



Robert B. MacDonald

August 13, 1945 - February 19, 2018

It is with great sadness that the family of Robert B. MacDonald announces his passing from a sudden illness, on Monday, February 19, 2018, at the age of 72 years. Devoted husband, loving father, adoring grandfather, classic car enthusiast, business owner, part-time comedian, and full time brother, uncle, and friend. Bob was born in Langston, Virginia on August 13, 1945, but spent the majority of his life in Hamden, CT, until recently moving to Cheshire, CT. He was a graduate of Assumption Prep High School and Fairfield University. Bob became an insurance adjuster and started his own firm, RBM Companies, Inc., and later became the owner of The MacDonald Companies, Inc. He was well respected in the insurance industry, winning several awards over his many years in the business. Bob was also very active in his community and served on the board of several organizations. Bob enjoyed spending summers at the cottage, attending car shows, watching his grandchildren participate in plays and sports, and getting together for laughs with family and friends. He touched so many lives in his 72 years, and was always there to lend a helping hand, provide a laugh, or give one of his big bear hugs. Bob will be dearly missed by his devoted wife and best friend of 49 years, Joanne (McDonough) MacDonald and his children, Matthew (Jessica) MacDonald and Kristin (Bryan) Ward. "Biyabee" also leaves behind seven grandchildren whom he absolutely adored; Hannah, Brennan, Declan, Finn, and Kieran Ward and Payton and Oliver MacDonald. He was also deeply loved by his brothers and sisters, J. Neale (Jeanne) MacDonald III, Caryl

(Michael) Reilly, Susan Gendron, Kevin (Marilyn) MacDonald, William MacDonald, Nancy (Richard) Leddy, Kathleen (Marshall) Richards, and Debra (Brian) O'Leary, along with over 50 devoted relatives and friends. Bob is now reunited with his parents, J. Neale and Louise MacDonald.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be Celebrated Wednesday February 28, 2018 at 10 a.m. in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church. Friends are asked to go directly to church. Burial in Centerville Cemetery. Calling hours are Tuesday from 4 - 8 p.m. in Sisk Brothers Funeral Home 3105 Whitney Ave. Hamden. In lieu of flowers contributions to the Alzheimer's Association 200 Executive Blvd. Southington, CT. 06489-1058. To leave an online condolence please visit www.siskbrothers.com

Cemetery Details

Centerville Cemetery

Washington Ave.
Hamden, CT

Previous Events

Calling hours

FEB 27. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Sisk Brothers Funeral Home
3105 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT 06518
(203) 288-7114
siskfuneral@sbcglobal.net

Funeral service

FEB 28. 10:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church
2819 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT

Tribute Wall



“ *Always a gentleman to me and my family.
Praying for all of you! Debbie Mager*



Debbie Mager - February 27, 2018 at 08:43 PM



“ *Michael & Mary Jo D'Angelis purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.*



Michael & Mary Jo D'Angelis - February 27, 2018 at 03:45 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.*



February 27, 2018 at 12:37 PM



“ *The Ruff and Finn Families purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.*



The Ruff and Finn Families - February 27, 2018 at 11:21 AM

ES

“ *Eileen and Chas Summers purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.*



Eileen and Chas Summers - February 27, 2018 at 09:53 AM

MK

“ *Bobby's treasured laugh permeated a room and lifted the spirits of every person within. It has been many years since I have had the fortune of seeing him often, but I don't doubt Bob has been busy in that time filling his grandchildren's lives with the same purely joyful memories that he gave me during my childhood. How grateful I am now for all those car shows, summer cottage afternoons, Super Bowl parties, and bear hugs. How Blessed I am that my father made such an incredible friend through his car hobby and brought him into all of our simple lives. As I grew up and Bobby gave me a part-time summer job at the MacDonald Companies, I gained a wise mentor who helped me grow to face "the real world" with grit and grace. Bobby treated me like family from the moment I met him, and I am crushed for those of you who called him a husband, father, grandfather, brother, cousin, or dear friend. Some losses leave the world swimming in tears -- the buckets of rain this past week felt appropriate in this case. You are all in my heart and my prayers.*



With love, Melissa Kwan (Brian and Joy Morgan's daughter)

Melissa Kwan - February 27, 2018 at 08:55 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.*



February 26, 2018 at 06:03 PM



“ *Kim Rice lit a candle in memory of Robert B. MacDonald*



Kim Rice - February 26, 2018 at 05:17 PM



“ *Love you always Biyabee! - Mimi Rice*

Kim Rice - February 26, 2018 at 05:14 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.*



February 26, 2018 at 11:54 AM

MJ

“ Dear Joanne, Kristin & Matt, I was saddened to hear of my wonderful friends passing. He was always there for a phone call to discuss some “rather important” case with Dick as well as being there so often for me to help in any way he could after Dick's death. Anytime something needed discussing he was there and happy to talk. I remember meeting all of you approximately 30 years ago at Disney, a trip that was not planned together but by some chance, they we were all together. Joanne you became a second sister to me, shopping in Stamford. All my children remember Holland, Mass and most of all our introduction to steamers on your deck watching the boating activities: I will miss his big HUGS & smile. I am sure Dick will greet him in heaven and maybe once again discuss some “rather important matter.” Love and sympathy to all of you, Marcie Jontos & Family, Andie, Greg, Scott, Stacie.

marcie jontos - February 26, 2018 at 11:45 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.



February 26, 2018 at 10:40 AM



“ Bright and Beautiful Spray was purchased for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.



