



Robert James Higinbotham

November 29, 1926 - April 24, 2019

Robert (Bob) died April 24, 2019 at the age of 92. His distinctive personality and quick sense of humor will be remembered by many.

Bob was born November 29, 1926 to Lawrence and Lillian Higinbotham in Port Angeles, Washington. He grew up in Pysht, Washington, a small logging community. There, he learned to love fishing, hunting and crabbing. When he was 14 years old, he caught a 63 pound Chinook salmon, a local news story.

During World War II, he attended Clallam Bay High School and excelled at basketball. He often had to jog 13 miles home from practice due to wartime coastal blackouts. His graduation was on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

Bob spent one year at the University of Washington which established him as a Husky fan.

In his early work life, he was a logger for six years around Oregon and Washington.

From 1950-1952, he served in the US Army and was a veteran of the Korean War. Following Korea, he graduated from DeVry Technical Institute in Chicago, studying electronics, leading to his employment at Boeing as a radar technician for eight years.

On May 17, 1958, he married Barbara Jean Harman at the St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Port Angeles. The couple lived in Kirkland, Washington with their two boys, Larry and Alan before moving to Corvallis where their daughter Jeanie was born. Bob was employed by the US Postal Service for 23 years until his retirement in 1989.

Bob's interests included family fishing, gardening, crabbing, viewing all sports, country music and creatively planning vacations around the Northwest.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and his loving wife, Barbara in 2015 after 58 years of marriage.

He is survived by children, Larry, Alan and Jeanie Higinbotham; and grandchildren Eric, Katie and Sienna Higinbotham.

Donations may be made in memory of Robert to the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society or Operation Homefront.

Tribute Wall

SA

“ I worked with Higgie at the post office and he was one of my favorites. Always in a good mood and pleasant to talk to. My favorite memory of Higgie was on those cold wintry mornings you could hear him call out "come on snow". I will always remember him fondly. Alan made a pop corn bowl for our son Eric as he was headed of to college, it was a beautiful bowl too. Steve Anderson

steven L anderson - May 15, 2019 at 09:32 PM

JH

Thank you Steve for your comments. We love your story about the snow. Our father was unique and we appreciate your detailed account. The Higinbotham's.

Jeanie Higinbotham - June 10, 2019 at 05:21 PM

JF

“ *Larry, Alan, and Jeanie,*

Sorry to hear about your loss. It's always tough to lose a parent, no matter how long they lived, and Bob made it to a ripe old age for sure. I remember him well. He was a sweet guy, just like your mother. Best wishes to all of you.

Joe Fulton - May 07, 2019 at 12:05 PM

JH

Joe! What a surprise. Thank you for your comments and kind words. Thank you for mentioning that loss is difficult, no matter the age. Congrats on your amazing coaching career. And thanks for driving us all to adventurous places and trails to run on in the 80's. The Higinbotham's

Jeanie Higinbotham - June 10, 2019 at 05:29 PM

CS

“ Bob Higinbotham was so real and down-to-earth, such a fun unique character with a heart of gold. I met Bob and Mrs. Higs in first grade when my family lived in Corvallis; my dad was a professor at OSU. Their daughter Jeanie was my childhood best friend and we have remained friends all these years. I remember playing "Na Na" on Arthur Circle with Jeanie's brothers.

After my family moved to Portland when I was in fourth grade, I kept in touch with Jeanie and would often visit them on school breaks. Her family was so present and real. The entire Higinbotham family means the world to me. They are like my second family.

When I started having kids of my own, I would continue to visit the Higinbothams, and we'd say we were going to the "Higinbotham farm." It was always such a slower pace, one that I savored.

Bob would take my kids on his riding lawn mower and when they were big enough, they were allowed to ride on their own. They would also play Donkey Kong, the old fashioned video game, on the old TV. It was so relaxing visiting the Higs farm We would have picnics in the yard and pick apples. Bob's no-nonsense style was so treasured. My kids used to call him "Grampa Bob." I wrote a blog post for the Huffington Post about the gift of hospitality that this lovely family had. The gift of being there for people, the gift of not rushing or running around, the gift of not being on cell phones or technology. The gift of presence.

Bob (and Barbara) Higinbotham will be truly missed and leave a legacy of love and being present and real. He's a Legend.



Cornelia Becker Seigneur - May 01, 2019 at 04:32 PM

JH

Thanks Cornelia for writing such an accurate account of my parents and the memories we all shared. Our mother and father always did have time for people. It came naturally for them. Thank you so much again 😊 And thanks for the memories! The Higinbotham's

Jeanie Higinbotham - June 10, 2019 at 05:36 PM

CS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Cornelia Becker Seigneur - May 01, 2019 at 04:06 PM

CS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Cornelia Becker Seigneur - May 01, 2019 at 04:01 PM

LB

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. I knew both your parents as a child when we all lived on Arthur Circle. I remember how sweet & kind he was, how sweet & kind your mother was. They valued family above everything, & loved you kids more than anything. Lena Brown*



Lena Brown - April 30, 2019 at 09:38 AM

JH

Lena, what a surprise. Thank you for your kind comments. My parents were very kind and they thought the same of you. I hope your family is doing well. I remember going to your house in the 70's to watch American Bandstand. Fun times 😊 Thanks again. The Higinbotham's

Jeanie Higinbotham - June 10, 2019 at 05:44 PM