



Robert A. Cook

August 5, 1943 - April 26, 2022

Rochester, NH – Robert Allyn “Bob” Cook, CDR, USN (Retired), 78, of Rochester, passed away peacefully, Tuesday, April 26th, 2022 at Cedar Healthcare Center in Portsmouth, NH. He was born in the Bronx in New York City on August 5, 1943. He was the beloved son of the late Robert Herman Cook and the late Lillie (Taylor) Cook McDonough.

Bob was raised in Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ and graduated from Ridgewood High School. In his youth he enjoyed playing baseball and football and going to Camp Brookwoods in Wolfeboro, NH. Bob’s connection to New Hampshire is strong. His Taylor lineage goes back to North Hampton in 1632. He spent his summers at a family cottage in Alton Bay and fished many streams in New Hampshire with his dad.

After high school he joined the ROTC program at Yale University and received his bachelor’s degree in 1965. Upon graduation he entered the US Navy nuclear power program and became an officer in the nuclear submarine force. He served in the US Navy in active and reserve duty for over 30 years retiring in 1994. He was very proud of his time in the navy, sharing many fond stories of his time as an officer on the U.S.S. Will Rogers. One of his favorite stories was seeing an arctic tern on the periscope during one of his watch duties. Known for its long migration, arctic terns travel thousands of miles a year, and millions of miles in its lifetime. He was amazed to see a living creature so far from land, in such a desolate place. Tears filled his eyes in awe of this creature. That was Bob, he loved learning about the world around him, and sharing that knowledge with others.

In 1972, Bob received his MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. One of his favorite hobbies was reading the Wall Street Journal and trying to understand the market. He thought deeply about economics and buying and selling stocks. After his retirement from the US Navy, he worked as a government contractor for the US Department of Defense and settled in northern Virginia.

He shared 36 years of marriage with his loving wife Laura L. (Decker) Cook. They met at the beach in Dewey, Delaware and shared many friends. Over the years they enjoyed

raising their two daughters, Sally (Salme Cook) Hitchcock and Robin Cook. Bob enjoyed watching his kids' soccer games, he was the dad who always had the video camera glued to his hand. He prided himself on supporting his kids and their passions throughout his life. In 2016 Bob and Laura moved to New Hampshire to be close to the place he loved.

He leaves his wife Laura L. (Cook) Decker, his two daughters Robin Cook of New Hampshire, Salme (Sally Cook) Hitchcock and son-in-law Michael Hitchcock of East Falmouth, MA, his brother Douglas T. Cook and sister-in-law Jane Cook of Essex Fells, NJ, and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister Gail E. (Cook) Van Dyke of Marin County, CA. Gail was one of Bob's best friends, confidants and champions over the years. They had similar sense of humor and would often call each other and talk into the night about all sorts of subjects.

A graveside service with military honors will held at 12 pm on Friday June 10th, 2022 in the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen, NH. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited. A celebration of Bob's life will be held immediately following the burial, details to follow.

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Bob please visit our Sympathy Store or make a donation to Camp Brookwoods (<https://www.christiancamps.net/donate/>)

Cemetery

New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery

110 Daniel Webster Highway
Boscawen, NH, 03303

Events

JUN 10 Graveside Service 12:00PM

New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery
110 Daniel Webster Highway, Boscawen, NH,
US, 03303

Comments



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



David Taylor - June 04 at 07:03 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Robert A. Cook.



June 04 at 10:54 AM



“ Our daughter, Christine (CM to Bob and the soccer team since there were so many Christines of the team) and Sally were friends and often played on the same team. Bob always had encouraging words to share with everyone. Laura and Bob hosted Christine during a summer trip(s) to enjoy the foods and water of New England. Arla and I so enjoyed knowing the Cook family during their time in Fairfax, Virginia.

So sorry to hear about Bob.

Arla and Howard Albers
Fairfax, VA

Howard Albers - May 09 at 10:35 AM



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Liesl Cook Pinto - May 08 at 05:47 PM



“ Sending you all of our love.
Doug, Jane, Sigrid, Gretchen, and Liesl.

Liesl Cook Pinto - May 08 at 06:52 PM



“ Maddie lit a candle in memory of Robert A. Cook



maddie - May 05 at 09:53 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert A. Cook.



May 04 at 09:40 PM