



Robert Cecil

November 2, 1942 - February 12, 2022

Newbury, MA - Robert Cecil, 79, of Newbury, Plum Island, passed away peacefully at home with his family by his side after a seven-week battle with pancreatic cancer.

Bob was born and raised in Newburyport, where his family lineage dates to the first settlers of Newbury. He spoke fondly and often of his Joppa heritage and referred to himself as a 'Joppyite'. Bob graduated from Newburyport High School and was very proud of breaking records on the track team. After graduating, he joined the Coast Guard Reserves for several years and worked on his apprenticeship with the Portsmouth Naval Base. The Navy Yard is where he remained employed until his retirement. During this time, Bob was an avid boater and loved playing darts on local teams.

After retirement, Bob spent the next chapter of his life building and making things such as custom-made fishing rods, his boat, and an actual firing canon. He also enjoyed spending time with his grandsons; fishing, gaming, lighting off fireworks, target shooting, or just talking about all things relating to history or computers.

Bob's second home was the North End Boat Club, where he spent many days on his boat or chatting it up with his friends. Bob was a proud member of the NEBC, Neptune's, and the International Association of Machinists and

Aerospace Workers.

Bob is survived by his Daughter Jill (Cecil) Mandragouras and Son-in-Law David Mandragouras of Newbury, Grandsons Alex Mandragouras and Harrison Mandragouras of Newbury, Sister Donna (Cecil) Gerrish and Brother-in-Law Glen Gerrish of Salisbury, Sister Mickey (Kimball) Locke and Brother-in-Law Ron Locke of Seabrook, as well as many beloved nieces and nephews. He is pre-deceased by his Father Howard Kimball and Mother Ann (VanAmburgh/Bradbury) Kimball.

My family and I had the privilege of living next door to my dad, Bob, for the past 24 years. He was the type of man that never needed much and never asked for anything...except spending a little time and some good conversation. He lived a simple life and was always the most gracious host to his visitors.

Those who love him are left with broken hearts. He will forever live on in our memories.

In keeping with Bob's wishes, a private burial and service will be held. There will be a Celebration of Life in honor of Bob at the NEBC in late spring.

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Cecil*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM

DB

Bob was always good to me and took me under his wing when I was an apprentice. He always had great stories to tell and was the best machinist I have ever known. I transferred to Puget Sound in 1989 and I was told by the head of the shop at Portsmouth that he was the best man in the shop. He taught me some tricks of the trade, but was always humble about his knowledge and abilities. He will be missed by many people. I just found out about this tragic loss. So sorry to the family. Bob was as good as they come. Dean Benton

Dean Benton - February 27, 2023 at 01:16 PM

DL

“ *Sorry to hear about Bob, I just found out. He was a great friend lots of good memories.*
David Lavoie

David Lavoie - June 26, 2022 at 09:17 PM

DG

“ Dear Bob,
I don't want to be writing on this tribute because it means you are gone. You have always been there for me, holding my hand to cross Water Street to go swimming at Simmons Beach, helping me climb the big rock and getting rid of the horseshoe crabs so I wouldn't get stuck. Sometimes we didn't get along, but you have always been there for us. Can't imagine life without you and your newest kitchen gadgets. You had a tough exterior, but you were a softy. We knew you loved us, you told us our last night with you.
Thanks for being a big brother to Mickey and me. We love you beyond measure.
From one jopyyite to another, love you to the moon and back.
Donna, Sissy

Donna Cecil Gerrish - February 17, 2022 at 10:04 PM

DO

“ Bob,
You will always be in our hearts and sorely missed. I hope you now have eternal peace and happiness with all of our departed love ones.
Glen

Donna - February 17, 2022 at 09:06 PM

JC

“ Bob you al system had a smile on your face ! You were always glad to see me even if we hadn't seen each other for many years! You always had a good story to tell too! You will be missed my friend.

Jerry Coffey - February 17, 2022 at 03:46 PM

MI

“ Bob, you were taken from us too soon. I’m still processing you not being with us. You were my big brother and you were always there for me. You were definitely a unique character as many can attest to! I remember you teaching me to shoot a 22 when I had pneumonia, and you were babysitting me. I remember you chasing Mom and Donna with garter snakes, and me pretending not to be afraid of them so you wouldn’t chase me! Shooting off fireworks and canons off your bedroom roof when you were grounded. You were truly an Old Salt and loved living on Plum Island making custom fishing rods. What is Amazon going to do without your daily deliveries... every unique item you found you had to buy for your girls, Jill, Donna and me! A lifetime of memories for us to cherish. Love you forever big brother. You’re with our heavenly family now...RIP. Love you, Mickey

Mickey - February 17, 2022 at 10:06 AM

LS

“ Bob was a good friend! Had good times together and will always remember him!
We had 58 Pontiacs - My Bonneville and his Star Chief !! RIP!!

Lester Sinton - February 17, 2022 at 08:55 AM

JM

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Jill Mandragouras - February 16, 2022 at 10:28 AM