



Robert (Bob) Frederick Noland

August 5, 1934 - May 9, 2024

Robert (Bob) Frederick Noland is undoubtedly dancing to some modern jazz tune while dreaming up the next line to his latest poem, his paintbrushes within reach awaiting a spark of inspiration. Bob, though, was far more than a poet, a painter and a dreamer of big dreams; he was, to his core, an utterly devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather who relentlessly inspired his family to “make the most of every moment.” Bob is dancing indeed, no longer stuck in bed. He soared into his Lord’s arms peacefully from home on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at the age of 89.

Born in Rigby, Idaho on August 5, 1934, Bob’s parents, Jack and Florence Noland, raised him a couple of hours down the road in Jerome. He tried his hand at his dad’s farm near Shoshone, but hay fever forced him back to Jerome and a job at Roper’s clothing store.

Bob attended Idaho State College from 1952 to 1954 and then transferred to the University of Oregon where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism in 1956. The ensuing years launched him around the world. He became a Naval officer—and was always a gentleman—commanded a ship, joined the Foreign Service, did secret things for the U.S. government goodness knows where, and along the way, he fell in love with Nguyen Thi Huong in Saigon, Vietnam.

They married on April 19, 1964. Bob returned to school in the States and earned his Master's in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oregon, joining its Chicano Studies team. Bob later taught cultural anthropology at Umpqua Community College. During this time, his old friends in the U.S. government came calling. Things were brewing in Lebanon, and they wondered if he might want to work there for a while. Knowing what it would entail, he decided against it and eventually moved his family north to the Last Frontier. His new career would be as a systems analyst at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Quite a few cold years later, he and his family finally defrosted in California's Central Valley where Bob would once again work as a systems analyst, but this time at Stanislaus State. He retired in 2015 and was finally able to revel in his and Huong's verdant garden, working side-by-side with his "beautiful rose," Huong Thi's meaning in English.

Bob was preceded in death by his mother, Florence Fredricka Noland, and his father, John David Noland.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Huong Thi Noland; his daughter, Lucy Noland; his sons, Shawn Noland and Jonathan Noland; his grandchildren, Gaibel Noland, Alec Noland, Christian Noland, Robert Noland, Harrison Noland, Bay Noland-Armstrong, Nanami Noland, Ayami Noland; his daughters-in-law, Cristi Noland and Rieko Noland; in addition to his many adored cousins.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 25, 2024, at Turlock Funeral Home. Following the service, Bob will be laid to rest at Turlock Memorial Park.

To view the funeral service remotely, please select the link below;

<https://www.viewlogies.net/turlock/2jyJnfvAB?pin=105312>

Cemetery Details

Turlock Memorial Park

575 N. Soderquist Rd.
Turlock, CA 95380
(209) 632-9111
<http://turlockmemorialpark.com>

Previous Events

Funeral Service

MAY 25. 10:00 AM (PT)

Turlock Funeral Home
425 North Soderquist Road
Turlock, CA 95381
(209) 632-9111
<https://turlockfuneralhome.com>

Interment following Funeral Service

MAY 25. 11:00 AM (PT)

Turlock Memorial Park
575 N Soderquist Rd
Turlock, CA 95380-3749
(209) 632-9111

Tribute Wall

TA

“ I first met my cousin Bob when I was around nine years old. His family of four at that time, had just arrived in Eugene, Oregon my hometown. His quick smile and soft voice always spoke to me in a way that helped put my shyness aside. It was the way he lead his life that fascinated me and caused my child’s view of the world to expand greatly. From his openness to the world it gave me the need to explore through travel and teaching abroad. I will forever be grateful for the gifts of opportunity that Bob provided me with gentleness. Tamara Aydelott

Tamara Aydelott - May 25, 2024 at 09:31 AM

KE

“ With our deepest sadness for your loss. We know Bob & Huong way from Alaska to Turlock. Bob Noland was a gentleman, sweet with sense of humor. We shared many happy memories with Bob & Houng. He loved Houng so much & very caring of his family. Our thoughts are with you.

Keith & Mai Edmonds - May 25, 2024 at 12:19 AM

KE

“ Keith E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert (Bob) Frederick Noland.

Keith E. - May 25, 2024 at 12:03 AM

CM

“ Clare and Steve Morrison purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Robert (Bob) Frederick Noland.



Clare and Steve Morrison - May 22, 2024 at 04:49 PM

CM

“ Clare and Steve Morrison planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert (Bob) Frederick Noland.

Clare and Steve Morrison - May 22, 2024 at 04:49 PM



“ Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Robert (Bob) Frederick Noland.



May 20, 2024 at 07:34 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert (Bob) Frederick Noland.



May 20, 2024 at 02:46 PM

ST

“ I figured Mr Noland was someone great but he never told me about his top secret Navy career. My dad was Navy. I know Bob’s gift of self by serving in the United States Navy, teaching in education and raising his family did not stop at sacrifice but was a heartfelt joy and love for those he served and commanded - that was just the type of life he lived.

Steve - May 19, 2024 at 05:57 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert (Bob) Frederick Noland.



May 19, 2024 at 02:36 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Robert (Bob) Frederick Noland.



May 19, 2024 at 04:54 AM

SR

“ My deepest heartfelt condolences to the Noland family on the passing of this wonderful man. His beautiful words live on and on, “And I know that it is the ordinary things in life and love that place ordinary love above all extraordinary things.” (From Hang Gliding From the Solar Wind) Wishing you all peace. - Susan Russell (Lucy’s friend in Philly)

Susan Russell - May 19, 2024 at 04:44 AM