



## Robert Douglas Blakemore

November 5, 1945 - November 6, 2014

Robert Douglas Blakemore was born on November 5, 1945 in Portland, Oregon to parents Walter and Maybelle Blakemore. He grew up in NE Portland and had fond memories of a close knit community where he was involved in the Boy Scouts, (eventually obtaining Eagle Scout status), swimming, baseball, and school sports. He attended Fernwood Grade School, like his mother, and then Grant High School in later years. His family was active in the St Michael's Episcopal church he where worshiped and served as an acolyte. A true patriot at heart, Bob volunteered to join the Army during the mid-60s and serve his country in Vietnam. During his first deployment in theater he earned a battlefield commission to 2nd Lt and was encouraged by a commander to go to West Point. He subsequently received a presidential appointment to attend the academy and began his studies there in 1965. Unfortunately, due to family issues, he was only able to complete 3 years at West Point and had to retire his commission prior to graduating. He then re-entered the Army and served a second tour in Vietnam with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. Bob left active duty service with an Honorable Discharge in May of 1971. After Vietnam, Bob attended college at Portland State University and worked for the US Forest Service surveying the Bull Run Watershed. From there he was mentored in drafting and engineering and completed his engineering degree at Walla Walla College. He met his wife Jan during those years and they married in 1975. They had many friends from those college years and the SDA church who gave so much to their lives. Bob's love of life

gave him many passions from winter camping, teaching scouting, cross country skiing, boating, camping, hiking, and training and hunting bird dogs as well as cross country trips. As an engineer, Bob was involved in the building two hospitals, the cable bridge in Kennewick, the bureau of land management dam projects in Colorado and Oregon. He worked for private firms, municipalities, clean room designs for the computer world. At home he was involved in his professional organization ASCE and served as president and past president and received the Engineer award of the year in 2008. He eventually opened his own practice of JBAK engineering. Bob was widely known for his extensive knowledge of engineering, his willingness to share his knowledge and his ability to solve problems within both the engineering practice and his private life. There is already an empty space in many hearts as we miss him. A philanthropic person at heart, Bob gave to many charities including Wounded Warriors, Habitat for Humanity, political causes, and Pheasants are forever. In lieu of flowers, donations should be made in Bob's memory to the Wounded Warriors or Habitat for Humanity foundations. Bob passed on 6 November 2014 and is survived by his wife Jan, 3 children, Michael, Tamara, and Robert Blakemore and 2 grandchildren Lucy and Lauren.

# Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

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**Evergreen Memorial Gardens** - July 03, 2025 at 08:48 PM

MC

“ I met Bob in 1993 through work. He taught me so much about how to be a great engineer. He mentored me and became a close, personal friend. I will cherish the many private conversations we shared, our common interests and the difficult projects we conquered. It was an honor and a priveledge to have known such a great and generous soul. My father and Bob also enjoyed a relationship because of how often I spoke of Bob to him.

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**Mark D Cordery** - April 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ We want you to know you are in our thoughts and prayers. May God bless and keep you, may His face shine upon you and give you peace.

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**John & Allene Kidby** - November 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ Our deepest condolences to Bobs wife Jan, brother Jack, brother Gary and all other family members who lost a very special and courageous man. Always a smile on his face, an unselfish demeanor, and a stature of dignity. We pray for courage, comfort and strength during this time of loss.

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**David and Lynne Arnell** - November 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ Dear Jan, My thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of loss. Bob was very generous to me when we were in engineering school and later.

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**Stanley Green** - November 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Bob, as my older brother you were always there to help me when I needed you. Remember all the good time we had growing up and the good time we had as adults, like our trips to Arizona . My family and I will certainly miss you. Your younger and loving brother Jack.

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**Jack Blakemore** - November 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Your family has my deepest sympathy. I am so sorry for your loss. Mr. Bob will be dearly missed. Though now you are grieving, please remember that you are not alone. Psalms 46:1 says, "God is our refuge and strength, a help that is readily found in times of distress." Pray to Him for strength. He will really help you get through this difficult time (Isaiah 41:10) because He cares for you very much (1 Peter 5:7).

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**Sharon** - November 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Bob was a friend to so many folks. He was tough but at the same time a gentle man with great empathy. The strength and love that his family gave to Bob over the last few years was amazing. I am lucky to have know him and could call him a friend.

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**Rick Haddock** - November 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RH

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**Rick Haddock** - November 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM