Herbst. I will never forget Bob's tears of happiness at the wedding - he was just that kind of guy who was not ashamed of crying. For several years, after Jim's divorce from Ellen (with whom he remained great friends), Bob and Helen invited Jim to spend Thanksgiving in Corvallis. As a matter of fact, part of our November honeymoon revolved around Thanksgiving at the Flint's home. Jim died from complications of Alzheimer's Disease 2.5 years ago. Maybe they are having a brewski now with Helen. Love to Bob's family and fond memories. Maida Herbst

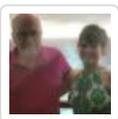
Maida Herbst - May 14 at 12:38 PM



“ Thanks Maida for this wonderful note! Jim was like a brother to my father and my parents loved your friendship! I do agree that the three of them are definitely laughing and enjoying eternal life together.

Jenifer - May 14 at 02:34 PM

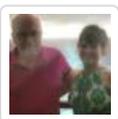
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“ Jenifer Flint-Curtis is following this tribute.

Jenifer Flint-Curtis - April 22 at 04:26 PM

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“ 8 files added to the album Photo Memories of Bob and his Family





“ I remember meeting Bob Flint back in the early 1980's. I had transferred from GM in Detroit to Corvallis to work for HP. I was very happy to find a friendly face and a "car guy" from Detroit. We hit it off immediately. Bob and I went on a business trip, for Cheryl Katen, to Indianapolis to tour a GM plant to observe high volume manufacturing. It was in mid-May. Of course we found out we could get into the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and went there to watch qualifying. Bob and I were most impressed with sights, sounds and smell of the Great Race. In the evening we ate "unlimited sea food" at the Manor Restaurant (which was very expensive) and gorged on lobster, crab and exotic seafood. The waitress warned us to drink lots of fluids to counteract the rich food. We tried, but needless to say we all had indigestion that night. Another memory I have of Bob was that I called him for advice on retirement and he recommended Paul Goodmonson of Edward Jones as a financial advisor. That turned out to be the best advice anyone ever gave me in my lifetime. Bob was my friend. He was an amiable, smart, talented and sincere person. He will be greatly missed. Tom Winslow

Tom Winslow - April 03 at 10:06 AM



“ Hi Tom,

This is Jenifer Flint-Curtis, Bob's daughter. Thank you so much for your kind words and all the stories! He sure loved traveling and working for HP.

Thanks again,  
Jenifer

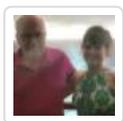
Jenifer - April 22 at 03:10 PM

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“ Bob was a lovely man: genuine, friendly and the same to everyone. Sincere. I vividly remember some exchanges with Helen with Bob present. They clearly delighted in one another, laughing heartily at something that tickled them both. Their circle included whoever was near. I wish the entire family well.

Marcia Paxton Kaylen - April 02 at 10:34 PM



“ HI Marcia,

This is Jenifer Flint-Curtis, Bob and Helen's daughter. Thank you so much for your kind words! We, my brother and I and our kids sure miss their laughs and hugs...but we are grateful for the memories.

Thanks again,

Jenifer

**Jenifer** - April 22 at 03:12 PM

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“ Bob, who lived up the street from me, called one day a couple of years ago asking if I'd like to join him and some other guys for coffee at the downtown Starbucks. I said sure, and he came by in his bright yellow Porsche Boxster to pick me up. We had a pleasant time, and as he dropped me off at home he asked if I'd like to do it again. I said I would and asked when the group met. "Every day," he replied. Wow. I said I wasn't quite that social, but I'd be up for once a week or so. And I've been going ever since, about once a week, and I thank Bob for giving me the opportunity to expand my circle of friends. Tom Jenks.

**Tom Jenks** - April 02 at 04:20 PM



“ Hi Tom,

This is Jenifer Flint-Curtis, Bob's daughter. Thank you for your kind words! If I remember right, you also drove my father to coffee a few times when he couldn't drive...thank you!

Jenifer

**Jenifer** - April 22 at 03:30 PM



“ Bob came to my desk daily to share proud and loving stories of Helen and his kids. I moved away to Nevada after 2001 and never saw him again. I did miss the family man though and he crosses my mind fairly often. Nicest guy ever. At HP, I valued that. Loved his stories about South Korea. What a truly great guy. To the kids, I am so sorry. He loved you a lot!  
Linda Barnard

**Linda Barnard** - May 15 at 01:20 PM

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“ Bob was my second boss and mentor at HP. He was the first manager of an engineering team nicknamed the HOGS! Bob was the personality of one of the more rebellious teams in the inkjet heyday! I have fond memories of Bob while traveling extensively to London, England and the mid-west US. Bob knew how to mix work and fun while traveling. In one particularly memorable trip to London, Bob took us out after work to the posh part of London. I remember sitting at an outside cafe smoking Cuban cigars and drinking a Guinness with Bob and Glen Schmidt on an 80 degree day in London - work couldn't get much better! Bob could name every exotic car model (and sometimes the year) that passed by! In memory of Bob, I will raise a pint of Guinness tonight! Rob Schneider

**Rob Schneider** - April 02 at 01:58 PM



“ Hi Rob,

Thanks so much for your comments. He sure enjoyed working and traveling with you and

Glen. He shared a few stories with me but I have a hunch there are a lot more!

By the way, dad and I took a cruise to Cuba in the Fall of 2018 and I surprised him with an excursion of touring Cuba in an old Ford Fairlane! Of course we brought some Cuban Cigars home too...

Thanks for cheering him with a pint of Guinness (my favorite beer!).

Jenifer

**Jenifer** - April 22 at 03:37 PM

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“ Bob was one of my first friends when I moved to Oregon in 1976. And a great friend he was, whether fishing from our shared 12-ft jon boat, working out issues at HP, or just sharing life. I loved hearing his stories about Detroit, Lake St. Claire, and Ford. He was a true friend with compassion, a great sense of humor, and always willing to listen and support. I extend my prayers and love to his wonderful family. May our Lord provide you with His comfort. John Carey

**John Carey** - April 01 at 09:07 PM



“ Hi John,

Thank you for your kind words. He enjoyed your friendship too. I remember going to your home for many meals back in the '70's! I was with him when he passed away and I advocated for what he wanted. He and I became very close after mom passed away and I'm blessed to have had him as a father.

I hope you and your family are doing well.

Jenifer

**Jenifer** - April 22 at 03:41 PM



“ Thank you, Jennifer. We are doing fine. Every time that I see your father's picture I think of the great times we had together. We will keep you, Greg, and your wonderful sons in our prayers!

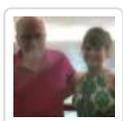
**John Carey** - May 01 at 01:02 AM

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“ Sorry to see that Bob has passed away. He was a fine man and good neighbor. I hope you are doing ok. Thanks for always being there for him. Steve Athay

**Steve Athay** - April 01 at 04:46 PM



“ Hi Steve,

Thank you for your kind words. As his Primary Care Doctor for so many years, he

respected and trusted you with his health. Thank you for hearing my concerns when I started attending his office visits with him. Together we were able to give him the quality of life he enjoyed for as long as we could.

I hope you are enjoying retirement!

Jenifer

**Jenifer** - April 22 at 03:46 PM