



# Robert Albert Waegele Sr.

MAR 30, 1944 - JAN 5, 2021



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## **Robert Albert Waegele Sr.**

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**O**n January 5, 2021, Robert “Bob” A. Waegele, Sr., devoted husband, father, and grandfather, passed away peacefully in his home at the age of 76.

Bob was born March 30, 1944 in National Park, NJ. He was born of humble roots and held many jobs early in life - a Mr. Softee ice cream truck driver, a vacuum salesman, a Mullica Hill Volunteer Fire Fighter and many others. In 1963 at the age of 19, Bob began working at the General Motors assembly plant in Newport, DE. He and his family moved to Delaware in 1970. While working full-time at GM, he attended Goldey-Beacom College where he earned his Accounting degree. He served on the UAW representing his colleagues with fairness and dignity. It was there that he cultivated a strong work ethic. He learned to prepare taxes, became an Enrolled Agent and started a tax preparation business, Greenbank Tax Service, on the front porch of his home in Marshallton, DE. Bob retired from GM after 30 years of service in 1993. He never really retired though; he loved to work, so he continued growing his business, eventually relocating to Rehoboth Beach, DE where he opened a new tax office, Shore Tax Service. He loved helping others, and he was always willing to lend a hand to anyone in need. He helped thousands of clients for 40+ years, and he volunteered his services to several charities, most notably the FOP Sussex County Lodge #2, who awarded him with their President’s award in 2020.

Bob was not only an accountant; he could do anything, from plumbing and carpentry, to electrical and mechanical work. He was a jack of all trades. He enjoyed working, you rarely found him on the couch in front of the TV (except to watch the Phillies or Notre Dame). If he wasn’t in his office, he was working on projects in his yard or house. He loved his Harley. He was known for his “dad jokes”, he always had one ready for you, he enjoyed his rum and cokes and Monkey Bones at the Purple Parrot, he was a terrible speller, and he had a soft spot for dogs. He enjoyed playing Mexican Train and Hand & Foot and camping with his family and friends at Knoebels and Cherrystone.

He loved to travel and was fortunate enough to be able to do so with his wife Joan and their dogs. They traveled to every state, except Hawaii in his RV, including Alaska! (He did, however, fly to



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Hawaii once!). Bob was a member of the American Legion Stahl Post 30, American Legion Post 28, Delaware Happy Campers, Delmarva Winnies, and the Friday Morning Bikers Breakfast Club. He will be missed by not only his family and friends, but by thousands of clients he has helped over the years. Despite his humble roots, Bob proved the value and rewards of hard work. In doing so, he provided a full life of everlasting memories to his family, who continue to uphold the work ethic he instilled in them.

Bob was predeceased by his mother and father, Francis and Clara; his brother, Paul; his sisters: Clara Robb and Frances Waegele; and his dog Sadie.

Our hearts are broken, as Bob will be missed dearly by his wife, Joan Waegele; his children, Robert A. Waegele, Jr. (Mary); Leesa Hollenbaugh (Kenny); and his 5 grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother, Joseph; his sisters: Elizabeth Densten and Mabel Huff; and dozens of nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the Delaware Humane Association or Sussex County FOP Lodge #2.

Special thanks to Season's Hospice for their compassion and care.



## Tribute Wall

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TD

**Teresa M. Serenbetz-Day** posted:

When I was younger in grade school Robby Jr. And I were best friends and as we approached high school age on a couple of occasions I had big fight with my parents and Bob (Mr. Waegele, as I called him then) opened there home for me to stay a few days or so if I needed.He was working for the GM plant in Newport, and on the front porch doing taxes during tax season, always working doing something, telling funny jokes and on occasion went for a ride on his motorcycle, even gave me a ride a few times. I'm so sorry that I lost touch over the past 10 years,kept saying I needed to look him up and just say hi and how awesome he was and funny, I spent alot of time at their house growing up and Robby jr.and I went to each other's Junior and Senior proms, his dad was the greatest dad, he'll be greatly missed, love you Dad sr. Teresa M. Serenbetz- Day 🙏😭😭

October 21 at 6:12 PM

JG

**John&Betty Godleski** posted:

Joan we are sorry to hear about Bob-sending our prayers and love

February 17 at 6:02 AM

CW

**Carrie Wyatt** posted:

I was very sorry to read this. Steve and I always enjoyed that 1 time of year when we would visit while getting our taxes done. Always loved seeing the dogs and hearing about the trips y'all took,especially places where we also visited. Our deepest condolences.Carrie and Steve Wyatt

February 11 at 7:48 AM

BC

**Beverly Curlett** posted:

Joan & family, George & I are deeply sadden to hear about the Bob's passing. Please know our thoughts & prayers are with you all. George & Beverly Curlett

January 14 at 10:37 AM

JB

**Jim Bacon** posted:

Rob and Leesa,Our sincerest condolences are with your entire family. Your dad's obituary tells how great of a person he was. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.Jim and Mary Jane

January 14 at 8:07 AM



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JM

**Jenn Mills** lit a candle in honor of Robert.

Joan and family, we are sadden to hear the loss of Bob. Each year we enjoyed coming there to get taxes done and to hear about all the trips you both took. We are so sorry for your loss. Your all in our thoughts and prayers.

January 12 at 5:22 AM



MD

**Mary Devine** lit a candle in honor of Robert.

What a great guy Bob was. I'm so sad to hear of his passing. Sending prayers to Joan and his family. No way to fill this void.