February 26, 2018 at 09:41 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.*



February 25, 2018 at 06:29 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.*



February 25, 2018 at 05:49 PM



“ *Dear Brother Bob, My heart is aching and there is a gap that will never be filled. You were always there for me and for my boys. You were always ready to help anyone with anything. My proudest memory is Bobby the husband. You were so good to “Josie”. I will always love and remember my one day a year twin. Loving you forever Susan aka Susie Q*



Susan Gendron - February 25, 2018 at 02:38 PM

RM

“ We are so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. we were neighbors of he and his wife on Bender Road in Hamden, Conn. They always greeted people with smiles. Unfortunately, we will not be able to make it to the services because we are out of town for awhile

Please know we will keep you all close in thought and prayer.

*Ralph & Donna Marottoli
61 Bender Road
Hamden, Conn. 06518*

Ralph & Donna Marottoli - February 25, 2018 at 12:16 PM

SC

“ Bob was the absolute best guy on earth. I worked with him on many “cases” at TMO. Bob had a way of keeping the lid on precarious situations by talking to people and showing great empathy. I thought iof Bob as more of a friend than business associate. I am saddened by our collective loss. My heart and prayers are with his family which he always spoke of with pride, joy, and absolute love. I will miss him dearly and pray he watches over us all. Sandy Cipollone



sandy Cipollone - February 25, 2018 at 11:16 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.



February 24, 2018 at 09:29 PM

AC

“ Mrs. MacDonald, Kristin & Matthew,
I am so saddened to hear of your loss. Mr MacDonald was like a second father to me and I have so many wonderful memories growing up and spending time with your family. Please know you are all in our thoughts and prayers.
Alicia Clark Coderre & family

Alicia Clark Coderre - February 24, 2018 at 03:06 PM

AF

“ I am so sorry and sad for all of your wonderful family. Growing up, our families spent so much time together and many great memories come flooding back to me. He will be missed by so many . Let's think how happy your mom and dad are to hug him once again.
Love and prayers to you all.

annette forte - February 24, 2018 at 11:33 AM

NG

“ Dear Bob----Thank you for being so honest & fair all the many years I worked for you--- Moving to Florida, I miss all the times I would drop by to see you & talk about all things we shared---you will be missed----. My sincerest sympathy to all the MacDonald family I will always remember----- Sincerely, Nicky Gontarz

Nicky Gontarz - February 24, 2018 at 10:18 AM

ED

“Dear Bob, I loved your jokes, your hugs, your smile and your big personality, I loved your compliments and your big heart. You leave a big empty space in my heart a space I never thought I would have to feel, I thought you would be around forever; having drinks on the porch while you entertained all your grandkids you loved so much. I loved working for you I loved talking to you on the phone and how sweet you always were to me.

You were generous to Bob giving him a car, but it was the letter that came with it that meant the most to my Bob, he saved the letter and I would like you to share some of it here.

“To the original “Bob the Builder” It’s not very often in a persons life someone enters it who makes a huge difference. Usually it’s a wife or husband; but if you’re very, very lucky it can be a stranger or someone you’ve known, but not well.

I’ve actually been very lucky to have that happen to me several times; and now its happened again. That very special person who enters your life usually comes unannounced, and freely gives of himself or herself, looking for very little in exchange, more often than not needing anything more than a “thank you”. As you get to know that person better you find even more great qualities, you soon easily recognize that they spend more of the time thinking and doing things for others instead of themselves. They give of their time, money, and talent over and over, even when they’ve not received proper recognition for all they’ve done in the past. Bob I just wanted you to know that you are one of those very special people. You helped me fulfill a dream of renovating a house from top to bottom, thanks for being my friend.”

Well Bob we feel the exact same way about you!! I’m sorry we didn’t say it in words or out loud to you. It was our pleasure and privilege to know you and be a part of your family. Love Bob and Ellen xxoo

Ellen & Bob Dymon - February 23, 2018 at 05:56 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert B. MacDonald.*



February 23, 2018 at 11:35 AM



“ *Bobby grew up on Westerfield Road in Hamden back in the 50's and 60's. I lived on Rosina Road right behind him. Bobby came from a great family and he was one of the most generous, funniest, big hearted guys I've ever had the pleasure of meeting. I will miss you tremendously buddy. You left us way too soon.*



Michael Mangini - February 22, 2018 at 08:31 PM



*The entire MacDonald family, My memories of Bob are very special. He was an absolute gentleman at all times, honest, helpful, and as caring as any man I have ever worked with or met. I can image the pain with such a great loss of such a great man. He was so generous and thoughtful on the birth of my granddaughter Lilly him and Joanne came to my home in Braintree Ma. with his good friend David Giannelli and his wife Sue and had a beautiful red velvet suit made for my granddaughter. Bob and my daughter Kim share the same birthday he will remain in my heart for ever.
Anthony Spadea Jr.*

anthony spadea jr - February 26, 2018 at 10:32 AM

BI

To the MacDonald family - We are stunned and saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. MacDonald (Bob). I met about 10 years ago in a trade group board meeting and I discovered quickly that he was one of the good guys! Though we haven't had contact recently, we are still very sad to hear of his passing. Wishing you all strength in this time of grief. Sincerely, Bill Grace III and the Grace family.

Bill Grace III - February 26, 2018 at 06:50 PM

KM

Bob's fun-loving spirit will be fondly remembered by all who live on Lake Shore Drive in Holland. Kevin and I feel a special sadness as we remember the kindness and generosity Bob and Joanne showed us during our downsizing transition to Holland. We always looked forward to and enjoyed their visits, and we will forever miss Bob's broad smile, great sense of humor, and of course, his generous hug! Bob was such a good, kind and loving person and his spirit will live on in our hearts and memories.

*With love and heartfelt sympathy,
Kevin and Kathy McKenna*

Kathy McKenna - February 27, 2018 at 10:53 AM