

W. Roy Flebotte

April 26, 1928 - March 20, 2018

W. Roy Flebotte passed away on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Roy was born on April 26, 1928 in Springfield, Massachusetts to Wilfred A. and Fernande Flebotte. Shortly after his father's death fourteen months later, he moved to Sydney, Australia with his mother and sister to be near his aunt. They then moved to Wellington, New Zealand, returning to Springfield, Massachusetts in 1940, just prior to World War II.

Roy was in the US Marine Corp and served his country for four years. While in the Marines, he received special electronics training and served in the Pacific theater during World War II. He was discharged, then recalled to active duty during the Korean War. Upon receiving his recall notice, he married his loving wife, Hilda Alves, of Ludlow, Massachusetts on December 30, 1950.

Following his military obligations, Roy was employed as a Technical Specialist at the Springfield Armory where he maintained three independent telephone systems. In 1956, he joined IBM in Springfield, Massachusetts where he worked in several technical positions during a rapidly changing technological era.

In 1964, he was promoted by IBM to service Planning Representative for telecommunication products in Raleigh, North Carolina where he worked for eight years. Following this assignment, he was again promoted, this time as a Field Manger in Terre Haute, Indiana where he worked for five years.

In 1978, he was promoted to Education Planning and Development Manager

in Poughkeepsie, New York where he was responsible for the development of education programs for new, advanced IBM systems. Five years later, he accepted a promotion to New Product Development and returned to Raleigh, North Carolina. While in this assignment, he traveled to California, England, Scotland, France, Italy and Germany to coordinate the required education and maintenance programs for several of IBM's newer systems.

He retired from IBM following thirty years of service and moved to Bloomington, Indiana with his wife Hilda to be near their daughter, Linda Hitchings, and her husband and two grandchildren.

It is a great blessing to be part of this family of which Roy was the king, but without a shred of conceit or pride. Even tempered, we never saw him angry. He was resolute in his quiet, unheralded demeanor of charity. We learned many lessons from him and are grateful for the example he provided. He was half of a beautiful couple both of whom were loved as family and friends far and wide.

Roy had hidden depths including his electronics career and as a writer whose poetry is admired and appreciated. He was remarkably observant and this quality informed his other gifts. Roy was an intelligent man in charge of some very significant projects, but his heart always came first. He was gentle and strong, a caretaker of people, animals, and the things that touched his life. And yet, he was always himself with a quiet dignity and humility, careful to treat those around him with respect and kindness. In this way, he touched many lives. A man like that doesn't come everyday. Never has. Never will. Everyone who met him was honored in the way he included people in everything. He taught in each moment through his example in every situation. Roy was always there for us, first and foremost. He was the light on the porch, the haven in a storm, vigilant and caring. He is an archetype of loving devotion to his beloved wife, a lifelong example to which we aspire. He passed away with a radiant face, heart triumphant. A life well lived. A love well loved. Roy is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Hilda Alves Flebotte of Bloomington, IN, two sons Daniel (Jill) of Creedmoor, NC and Thomas

(Amicus) of Pittsboro, NC, one daughter Linda Hitchings (Matthew) and two grandchildren, Patrick and Eleanor Hitchings all of Bloomington, IN. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Veneta Whitney.

Our heartfelt thanks go to our dear daughter, Linda, and to nurses Lori of Meadowood Retirement Community and Anna at Southern Care Hospice. Memorial contributions, if one so wishes, can be made to Southern Care Hospice at 1923 South Liberty Drive, Bloomington, IN 47403.

A funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday, March 28th at 11:00 am with visitation prior to the Mass from 10:00 - 11:00 am. Both visitation and Mass will be held at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 2222 E. 3rd Street, Bloomington, IN.

You are invited to share a memory or leave an on-line condolence to the family at www.allencares.com.

Memorial Paternal
by Thomas Flebotte

You gave me life so I could come to be
A ray of the Creator's fertile span.
The love you gave to mother made me free
To join the work of God's bright Cosmic Plan.
As father you were first to bring to light
The early figure of a Heavenly glow
Reflecting in the mirror of infant sight
The All-Father in whose image we shall grow.
No easy task to symbol the Infinite Source
In the fledgling soul who seeks the All-Good's Face.
With all you had to give you set the course
To look within myself and find His Trace.
You now rest past earth-bound paternity,

Rejoicing in the shape of Eternity.

