Robert K. McConnell

January 20, 1951 - March 2, 2022

On the evening of March 2, 2022, Robert (Bob) McConnell finished his race in this life. Bob was the son of Chet and Sophie McConnell; he was born and raised in Rumford, ME. He was a stand out, three sport athlete at Stephens High School. Bob attended the University of Maine at Orono and was a four year letter winner on the football team, and he served as a team co-captain his senior year.

After his graduation from college, Bob embarked on a 31 year coaching career in college and high school football. His coaching career began as a graduate assistant in 1974 at the University of Colorado and included stops at the following places: Colby College, Ball State, UMass, Vanderbilt, LSU, Parkview Baptist High School (Baton Rouge, LA), Bloomington High School South, and IU. In his coaching career, he was the epitome of a servant leader; Bob invested everything he had into helping his players be the best players and men they could be. He was never in the business of coaching for the glamor or attention that can come with those roles; it was always about investing in the kids he coached and the friendships with fellow coaches. Anyone who worked with Bob in coaching would describe him as a “lunch pail” type of guy who just showed up, worked hard, and did his job to the best of his abilities each day. His closest coaching friends describe him as fiercely loyal and a great friend. In 2005, Bob worked tirelessly to reinvent himself and transition to a career in financial services so he could put some roots down in Bloomington and step away from the nomadic coaching lifestyle. He took the

same blue-collar approach to serving his clients in the financial services industry for 16 years after coaching. Showing up early, staying late, and going the extra mile to make sure he did the best job he could for the people that were counting on him.

Bob's number one pride and joy in this life was his family. Bob was a loving and loyal husband to his wife Barbara of 42 years. He was an incredible father to his two sons Ryan and Trevor, always modeling high character and integrity in everything he did for his boys. He maintained a very close relationship with his sister Carol, and she was his best friend. Family was everything to him; he got more joy out of family vacations with the whole crew than anything in the world. Although he had a long and successful professional career, the job that he enjoyed the most in his life was being "Papi" to his 4 grandchildren.

Bob put his faith in what Jesus Christ had accomplished on the cross, and he was an active member of Sherwood Oaks Christian Church in Bloomington, IN. Bob loved being active and outdoors; in his spare time you would most likely find him walking, hiking, fishing, or sitting by a campfire. His home state of Maine held a special place in his heart, and he always liked to make a pilgrimage to the Maine woods each summer in Weld, ME. He enjoyed watching all sports, but the one team that he followed with a passion was the Boston Red Sox. He could always tell you the AL East standings, the score of every game, and what pitching and pinch hitting moves the manager screwed up in the late innings.

Bob was preceded in death by his grandparents Cecil (Ora Day) McConnell and Anthony (Sophie) Kaladin, parents (Chester C and Sophie J McConnell), father and mother in-law (Dr. Thomas (Alice) Boyd, and sister in-law Nancy Boyd Yencer. He is survived by his wife Barbara Boyd McConnell, his two sons Ryan (Anne) McConnell and Trevor (Jessica) McConnell, sister Carol (Rich) O'Buck, grandchildren (Nolan, Cullen, Lauren, and Rhett), 2 nieces, 3 nephews, 1 sister in-law, and 4 brothers in-law.

Memorial services will be held Thursday March 10, 2022 at 3:00PM at Sherwood Oaks Christian Church 2700 East Rogers Road. Visitation will also be held Thursday at the church from 12:00PM Noon until the time of the service at 3:00PM.

In lieu of flowers the family request that donations may be made via check to the:

Ryan Wilcoxen Memorial Scholarship Fund
P.O. Box 1025
Martinsville, IN 46151

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37 is handling the arrangements and online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **10**. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Sherwood Oaks Christian Church
2700 E. Rogers
Bloomington, IN 47401

Memorial Service

MAR **10**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Sherwood Oaks Christian Church
2700 E. Rogers
Bloomington, IN 47401

Tribute Wall

JB

Hung with him and Dupills, Girouxs, grade school into high school. Can still hear his laugh. He was a tough guy, you respected him, playing bball on the hs outdoor courts. Was there at UMO with him. Talked a few times. Was glad to see him, when we met in the gym or field house or lockers. One of the good ole Rumford boys, top athlete to come out of Rumford, Maine. Definitely a River Valley, Rumford, Mexico, Dixfield, hall of famer. RIP Bobby. Glad you knew Christ as Savior. I met him personally in Feb of 1974. See you heaven friend.

James R Brown - March 20, 2022 at 02:57 PM

GG

My hero growing up. Bob was 4 years ahead of me in school. We camped at Dummers Beach for years. Bob and I played catch for hours with the baseball and made up baseball games that that we played. He made a giant impression on me… a guy I'll never forget. I'm glad to have connected via FB with his son Ryan, also a good young man. Blessings to the McConnell family.

Greg Gallant - March 18, 2022 at 04:14 PM

MM

Bob was a year ahead of me and he turned out to be a good friend. I have often wondered what happened what happened to him as I moved from Rumford in 1969. He is one of several friends I have lost over the past year. He was a great guy and a good friend.

Michael Meehan - March 14, 2022 at 01:39 AM

MK

You have my sincerest condolences with Bob's passing. I was just one of the young boys in the neighborhood who idolized Bob growing up. I was fortunate to grow up right across the street on Holyoke Ave. in Rumford from Bob and I saw him leaving the house many times headed for one of his practices or games. I think Bob may have been the best 3 sport athlete (football, basketball and baseball) to come out of Rumford. As I recall he was QB on the High School football team, but when he went to college at UMO they converted him to offensive lineman. One of my fondest memories as a kid was when my dad loaded up his 4 boys in the station wagon and we took the trip up to Orono, ME to watch Bob play college football. Gone but not forgotten..... rest in peace Bob. Matt Kaubris

Matt Kaubris - March 10, 2022 at 01:47 PM

JC

Coach Mac was a great role model and Coach for many of us who had the chance to play for him!He really cared about his players and wanted nothing but the best on and off the field for anyone that ever played for him! Coach Mac helped me early in my career not only helping me at Umass but later when he was behind Coach DiNardo hiring me at LSU!Coach Mac was as loyal and genuine as they come!I will always be grateful for having Bob and Barbara and Ryan and Trev in my life!May God be with you all during this time.Coach Mac was the Best!Joe and Andrea Cullen

Joseph Cullen - March 08, 2022 at 02:31 PM

HG

My sincere condolences to Bobs family and friends that were dear to him. I went to school with Bob. Everyone liked Bob! He was kind, friendly and enjoyed a good joke. Just an all round nice guy who loved sports. RIP Bob and hope you run into my dear husband Art you also went to school with strumming his guitar. Heaven has another angel. 🙏

Holly Gagnon - March 08, 2022 at 12:10 PM

KI

Barb and family,
It has been lots of years since I had the please of knowing you and Bob and taking care of your beautiful sons. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.
Sincerely,
Karen Isabelle & Family

karen Isabelle - March 07, 2022 at 11:02 AM

GG

To Bob's Family: Gary (Class of '69 Stephen's High School) and I extend our deepest sympathies to you all on your great loss. We will treasure the memory of sitting on our porch at camp the Sunday after the 50th High School Reunion catching up on life and recalling the Glory Days @ SHS. He remained the down to earth, kind, man he always was since second grade, and was very proud of his family...that was clear.
May your memories bring you much comfort.
Gary and Cynthia Giroux

Gary and Cynthia Giroux - March 08, 2022 at 10:26 AM

TG

BARB AND FAMILY

MY SINCRE CONDOLENCES. WORKED TOGETHER AT BALL STATE FOR FOR 5YEARS. WE WERE YOUNG AND HAD A GREAT TIIME DEVELOPING A LOT A GREAT YOUNG MEN. I ALWAYS ADMIRED BOB HOW HARD HE WORKED TO HELP EACH YOUNG MAN HE CAME IN CONTACT WITH. A GREAT COACH - MOST OF A GREAT FRIEND. I ILL TRULY MISS OUR TIMES TOGETHER.
TED GILL

TED GILL - March 10, 2022 at 07:43 PM

Mark Holt

I did not ever have the chance to meet this man, but reading the obituary tells me a lot about him. Even more, getting to know his son Trevor and his family, I can see what an outstanding father, and Papi, he must have been as Trevor is the epitome of a well raised individual - kind, caring, hardworking, just as his Dad was described. My deepest sympathy to his family at this difficult time, but also, take joy in knowing the life he lived and the seeds he sowed that will be his legacy forever.

