



Robert Louis Adamson

July 10, 1936 - November 27, 2018

Robert Louis Adamson, a longtime Lafayette educator who brought a sunny disposition to a life filled high with cooking, hunting and fishing, storytelling, and enjoying time with his beloved wife and family, died on November 27, 2018. He was 82.

Friend to prince and pauper alike, “Coach” or “Mr. Bob,” as he was widely known, was born in Pineville, Louisiana to Clyde and Marion Adamson, who predeceased him. A 1954 graduate of Menard Memorial High School in Alexandria, he received his undergraduate degree in Social Studies at Southwestern Louisiana Institute (SLI) in 1959. He later completed his Master's degree in Education and an Educational Specialist degree at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Bob met his future wife, Buttons Veazey, at SLI. They celebrated 61 years of marriage this year.

Bob focused his career in education on helping students to excel, athletic programs to flourish, and teachers to succeed. Some of his most enjoyable years were spent as head basketball coach at Teurlings, Fatima, Scott, and Lafayette High School (LHS). His Fatima basketball team reached the state quarterfinals in 1964 and his 1969 LHS team played for the state championship. Adamson moved from the athletic department to the administrative team at LHS in 1969. He served as principal at LHS from 1973 to 1984 and subsequently was principal at Judice Middle School from 1983-1995. Teachers who worked with him commented on “the respect, unfailing sense of humor, and balanced perspective he brought to the fore.”

Throughout his career, Adamson received numerous awards and was active in state education circles. He served as president of the Louisiana Association of Principals, president of the Lafayette Parish and Acadiana Principals’ Association, and was active in the National Association of Secondary School Principals. In addition, he served as President of the Lafayette and Louisiana High School Literary Rally Associations. He was a Louisiana Parent Teacher Association Principal of the Year and was named Junior High

Principal of the Year in Louisiana in 1990-91.

In the 1970s Bob lead the Acadian Chapter of the Lions Club International as its President.

After he retired from education, Adamson chipped away at a “bucket list” of travel destinations with Buttons. He worked as Group Sales Manager at the Cajundome. He also enjoyed playing bridge and was a regular competitor at the Rose House.

An avid sports fan, Adamson helped to bring the Top 28 Tournament, a showcase for statewide high school basketball talent, to Lafayette. As a diehard supporter of the Ragin Cajuns, Bob followed his alma mater closely in every sport.

Although a transplant to South Louisiana, Bob embraced his new hometown and Cajun culture with gusto. He loved hunting and fishing, especially on Pecan Island, where he spent many memorable times at his Crooked Barrel Lodge. Adamson and his brother-in-law Will Verret constructed a 9-hole golf course called Goose Acres on Pecan Island in the 1980s. While crowds never materialized, the course drew attention for the alligators that liked to lie out on the greens.

Bob was widely known as an excellent Cajun cook whose culinary skills and joie de vivre led him to participate in two large social groups, the Southside Supper Club and the Retired Principals Supper Club. Bob relished collecting recipes from a wide variety of sources and won local cooking awards.

To those blessed to have shared a beverage with him, Bob was a natural born raconteur. He loved sharing his latest joke with the people he encountered, whether they were cashiers at the grocery store or physicians attending to his health. Staffers at his oncology center took to calling him “Robert Redford.” To the very end, the twinkle in his eye stayed strong.

Bob battled cancer for 19 years with an intensely optimistic outlook. In the midst of some of his treatments, his answering machine said, “If you’re having as good a day as I am, you can leave a message!”

Adamson's survivors include his cherished wife, Buttons; his daughters, Dawn (Chuck) Dobie and Taina Adamson; and his son, Lance (Vanessa) Adamson. Surviving grandchildren, who called him Pawpaw are Sevie (Steven) Zeller, Ellen (Yoni) Dobie-Geffen, Aaron Dobie, Brock Adamson, Avery Adamson, and Camryn Adamson. Four great

grandchildren (Grayson, Kiah, Ani, and Rose) will miss Pawpaw quacking like a duck. Pallbearers will be Keith Verret, Oran Toce, Richard Poche, Jim Zehnder, Larry Aucoin, Jim Shields and John Shields.

The family would like to thank Dr. Gene Brierre, Eric Buller, PA, Dr. Thomas Voitier II, Dr. Michael DiLeo and the many other physicians and health care providers who helped Bob throughout the years. They also pay special tribute to the Bob's caregivers: Debbie Bennet, Gurtha Pelletier, Anthonesia Etienne, Venessa Landry, and LaVerne Labbe.

Memorial gifts can be made to Hospice of Acadiana.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Jules Catholic Church on Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 11:00am with Fr. Dan Edwards to conduct the funeral service. Burial will follow at Lafayette Memorial Park.

Visitation will be held on Friday, November 30, 2018 from 3:00pm until 8:00pm with a recitation of the rosary at 7:00pm. Visitation will continue on Saturday from 9:00am until the time of the service.

Personal condolences may be sent to the Adamson family at www.delhommefuneralhome.com.

Delhomme Funeral Home, 1011 Bertrand Drive, Lafayette, LA is in charge of funeral arrangements.