January 10 at 3:17 PM



DC

**Donna Collins** posted:

Our deepest sympathy to you Joan and the entire family. Bob was a wonderful man, always with a smile and a joke. He will be greatly missed. Prayers of healing and comfort to you all ❤️❤️❤️🙏🙏  
❤️🙏❤️ Donna and Alvin Collins

January 10 at 5:40 AM

AG

**Arthur Brewer "Groundhog"** posted:

So sorry Joan and family. If there is anything I can do please feel free to reach out. I will be praying for you

January 9 at 10:24 AM

CY

**Crystal Sparrow-Young** posted:

I'm saddened to hear of Bob's passing. As the current owner of Greenbank Tax Service, Inc., it's not a year that goes by that I don't think of my first year working and observing the business before purchasing. I was impressed with how much attention and patience he had with each and every client. He helped and touch so many individuals and will be missed. It was a privilege and an honor to have known and worked with him. May you rest in peace Bob and your memories be a blessing. Lots of love and blessing to the Waegele Family, Crystal Sparrow-Young.

January 8 at 2:18 PM



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VM

**Virginia Mcgee** posted:

Joannie, Leesa, Robbie and families, Bob was one of the most generous men we ever met. He was always willing to lend a hand to others. We remember the first time we met Bob. He made us feel so comfortable right away. We had recently moved to DE and needed to find someone to do our taxes. Not only did we find a great tax preparer, but a wonderful friend. Even as we are shedding tears for your loss, we are honored to remember one of the best people we ever met. His memory will live on forever. We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of grief.

Love, Ginny and John

January 8 at 11:07 AM

PG

**Peg Greenwood** posted:

Joan and Family, I will say that being one of Bob's neighbors was a very enjoyable experience here in Marshallton. He was always super friendly to us. He always seemed to be involved in fixing or creating something! Joan, I often said to you "You are so blessed to have Bob". You always responded, "I know I am". He will surely be missed by everyone who knew and loved him. My prayers go out to the entire family as you all walk through this valley. Know that God will walk with you. You will never be alone. May the "peace that passes all understanding" be present in your lives. I am so very sorry. Peg Greenwood

January 8 at 6:50 AM

GK

**Glenn Kenton** posted:

50 years ago, as a young campaign manager for the fledgling Congressional campaign of Pete du Pont, Bob walked into my office unannounced and offered to help Pete and introduce him to key GM UAW leaders. Needless to say, I was quite surprise - actually stunned - to see a UAW officer willing to help. Pete and I were eternally grateful for his support - at considerable risk to his position. He was a good man. A very good man. Glenn Kenton

January 8 at 5:37 AM



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**Jegk1@Comcast.Net** lit a candle in honor of Robert.



January 8 at 3:22 AM



**Jegk1@Comcast.Net** January 8 at 3:26 AM

I am so sorry to read about the loss of your husband, Joan. Tim and I visited you both every tax season and Tim shared memories with you from Old Landing. Sadly, Tim too passed away 2 weeks ago, and I know you too will have many fond memories of Bob.



**Kathy Conway** lit a candle in honor of Robert.



DEAR JOAN LEESA AND FAMILY OF BOB I AM SO SORRY TO BE READING ABOUT BOB.HE WAS MY FRIEND FOR 46 YEARS . WE MET ON A TOUR BUS IN JAMAICA . HE ALWAYS WAS FUN TO BE AROUND ALWAYS MADE YOU LAUGH.ALWAYS WENT TO HIM FOR TAXES I WILL MISS NOT RUNNING INTO HIM EVERY FEW YEARS. LOVE YOU BOB COOKIE

January 7 at 11:05 PM



**Jenny Twardowski** posted:

Leesa, I remember your dad back when we were in 5th grade. He was a lot like my dad — hardworking, more on the serious side but had a great sense of humor, loved his family and raised respectable children. He was still the same great man when we got older. You were lucky to have him! I love you, my friend. Sending you and your family lots of prayers and hugs.

January 7 at 2:18 PM



**John Simpson** posted:

SO SORRY TO HEAR OF BOB'S PASSING, WE FIRST MET BOB AT HIS GREENBANK OFFICE AND TO THIS DAY HE WILL BE MISSED JOHN AND MARY ANN SIMPSON

January 7 at 7:13 AM



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GR

**Gale Riggs** posted:

Joan, so very sorry to hear of your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Bob was such a kind and gentle being. Gale and Paul Riggs

January 7 at 7:12 AM

LB

**Leonard Bacon** posted:

Rob and Leesa. Our hearts go out to you and all of your family. We hope you find peace in holding the living memories of your dad close to your hearts. Prayers and hugs to you all. Len and Shirli

January 7 at 5:38 AM

TR

**Trish** posted:

Rob and Leesa, What a beautiful and inspiring life your father lived. To have been loved and to love so deeply is truly a gift that he was both given...and obviously shared with so many others. How fortunate for you, Joanie, and your entire family to have been blessed with the presence of such a caring, kind man. Keeping you all in my prayers and asking God to heal your deeply hurting hearts. May you find comfort in knowing that the legacy of your father's life well lived lives on in each of you. In friendship and love and with my deepest sympathies, wishing you peace, Trish and Rick

January 7 at 4:06 AM

NB

**Nanette Bradley** posted:

Joan, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. I'm sure Bob and dad are up there having cocktails, sharing jokes and talking baseball!! God bless, Nanette, Wayne and family

January 7 at 3:15 AM

LW

**Linda Wallace** lit a candle in honor of Robert.



January 7 at 1:36 AM



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**Bob And Jenny** posted:

Will miss your love of life, punkin chunkin, fall bonfires, efficient tax prep and just having you and our families good friends

January 6 at 3:48 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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