Mark & Teri Holt

Mark Holt - March 07, 2022 at 09:34 AM

DJ

My brother who lives in the Rumford area shared the sad news of Bob's passing. Bob and I were good friends in high school and played football and basketball together. While Bob was a grad assistant at CU, I spent that summer in Boulder and we hiked and fished every weekend. We drove to Yellowstone once in his red convertible playing old songs and singing badly. He was a wonderful guy and I am so sorry for your loss. I deeply regret not reconnecting, always believing there would be time. Rest In Peace my friend. Dan Johnson

Dan Johnson - March 08, 2022 at 12:14 PM

RS

Mac was a dear friend for over 40 years. As years passed and our families grew so did our friendship. He not only was a true professional but an even better person. We had many good times together and we will miss these get togethers. From our family to the McConnell's please accept our sincere condolences on the passing of Bob. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Rich, Sheila, Kate, Kelly and Bryan Spisak

Rich Spisak - March 07, 2022 at 08:53 AM

RR

So sorry for you and your family.

Richard and Joanne Roach. - March 05, 2022 at 04:28 PM

RR

Richard And Joanne Roach. lit a candle in memory of Robert K. McConnell

Richard and Joanne Roach. - March 05, 2022 at 04:27 PM

AB

Uncle Bob - thank you for always making me smile and laugh. I really can't imagine life without you. Thank you for the happy memories - like the one pictured here. Dancing with my mom on my wedding day.

Arika Bishop - March 05, 2022 at 04:03 PM

JB

Coach was quite the character, full of life and love. He truly loved our family and my dad. He coached my brother Abram and I and we had tons of fun just talking old ball stories with coach. Grateful for his friendship. RIP coach you will always be remembered! Josh Booty LSU QB 1999 for Coach

josh booty - March 05, 2022 at 03:52 PM

JK

To the McConnell Family. Blessing and peace to you during this tough time. You father was a great coach when I played for him at Ball State. I remember a tough time I was going through and Coach McConnell took time to give me some strong Father type advice. It was a very important to my success later on in life. Thank Your Bob! I am sure that he was a great dad to Ryan and Trevor and I bet one of the bests Grandpa's you would find anywhere. Remember the good times and I know that I was one of many that coach help on in life. He will be missed. God Bless, John Krall BALL STATE. '80

john Krall - March 05, 2022 at 10:29 AM

RR

It is with great sorrow that we have all lost a remarkable man who impacted so many in so many ways. I had the great pleasure of being his friend especially these last few years as we shared personal, professional, and often spiritual conversations that always made me better to be in his presence. Above all his love and passion for coaching, sports, friends, was his unwavering love of his family and the God he served. He always was looking for opportunities to serve others through his life experiences. Heaven just got better(if that's even possible)! Love you Mac. Forever in my heart!!! Ron Remak.

ron remak - March 05, 2022 at 09:58 AM

JA

Barb, We are so sorry to hear about Bob. Prayers for you and the boys. He was a wonderful man and a great father/grandfather. We all our love. Lee & Jewell

jewell arthur - March 04, 2022 at 07:35 PM

LT

What a pleasure to work with Bob at LSU. He was so easy to get to know and treated our defensive staff with such respect. We loved sharing football, life and our faith in Jesus Christ together. He was an outstanding man! May God comfort you in your loss. Lou Tepper

Lou Tepper - March 04, 2022 at 07:17 PM

JB

The entire Booty family extends our heartfelt condolences. May the God of all comfort grant the McConnell family peace.

Johnny Booty - March 05, 2022 at 03:56 PM

MG

My condolences to Bobs family. I played football with Bob for four years, He always gave his all. Bob was just a great guy,he never talked down to the team. Did not get to see Bob at all it got to see him at our 50th class reunion and had a great talk with him. He did not change a bit Bob R.I.P my friend

Mike Gallant - March 14, 2022 at 07:37 PM