



## Robert O. Baldwin

December 14, 1926 - November 3, 2017

Robert O. Baldwin

1926 ~ 2017

Robert O. Baldwin "Bob", Born December 14, 1926 passed away on November 3, 2017 due to age and natural causes. Bob was born to Jay and Irene Baldwin, of Tooele Utah. He had one brother, Jay Baldwin, who passed away in 2003 at the age of 80. He is survived by his wife, Vivia, three children, five stepchildren, seven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

In 1954 Bob married Natalie Donovan of El Paso Texas. Together they have three surviving children, Brad R. Baldwin (Linda), Bryce J. Baldwin, and Cathy B. Davis, all residing in Salt Lake City. Natalie died tragically in 1972 at age 38.

In 1973 Bob married Neta Habbeshaw Anderson of Salt Lake City. Neta also had three children, Jennifer Garrett, Kristen Debenham, and Shaun Anderson, all residing in Boise, Idaho. It was a crowded house for a while. Neta passed away in spring 1982 at age 43, after a long battle with cancer and Bob was at her side throughout her ordeal.

In 1983, during an Alaska cruise in Juneau, Alaska, Bob was married at the Faith Lutheran Church near the Mendenhall Glacier to Vivia Kay Farley of Salt Lake City. Vivia has been a loving and devoted wife to Bob for over 33 years. She has two children, Danica Farley of Carlsbad, California, and Gregory T. Farley, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Bob and Vivia enjoyed many years and activities together including the Utah Jazz and Utah Utes games, fine dining, dancing, opera, their garden and annual trips to Coronado, California and Mazatlan, Mexico, where they had many friends and grew to love the local culture, beaches, and food. Vivia cared for Bob immensely as he slowed down. In all, Bob played a critical role in raising three families and enjoyed every minute of it watching them all grow and pursue their passions.

Bob was raised in Tooele, Utah, where his father managed the JC Penney store and Bob

helped out. In 1944 at age 18 he joined the U.S. Coast Guard with his best friend, Bill Griffith, mostly because Bill was too short to join the Navy and they wanted to enlist together. They were life-long friends. In the Coast Guard during WW II he was assigned to the USS Gen. C.H. Muir, which transported troops and spent time patrolling the South Pacific Islands. His ship was docked in New York when the war ended.

Bob also spent his early years working in Yellowstone National Park and he always loved fishing and camping in Yellowstone and the great outdoors. He graduated from the University of Utah Law School in 1952. After graduating, he worked in El Paso, Texas for an oil and gas company and there he met Natalie Donovan when he got off the elevator on the wrong floor. Bob and Natalie later returned to Utah where they raised a family and Bob practiced mining and real estate law for many years.

Bob taught his extended family many things: how to make friends, to be honest, how to play tennis and golf, fish, hunt, ski, camp, play cards, and make a good drink. He could fix about anything, or at least he would try. His frugality was legendary and created many lasting stories. He loved his dogs; Pepe, Frida, Duke, Sophie, and Lucky and always had a soft spot for golden retrievers. Bob read a book per week for most of his life and would freely share his favorite books with friends and family. Many were on the Civil War. Bob also loved his boat and his motor home and spending time at Flaming Gorge, Lake Powell and in the Utah mountains. Sometimes Bob would just sleep in the motorhome parked at his house and pretend he was camping. He was also a master bridge player and he and his partner won several tournaments. In his later years he set up an aquarium in his room; a bird sanctuary and fishpond in the yard and tended to them joyfully. Bob was always optimistic and would regularly sing out "it's clearing in West" and "it's a sunny day."

The family would like to thank the VA Hospital and the staff of the William Christoffersen Veteran's Home in Salt Lake City for their tremendous care. He met many friends at the Veterans Home and the staff was always kind and supportive. Any donations in remembrance should be made to the VA Medical Center in Salt Lake City.

To share condolences with the family please visit: [www.serenityfhs.com](http://www.serenityfhs.com)

# Comments

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“ I consider myself very close and long time friends with Brad Baldwin, Mr. Baldwin's oldest son.

During the last 45 years or so I interacted only occasionally with Mr. Baldwin but those times were memorable. Won't ever forget Mr. Baldwin riding shotgun in my old Land Cruiser with Brad bouncing around the back on a rough, dusty jeep road during an October deer hunt. Then there was the adventure when we all piled into his motor home and drove north from Salt Lake to Choteau, Montana for Brad and Linda's wedding. Good times for sure!

Nice to know that Mr. Baldwin's zeal for life and integrity in dealing with people has been passed on to his progeny.

**Mark Bauer** - November 14, 2017 at 01:57 PM

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“ I am so saddened to learn of this loss. Please know what an honor and privilege it was to serve Bob and all of you. I am touched to have known this fine man.

**Ked Kirkham** - November 05, 2017 at 05:11 PM

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“ It was sad to hear of Uncle Bob's passing, although it wasn't unexpected. I have thought of him often lately. His passing truly is the last of that generation of our family. He was always the life of the party, and I loved his sense of humor. I always picture him on our back patio with dad having a cigar and a drink. He loved to laugh and joke. I couldn't have asked for a kinder uncle. I miss that family so much and I miss you all. I only have 7 cousins and three of them are Brad, Bryce and Cathy. You were all such wonderful blessings to him. It would be good to have lunch or a small gathering sometime to renew acquaintances. I am so sorry for your sorrow and especially for Vivia. You were such a love and a god send to him. He couldn't have had a better companion and wife. I love you all and wish you a peace in your heart to know that he is with his family again, young and happy! (my thoughts) Know that he was loved and thought kindly of often.

Pam Baldwin Holt

**Pamela Baldwin Holt** - November 05, 2017 at 10:46 AM