

## Robert Burns Vlach

November 13, 1940 - October 20, 2020

Robert Burns Vlach was born on November 13, 1940 and passed away on October 20th, 2020, at the age of 79. His parents, Byron and Catherine, raised him on the Northside of Chicago. He graduated from St George High School, majored in accounting at DePaul University and graduated with honors. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army upon his completion of ROTC. Bob went to the University of Illinois law school in Champaign/Urbana where he met many lifelong friends and his wife of 54 years, Dottie. After passing the Illinois Bar Exam, Bob and Dottie were married on August 20th, 1966. They immediately left for Ft Bragg N.C. so Bob could serve in the Army. With the Vietnam War escalating, Dottie encouraged Bob to become a JAG officer. He became a Captain and they were off to Okinawa, Japan. Bob and Dottie had a wonderful time in the Orient, traveling to many places including Hong Kong (always a favorite city), Bangkok, Manila and all over Japan. Before they left Okinawa, Michael Washburn Vlach was born, and the family moved home to Chicago. Bob took a position as an insurance lawyer with Washington National in Evanston, Illinois and began his long career in the insurance industry. The family moved to Buffalo Grove, Illinois and then to Kansas City, Kansas where Meghan Noel Vlach was born the day after Christmas, 1974. They moved to Houston, Texas and finally to Dallas where they have lived in the same house on Hockaday Drive since 1977! Bob eventually joined an insurance firm, UICI, and became General Counsel. He retired from that company in 2005. Bob married Angela DeWit on September 28, 1996. They now live in North Dallas with their two amazing children, Nikolas DeWit, 17 and Maren Olivia, 14. Meghan lives close to Mike in Richardson.

The family bought their lake house at St. Francis on the Lake at Cedar Creek Lake in 1992; and for 28 years it was a wonderful place for family and friends to gather and make great memories! Whether it was sunset cruises, jet skiing, knee boarding, fishing, or trips to Canton to look for treasures on first Mondays, there was always a fun time to be had.

Bob and Dottie continued their love for travel and went on many tours, cruises, and trips with the family. Mike, Bob, and Dottie recently returned to Chicago to visit their old stomping grounds.

A celebration of Bob's life will be at the United Methodist Church of Preston Hollow on October 28th, 2020. The visitation is at 11:00, a service at 12:00, and graveside service at Restland Cemetery at 1:00.

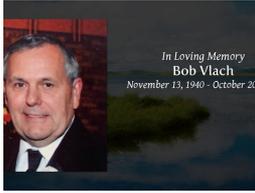


# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Restland Funeral Home and Cemetery** - October 28, 2020 at 12:10 PM

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“ I will never forget the fun we had parking cars on football weekends and the parties we had at the house. Dottie sorry to hear about Bob. Prayers your way. Croft

**Croft Waddington** - October 28, 2020 at 08:59 PM

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“ Dear Dottie,  
Prayers and Blessings for You and Your Family. I am Cathy Pendola's sister Mary Jane. You Came with Your daughter to Visit at Cathy's House When Their Dominic Passed. That was so kind of You. We have never forgotten Your Kindness.  
You And Bob Were Such Great Friends to Cathy and Manny. Prayers and Blessings to You and Your Family.  
God Bless, Bob is Carved in Your Hearts.

Love,  
Mary Jane Larsen

**Mary Jane Larsen** - October 27, 2020 at 01:22 PM

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“ Dottie, Michael, Meghan and Family, I was saddened to learn of Bob's passing. I had the honor of working for Bob in the UICI Legal Department for 12 years. Working for and with Bob has been one of the highlights of my career. Bob was an incredible boss, mentor and friend. I have many fond memories of our times together in conversations at the office, lunches, company functions and parties and trips to the Lake. I am a better attorney and person for knowing and working for Bob. He was great man of integrity, wisdom and honor. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Jeff Stewart

Jeff Stewart - October 26, 2020 at 07:01 PM

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“ Dottie and family,

Please accept my deep felt condolences in the passing of Bob.