My Destiny

by W. Roy Flebotte

Written on October 10, 2002

I lie awake, restless, in the beginning of the night.

A refreshing rain falls on this summer eve

And yet a cool sweat covers my body.

My mind is racing with thoughts of others,

For the family and friends that surround me.

I give God and my life's mate the credit

And thanks for their help and understanding.

For now, with new found finality, peace is ever nearer

And I have realized, and can now accept, my destiny.

Vast amounts of time I have wasted, trying to change

Things I neither understood or falsely thought needed change.

Slow to accept the gifts God Has already provided.

Exhibited by the people who love me, from near and far,

People that surround my life with beauty and tranquility.

It doesn't matter where one resides for now,

For this world offers, at best, a brief respite

A time of trial and challenge from God,

Providing a precious opportunity, a challenge to earn

An eternity of grace and understanding

In another special place of everlasting beauty.

Hopefully, my 'ultimate destiny'.

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
2222 East Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

Tribute Wall

CE

“ *Just happened to think of you Auntie Hilda and Uncle Roy and didnt know Uncle passed away. Im so sorry to hear. Much love to you, Tommy, Danny and Linda. I remember Uncle Roy like it was yesterday. God Bless all of you at this difficult time. Love Celene*

celene - July 02, 2018 at 02:19 AM

TF

I am amazed just how of then I think of YOU! --Thomas Flebotte

Thomas Flebotte - March 17 at 07:07 AM

LL

“ *Dear Hilda,
We wish to extend our deepest condolences over the passing of your beloved Roy.
You and your children are in our prayers during this difficult time.
We trust you will return often to your fondest memories of your years with Roy and they will bring you and your children great comfort.
We know Roy will remain always by your side - now as in life - and in the palm of God's hand for eternity.
You remain in our thoughts.
Fondly,
Lucy & Ray Lavoie*

Lucilia Lavoie - April 08, 2018 at 05:55 PM

JB

“ *Hilda and Linda and family*

I was privileged to know Roy and Hilda as wonderful neighbors and friends. I have a memory of Roy taking on the task of painting all of the porch and garage lights. They had been showing their age and the black paint was worn. Roy took care of all who wanted his help. More recently I saw Roy work hard at rehab to regain some strength and mobility. He was determined to walk unaided again, and was supported in his therapy by Linda and Hilda by his side. What a loving family!

*He will be missed by many.
Judy Bennett*

Judy A Bennett - March 30, 2018 at 11:25 AM

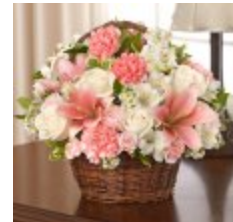
NP

“ *When I think of you and Roy, Hilda, it is with a smile, so kind, caring, and gentle I am sure your heart is very sad, Hilda, but I also believe the angels are joyously welcoming Roy home. My prayers are and will be with you and your family.*
Nora Powell

Nora Powell - March 27, 2018 at 08:49 AM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Pink and White was purchased for the family of W. Roy Flebotte.*



March 26, 2018 at 02:02 PM

JF

“ Dear Dad--

It was an honor for Dan and me to be married on your birthday in the twenty fifth year after your own marriage began. I know that the intervening years between your marriage and our marriage allowed for knowledge of the most important advice that we ever received on that 26th day of April, 1975 at the Angus Barn in Raleigh, North Carolina while sharing our first meal as a married couple. You said simply, with cigar in hand and love in your heart, that marriage is about compromise. At the time, I believed that marriage was about love and believed that love was patient and kind. But, in reality sometimes a loving relationship is not patient and kind, it can be impatient and unkind. And, when the various stages of impatience and unkindness reveal that sad characteristic of intolerance in marriage, I think of the words you spoke to us when you explained and advocated that marriage is about compromise. Compromise lets me consider the feelings, wants and needs of the other.

Through compromise comes understanding. Understanding brings patience and kindness and love. I don't suppose folks say, I am in compromise with someone rather, I am in love with someone. What they mean is that they are willing to accept the highest form of compromise to support love. Thank you for the advice. I am grateful for that love and support that you and mom shared with us for forty two years. In our married life, we have probably been back to the Angus Barn on only a few occasions. The memory of that life lesson has burned in my mind. I cherish the memory of that night and the jump start it gave us to a compromised life....forever.

With Love,

Jill

Jill Flebotte - March 25, 2018 at 01:29 PM