



## Robert Edwin Foley

February 4, 1929 - March 31, 2014

Robert E. Foley, 85, died Monday March 31st at his home in Corvallis. A retired educator and longtime resident of the Corvallis area, he enjoyed all the outdoor advantages of his beloved Pacific Northwest.

Born in Denver, Colorado, his twin sister and family spent many happy hours in the Colorado Rockies. Mr. Foley graduated from Wheat Ridge High School, worked in Denver as a young man, entered the Air Force and eventually started his professional teacher education at Colorado State College in Greeley, Colorado.

On March 10, 1955 he married Wilma Alfreda Perhus in Kindred, North Dakota. He is survived by his wife of 59 years; two children, Suzan Annette Foley of Missoula, Montana, Ronald Lance Foley of Corvallis; two grandsons, Brett Wade Patterson and Christopher Robert Patterson of Missoula. He is also survived by his twin sister Mrs. Roberta P. Porter of Wheat Ridge, Colorado and his honorary son, Jon Paul Johnston.

Mr. Foley and his family moved to Port Angeles, Washington in 1958 after college in Colorado and he taught in the elementary schools until the family moved in 1961 to Corvallis. He taught in the Corvallis schools for 23 years and retired in 1984. Mr. Foley loved teaching and earned his Masters in Education at Oregon State University. Post graduate studies in Counseling

and Guidance at the University of Arizona provided him even more opportunities to teach and help persons of all ages.

Working with young men in his fraternity at Oregon State, Mr. Foley served not only as their resident and chapter advisor, but as a close brother and devoted Teke at Tau Kappa Epsilon. Another intense interest he pursued in later years was his volunteer work with the American Heart Association.

A potluck gathering to honor Mr. Foley will be announced in the late spring. The family suggests that remembrances be directed to the Heartland Humane Society or Benton Hospice Services in care of McHenry Funeral Home 206 NW 5th St., Corvallis, OR 97330. Inurnment will be at Oak Lawn Memorial Park in Corvallis.

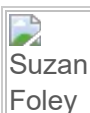
# Tribute Wall

JB

“ Uncle bob I will truly miss your smiling face and the hugs. I am blissed to have you and your family be apart of my growing up. . I have lots of wonderful memories that I will cherish..  
My prayers go out to Wilma ,Sue and Ron. love you Jeni (Gibson) Borders.

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**jennifer borders** - April 17, 2014 at 08:03 AM



Suzan  
Foley

Thank you Jeni - we hope to see you and your family at the memorial May 31st.

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**Suzan Foley** - April 23, 2014 at 11:40 AM

CM

“ With heartfelt thanks to Bob's family for Bob. He enriched our family with his gentle humor, unwavering friendship and so much more.  
Thank you for sharing him with us. The McKay kids--Chris, Cindy, and Craig

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**Chris McKay** - April 12, 2014 at 02:55 PM

SF

It's great to hear from you Chris. Please pass the word that Dad's memorial will be at the Carriage House at the fairgrounds from 1 to 5 pm on Sat., May 31st. It's a potluck; all are welcome.  
Suzan

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**Suzan Foley** - April 16, 2014 at 11:24 PM

DB

“ I met Bob at a gathering at the Tri-Delt house in the Spring of 1984. The event was to bring together potential "house parent's" with the houses that needed an adviser. Bob was the only man in the group. I struck up a conversation with Bob quickly and felt like I was speaking with an old friend. While I met many other potential "house Mom's" that day, the only person I recommended back at the TKE house was Bob. There was an interview process that took some time, but there was never really any question that Bob was the right man for the job. He not only served as "house Dad," he also became a full member of TKE. He served the men of Tau Chapter with honor and distinction almost 30 years. I know that none of the men who passed through that house will ever forget the impact Dad had on them. Wilma, our thoughts and prayers are with you now and always.

Derek van Bronkhorst  
OSU Class of 1985

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Derek van Bronkhorst - April 10, 2014 at 02:53 PM

SF

Thank you Derek - I remember hearing about that interview. Dad's friends thought he was crazy! Of course he was perfect for the job. Dad was blessed with a wife who could support his originality and energy, although it wasn't always an easy job! Hope to meet you at Dad's Memorial on May 31st.  
Suzan Foley

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Suzan Foley - April 16, 2014 at 11:21 PM

JO

“ Sue has been a great friend for many years and I met Bob and Wilma years ago while in high school. I always enjoyed sharing stories with Bob about every issue under the sun. He was genuinely willing to take the time to go beyond the small pleasantries and dig deep into what you were really thinking. I will miss him and his attention to detail. I am so blessed that I had the honor of knowing him. Sincerely, Jocelyn

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**Jocelyn** - April 10, 2014 at 06:15 AM

SF

Yes, Dad truly cared about everyone in his world. Thank you Joce.