My thoughts are with you,

Lise Dearborn

lise dearborn - October 26, 2020 at 03:10 PM

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“ I've known Bob for some 30+ years and am shocked and saddened to hear of his passing. Bob was an outstanding corporate counsel whose knowledge of our business helped guide UICI through a very exciting yet challenging time of unparalleled growth. Our family also has many fond memories of our times at Cedar Creek Lake spending time with Bob, Dottie, Meghan, Mike, Angela, Nick and Maren. Perhaps some of my best memories were the lunches we shared when we discussed any and all topics and simply enjoyed each other's company. I'm sorry that we didn't do that more often...

I offer my sincere condolences to the entire Vlach family. You are in our prayers.

I will miss you dearly my friend. Rest in peace.

Manny Pendola

Manny Pendola - October 26, 2020 at 10:54 AM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert Burns Vlach.



October 26, 2020 at 10:17 AM

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“ We have so many wonderful memories of happy times with Bob & the whole Vlach family since 1992 when they bought a lake house adjacent to ours. Bob was an active member of the HOA Board and very supportive of others doing the same job. We especially enjoyed our get-togethers at the pool for happy hour or on each other's boats and jet skis. The July 4th boat and costume parade stands out as particularly funny. We will miss him and the good times we had together but treasure the memories.  
Much love, Barry, Margaret & Marissa.

**Barry Clench** - October 26, 2020 at 09:47 AM

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“ Barry, Margaret & Marissa purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Robert Burns Vlach.



**Barry, Margaret & Marissa** - October 26, 2020 at 09:20 AM

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“ There are no words to tell you how sorry I am about Bob. Such a wonderful man. My husband Manny and I have known the Vlach family for a long time. Manny and Bob worked together at UICI and there were so many great memories made over the years traveling with the company, Christmas parties, picnics. Such good times that I treasure. Our days on Cedar Creek Lake were the best. All the times we we had our potluck lunches by the pool and shooting fireworks over the lake on the Fourth of July. I will never forget it. Bob, I love you and I will miss you. And Dottie, Meghan, Mike and Angela, Maren and Nick, please know that I hold you in my heart. God bless you all.

Much love,  
Cathy Pendola

**Cathy Pendola** - October 25, 2020 at 09:23 PM

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“ Cindy & Ronda purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Robert Burns Vlach.



**Cindy & Ronda** - October 25, 2020 at 01:54 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert Burns Vlach.



October 24, 2020 at 11:24 AM

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“ I’ve known Bob most of my life. Our families have been friends over four generations from Chicago to Dallas. I’ve spent the last several Thanksgivings with Bob, Dottie, Meghan, Mike & Angie, and Nick and Maren. The Vlaches are my family and we’ve lost our patriarch. I will always remember how we used to celebrate my dad’s birthday, Bob’s and Byron’s all together. Great memories of Bob and Dottie hosting poolside get-togethers at their beautiful home on Hockaday where so many other wonderful memories were made, and some somber, including when they held the reception at their home following my own dad’s service at Wildwood Chapel. In later years, Bob gave me what amounted to fatherly advice in certain situations that have enhanced my life greatly He was funny without trying to be and he was always one I felt I could look to for good guidance and sound advice. He treated me like family and didn’t hold it against me that time at the lake when I snarled up the jet ski rope in the motor after he told me at least 3 times to keep the jet ski rope away from the engine. I can still see him pacing back and forth onshore as I sat helplessly offshore on the incapacitated jet ski dreading the return to account for my screwup! Just one of the more “unforgettable” memories of Bob. I want to believe that Bob is enjoying happy hour cocktails with Rose & Dick and Ruth & Dave as they did all those many years ago. RIP to a wonderful, intelligent, loving and sometimes mischievously snarky man I’m grateful to have known in my life.



**Ruth. Young** - October 24, 2020 at 02:20 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Bob’s passing. I lived on Shady Hill for many years and Megan went to school with my two daughters. I live in Arkansas near them now. My sympathy to the family.  
Cathy Rigby

**cathy Rigby** - October 25, 2020 at 05:48 PM



“ Condolences to the family. Bob surely will be miss at North Dallas Shared Ministries.  
Praying for Dottie and the family.

Sherrie Boyd

**Sherrie** - October 26, 2020 at 11:38 AM