



Robert W. Forsten

November 3, 1939 - October 27, 2012

Robert W. (Bob) Forsten was born November 3, 1939, in San Francisco, CA to William R. and Helen K. Forsten and was raised in Dayton, TN. Bob was an Eagle Scout (Order of the Arrow), Troop 111.

He attended McCallie School in Chattanooga, TN where he was a member of Keo-Kio, graduated in 1957 and stayed in touch with many members of the “still undefeated” class of '57. Bob attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology and earned his BS in Electrical Engineering from Drexel University in 1964. Bob's early career was working in telemetry for Saturn 5 rockets in Huntsville, AL during the height of the space race.

In 1970, Bob returned to his hometown of Dayton to work in the family business, Zenith Hosiery Mill. Bob then worked with TVA at Watts Bar. Later he opened his own business as a Professional Engineer in Rhea County, working in land development and various city and county projects – including the first county traffic light outside Dayton city limits.

Bob served as Chairman of the Rhea County Planning Commission for 38 years. Early service to his church, First United Methodist Church of Dayton was as youth leader and Sunday School teacher; he served faithfully as finance chairman for 27 years. Besides his fun projects with electricity, chemistry and metals, his greatest passion was membership in Sports Car Club of America. “Captain Bob” was a corner worker, driver of a Datsun 1600 “#10”, and a Steward – all combining his fascination with speed, safety, and fair play.

Bob Forsten is survived by his wife, Janice, of Dayton, his daughter, Caren Forsten (David) Thompson of Alexandria, VA, brother, David (Kathryn) Forsten of Dayton, and sister, Deb Forsten of West Palm Beach, FL, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be conducted by Reverend Ken Pierce at First United Methodist Church of Dayton on Thursday, November 1 at 5 pm, with visitation before from 3-5 pm in the Fellowship Hall. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to First United Methodist Church of Dayton, TN; Cherokee Council Boy Scouts of America; or McCallie School.

Please share your memories of Bob on his on-line guest registry at www.vanderwallfh.com.

The family is being served by the Vanderwall Funeral Home in Dayton.

Tribute Wall

JE

“ I first met Bob when he came to work in the Instrument Engineering Unit at TVA's Watts Bar Construction, probably early 1978. Special individual, always astute in every regard, great to work with. I didn't realize he was involved in so much until I read his obituary, but it reflected in all he did. Best regards to his family on a sad occasion.

joel weinbaum, retired TVA engineer - January 17, 2013 at 11:16 PM

BA

“ Beccy Alldredge purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Robert W. Forsten.



Beccy Alldredge - October 31, 2012 at 04:24 PM

ME

“ Caren, I am so sorry to hear about your Dad. He has been very brave in these past months, as have you all. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your Mom, and with your Dad. I send love and deepest sympathy, Maria Estefania

Maria Estefania - October 31, 2012 at 02:48 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Robert W. Forsten.



October 31, 2012 at 02:34 PM

MB

“Caren, So sorry to hear of your loss, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. With deepest sympathy, Margaret Barry

Margaret Barry - October 31, 2012 at 02:20 PM

CM

“Mrs. Forsten and Caren, It is with great sadness I hear of Mr. Forsten passing away. I have such fond memories of coming to your house and playing as a young child with Caren. We had so much fun and I always enjoyed being with your family. Not everyone has wonderful neighbors as your family. My grandparents thought so much of you both and "grandad" would always say "Bob is a fine man!!! That he was. My heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with you both during this time of sorrow. May God give you peace. Love to all. Catherine Burton Morgan & Family

Catherine Burton Morgan - October 31, 2012 at 10:49 AM

BF

“My prayers and thoughts are going to you all in this time of sorrow.



Barbara Forsten - October 30, 2012 at 11:41 AM

LH

“Love and sympathies to you and your family

Lisa Forsten Hernandez - October 30, 2012 at 11:06 AM

CG

“ *Bob Forsten was my roommate at Founder's hall at McCallie School one year. I had just had a car wreck and broken my pelvis and was on crutches for a while. Bob helped me physically and with his everlasting humor. I am glad he made it to Asheville this year and we could meet one more time. He was a great guy and I will miss him. Goodby Bob. Charles Curtis Gipson*

Charles Curtis Gipson - October 30, 2012 at 08:56 AM

AJ

“ *Al Forsten Jr. purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Robert W. Forsten.*



Al Forsten Jr. - October 29, 2012 at 08:32 PM

AJ

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.*

Al Jr. and Tammy Forsten



Al. Forsten Jr. - October 29, 2012 at 08:23 PM

LR

“ *To the Forsten family:*

I worked with Bob at Watts Bar and he was a very nice person. Our prayers are with your family during this difficult time.

Linda Rouse

Linda Rouse - October 29, 2012 at 03:16 PM

ST

“ Mrs. Forsten and Caren,
My thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time. I have many happy memories spending time with your family when I was a little girl.

Susie Varga Tucker

Susie Varga Tucker - October 29, 2012 at 03:03 PM

WB

“ I worked with Bob at WBN and found him to a kind and understanding person. Bob helped guide my career at TVA and I always will have fond memories of him. He will be missed by the many he worked with.

Pat Brooks

william p brooks - October 29, 2012 at 12:38 PM

RP

“ Dear Friends, Janice and Caren and David,
We are proud to call you friends. Your Love and care for Bob are an inspiration to us. Be assured that prayers and wishes for courage are with you.

Ralph and Bonnie

Ralph Paisley - October 29, 2012 at 11:26 AM

TY

“ Janice,

Please know that many are thinking of you and praying for you during this difficult time.

Teresa Young - October 29, 2012 at 10:02 AM

CR

“ *It was a privilege to have worked with Bob on the Rhea County Planning Commission. He taught me a great deal about local politics and planning. His faithful service on the Planning Commission for more than 38 years exemplified his commitment and love for his county and its people. He will certainly be missed!!!*

Chad Reese - October 29, 2012 at 09:33 AM

MO

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*

 Capt'n Bob ...
we'll miss you

Michael "Mo" Overstreet - October 29, 2012 at 08:45 AM

DG

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you ----*

Darryl Gravett - October 28, 2012 at 05:27 PM