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**Suzan Foley** - April 10, 2014 at 11:01 AM

DA

“ I met Bob and his wife Wilma only once (their daughter is my beautiful next-door neighbor; the kind of neighbor everyone wants that God blessed ME with), and I don't remember much else except that he was very, very kind... very observant... very astute in making sure I could read his lips (I'm deaf). Most people don't do that, but he did, and his daughter Suzan and grandson Chris do. The whole apple falling from the tree thing.... He must've raised his kids right to have installed that level of kindness and compassion in them....

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**Dana** - April 08, 2014 at 09:49 PM

SF

You are so kind Dana. Thank you from the Foley family.

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**Suzan Foley** - April 09, 2014 at 07:36 PM

MS

“ I knew Robert from Benton Teachers Credit Union, but got to know him, as my councler, Bob, at Corvallis High School. Through the years, we would bump into each other at the store or BTCU meetings and talk. I enjoyed my time with him tho sometimes brief. Mel, a Philomath barber, would often update me on Bob's last visit, with him. B

*Bob attended both of my parents memorial services and I thank him for that!*

*Robert Foley will be missed!*

*Michael Spitznogle*

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**michael spitznogle** - April 08, 2014 at 08:38 PM

SF

*Thank you Mike - I remember your parents well.*

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**Suzan Foley** - April 09, 2014 at 07:38 PM

ML

“ Even though its been over 20 years now I still remember Bob as a major element of my College experience. Not only was he fun to be around, he was very caring and insightful as a friend and advisor. He will certainly be missed.

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**Marc Leslie** - April 07, 2014 at 11:19 AM

SF

*We appreciate your kind words Marc.*

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**Suzan Foley** - April 09, 2014 at 09:14 PM

RS

“ The men of TKE at OSU know Bob as “Dad.” That is not a term that is thrown around at our fraternity. I’ve never heard it applied to any other. For 30 years Dad has been our mentor, our motivator, our jokester, our role model, our loving father. Were it not for Dad and for the never tiring support of Wilma, our chapter would likely not exist today. Many hundreds of boys have grown to be men through this fraternity and Dad had a larger role in that maturation than any other in the history of Tau Chapter. May God bless you Dad and Wilma.

Reuben Schug - April 05, 2014 at 02:41 PM

SF

I will miss hearing about what "Dad's men" are up to!

Suzan Foley - April 09, 2014 at 09:17 PM

CK

“ I’ve only encountered a few people as loving and gregarious as Bob. He always had a smile and a story and he brought love and laughter into many lives. I won’t forget him! My prayers are with you and your family, Wilma.

Cindy Killip - April 05, 2014 at 04:52 AM

SF

Thank you for remembering Dad Cindy.

Suzan Foley - April 09, 2014 at 09:18 PM

MF

“ I remember Bob as a gentle, caring man who helped my daughter who has autism navigate through the middle school years. He never failed to ask how she and our family were doing when we saw each other occasionally. He and Wilma were a lovely couple, and my gentle and loving thoughts are with his family.

Mary Fryer - April 04, 2014 at 12:41 PM

SF

I remember Dad talking about your daughter. I hope you both are doing great.

Suzan Foley - April 09, 2014 at 09:19 PM

  
Michael  
Vogt

“ It saddens me deeply to learn of Bobs Passing. I don't know if I have ever known anyone quite as caring, loving, and quick witted as Bob. He was known to many as "Dad". Condolences and prayers for Wilma, Ron & Sue. He truly was a great man and will be missed and was always there when you needed him...



Godspeed my friend,,  
Michael Vogt

Michael Vogt - April 04, 2014 at 06:44 AM

SF

Yes, I always felt like I had hoards of siblings Mike. Thank you for your comments.

Suzan Foley - April 09, 2014 at 09:20 PM

Jl

“ I got to know Bob through the men's group at the Unitarian Fellowship, especially on the annual weekend-long retreats. It was a privilege to bask in his kindness, brightness of spirit and generous heart. A wonderful man who lived a full life and had so much love and so many stories to share. I will miss him very much, and each time I recall the sound of his voice, I will smile.

*Jed Irvine*

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**Jed Irvine** - April 04, 2014 at 12:50 AM

SF

*Dad's time with the UU men's group was always a highlight of his year. He was always eager to share those times with us. Thanks Jed.*

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**Suzan Foley** - April 09, 2014 at 09:22 PM

JT

“ Robert will be truly missed. I enjoyed his stories and his passion for conversation. I appreciated his work with the Credit Union and hearing about his other volunteering efforts. I will miss him and his visits.

*To his family, know that Robert's memory will always be with me.*

*Joe Tofte - Benton County Schools Credit Union*

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**Joe Tofte** - April 03, 2014 at 11:20 AM

SF

*Our family would like to thank the staff of BCSCU for their support during Dad's illness & passing. It made a difficult time easier. Thank you Joe.*

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**Suzan Foley** - April 09, 2014 at 09:26 PM