



Robert Arnold Scott

August 11, 1940 - February 16, 2014

Robert Arnold Scott was born in Corvallis on August 11, 1940. At an early age he showed an interest in many things but was especially enthusiastic about fishing and hunting. Long before he could drive, Bob could be seen pedaling his bike out into the country, his old Labrador retriever riding in a bike trailer he had built for her. Of course he also carried along his hunting and fishing gear. While attending Corvallis High School he joined FFA, not because he had a strong interest in farming, but because belonging to that organization gave him access to a shop. There, he could work on his hot rod, a 1932 Ford Victoria with a powerful engine. He graduated from CHS in 1958 and enrolled in Oregon State College's School of Fisheries and Wildlife. His '32 Vicky helped him attract his future wife Lorna Avery. The two were married on August 18, 1962, and in 1966 their son was born.

After completing his education at Oregon State, Bob taught biological science at Crescent Valley High School where he very much enjoyed his students and colleagues.

Throughout his life, Bob retained a love of the outdoors with an endless appreciation for Oregon's natural beauty and hidden wild places. Time spent with family and good friends on the lakes, rivers, and bays of Western Oregon was a source of great pleasure for him. He was an avid sportsman and was also an accomplished gardener and photographer. His interest in science, technology, mechanics, medical research, history, and carpentry offered him much enjoyment. His friends and loved ones will remember him as a man

seldom observed without a diet Pepsi in his hand.

Bob was the son of the late Walter Sorenson Scott and Celia Jean Sparks. He leaves behind his very best friend Lorna, his wife of 51 years. Also surviving is his son Joseph Conant Scott of Peoria, Oregon, a brother James Scott, a niece and a nephew.

Donations in Bob's memory can be made to Benton Hospice or Chintimini Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in care of McHenry Funeral Home of Corvallis.

Robert's family is planning a private service, as Bob would have wished.

Thoughts and memories for the family can be left at www.mchenryfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

RH

“ Bob Scott was also one of my favorite teachers at Crescent Valley High School; he taught my honor's biology course in my senior year there. Two important things happened in that course for me, both derived from Bob caring deeply about the quality of science education his students received. Early in the course, probably in the first week, Bob discovered that none of the students, all of whom were supposed to be among the more academically-inclined in the school, knew the difference between the building blocks of proteins vs. DNA. In an honor's biology class, this is considered rudimentary and quite frankly it's shameful we didn't know it. He was flabbergasted, and immediately went to the board and drew out the chemical structures of both. He told us something like we were now going to be held accountable for knowing the things we were supposed to have learned, so we had better get our acts together. Having someone explicitly hold us to a reasonable standard was surprisingly rare, and incredibly effective. We pretty quickly raised our expectations for ourselves, learned a lot, and had a lot of fun. The second important thing that happened to me in that course was I got to do molecular biology experiments for the first time. Bob had somehow procured some money for purchasing reagents to allow high school students to purify and manipulate DNA, which was pretty much unheard of at the time. In the same vein as holding us to a high standard related to the didactic material, he treated us like adults (as budding scientists), which was incredibly exciting. This was my start in bench research; from there I got jobs in a couple of plant genetics labs at OSU, then an undergraduate degree in biochemistry, worked for a year in the biotech industry, got a PhD in pharmacology, did a postdoc research stint in molecular neuroscience, and now have my own biomedical research lab trying to understand how the brain is wired. It all started in Bob's high school biology course. Thanks Bob.

Ryan Hibbs - March 16, 2014 at 11:56 AM

RH

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-Ryan Hibbs

Ryan Hibbs - March 14, 2014 at 04:30 PM

TF

“ To Lorna and Joe, we are so very sorry for your loss. Bob was a good friend and a good teacher. He will be missed.

The Rawie Family - March 04, 2014 at 11:47 PM

PH

“ When I was growing up in Corvallis, one of my friends lived next door to the Scotts on tenth street. Often went over to play, there would be Bob out under the chesnut tree next to their driveway, working on his hot rod. (I seem to remember it being dark blue.) We neighborhood boys were very impressed with Bob and his hot rod '32, only ever dreaming of having a car like that. Later, when he began to date one of my sister's best friends, Lorna Avery, I got to know him a bit better. I recall him being kindly with a soft laugh. I'm glad that he and Lorna shared over half a century together.

-- Pat Henderson
03 March 2014

P. Henderson - March 03, 2014 at 01:20 PM

BM

“ Bob was one of the most honorable, stalwart and dignified people I have ever known. It was my great pleasure to teach with him for 14 years, and I always admired his dedication, kindness and sense of humor. What a fine, fine man he was. He will be missed.

Bob Madar - March 01, 2014 at 08:28 PM



“ *Bob Scott was one of my favorite teachers at Crescent Valley High School in the early 1980s. I went on to get a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from Willamette University.*

Kristi Komar

Kristin Komar - March 01, 2014 at 06:12 PM



“ *My condolences. Mr. Scott was the best science teacher I have ever had the privilege of taking a class from.*

Jake Holcombe - March 01, 2014 at 12:50 PM