Events

NOV **Visitation** 03:00PM - 08:00PM

30

Delhomme Funeral Home

1011 Bertrand Drive, Lafayette, LA, US, 70506

NOV **Rosary** 07:00PM

30

Delhomme Funeral Home

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DEC **Visitation** 09:00AM - 11:00AM

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Delhomme Funeral Home

1011 Bertrand Drive, Lafayette, LA, US, 70506

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Delhomme Funeral Homes - November 30, 2018 at 01:43 PM



“ Robert Adamson was my principal at LHS from 1974 to 1978. He was such a kind man.

Barbara Cawley - February 02, 2020 at 04:56 PM



“ Sorry I was unable to attend services. Bob was a great man.

Ron Robicheaux

Ron Robicheaux - December 03, 2018 at 09:45 AM



“ Jay and I are saddened to hear the news of Bob's passing. My mother, Nancy Krause, so enjoyed playing cards with Bob and Buttons at the Rosehouse. Our heartfelt sympathies to Bob's family.

Jay & Judy Stelly

Judy Stelly - December 01, 2018 at 12:24 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert Louis Adamson.



November 30, 2018 at 11:12 AM



“ There are those precious few, significant stages in life where people and events profoundly shape one’s character and discipline. Such was an interval in my existence at the hands of this fine man.

My first taste of the high school atmosphere came earlier than most for the entering freshman class of 1968 as those who wished to play football were required to report for practice some two weeks earlier than the student body at large. However, I was going to be late for the early arrival date due to a family vacation that had been scheduled by my parents without having remembered this fact. My father felt obligated to call Coach Bob Adamson and explain the situation. Coach informed my Dad that he’d be expecting me when I got back into town.

Upon my tardy arrival at Lafayette High Gym, Coach Adamson asked, “You Parker?” to which I responded “Yea.” To which he retorted, “You Parker?” To which I responded “Yea.” After which I had recognized the err in my ways when he asked one more time...”You Parker?”... I got the hint responding with a resounding “Yessir!” Coach said, “follow me” and from that moment on my entire high school interface with Coach Bob Adamson was characterized by that highest level of respect for 4 years.

As fate would have it, my last day...my last minute at Lafayette High School was punctuated by similar interaction when, having hung around on campus after the traditional graduation “sunrise services” and somewhat odoriferous from the evening libations, Coach (then Asst-Principal Bob Adamson) sauntered up to me as I was on one of the student benches leaning against a canopy support and he said...”You Parker?” ...Responding “Yessir” to which he said...”Go home, Bobby”... “Yessir”

And we stayed in touch over the years. I will miss him greatly. I only hope that somewhere in my life travels I’ve touched at least one person’s life in the profound manner that Coach Bob Adamson has touched mine.

May this great man rest in peace.

Bob Parker, LHS Class of 1972



“ Dear Buttons: Having played bridge with you and Bob for many years, you both brought laughter to any table, When Bob came to the table to be my partner, I soon realized that winning wasn't every thing, it's how you play the game. Bob knew how to "play the game of "life". Coaching, teaching, playing, laughing, joking and loving, he was an exceptional man. I'm blessed to have known him. Rest in peace my friend.
Pat Michael

Pat Michael - November 30, 2018 at 09:53 AM



“ Thoughts and prayers are with you.

JereL West
Pecan Island hunting friend

JereL West - November 30, 2018 at 08:37 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Robert Louis Adamson.



November 29, 2018 at 08:38 PM



“ Pls accept my deepest of condolences. Coach was always so full of life and willing to put his contagious on anyone who he met.
My prayers are with all the family

fred hoyt - November 29, 2018 at 03:59 PM



“ Dear Family and friends::

I extend to you my prayers and words of comfort during this time of sadness. Mr. Adamson was my principal, but most importantly, he was my friend and mentor! His opinion of me was based upon what he personally witnessed. He treated me as a functioning member of the group! Mr. Adamson allowed me to realize that as a teacher I would face countless challenging situations that seemed to have no answer, but that I should always have faith in a brighter tomorrow! Mr. Robert Louis Adamson, please give my regards to Mr. R.B. Jones when you meet him on that special cloud UP ABOVE. Now, rest in peace!

--signed

Barbara Spencer
Lafayette High
1973-2008---



BARBARA SPENCER - November 28, 2018 at 07:31 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Robert Louis Adamson.



November 28, 2018 at 04:08 PM



“ Much love, Aaron & Trinkia Adamson purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Robert Louis Adamson.



Much love, Aaron & Trinkia Adamson - November 28, 2018 at 03:48 PM



“ Lance, I am truly sorry to hear of your loss and my prayers and thoughts will be with you. Sincerely, Earl Manley

Earl Manley - November 28, 2018 at 12:27 PM



“ John & Sherry Ruston purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Robert Louis Adamson.



John & Sherry Ruston - November 28, 2018 at 10:59 AM



“ Judy Fontenelle (Leon's sister) purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Robert Louis Adamson.



Judy Fontenelle (Leon's sister) - November 28, 2018 at 10:51 AM



“ May you rest in peace my dear friend. Thanks for many memories of Pecan Island and nites and days we stayed at uncle Buford's home the old Veazy house. My favorite story was of Buttons dad who would get his Slemco bill which was credit instead of charge and when it got up in dollars he asked you Bobbit what is problem and this story made us all laugh.

John / Carolyn Keyser - November 28, 2018 at 08:09 AM



“ First met Coach at his summer basketball camps at LHS 67 & 68. Learned so much in those two weeks. Still have a trophy in my case from those camps. Went to LHS when he was prin. He was one of the reasons I became a teacher & coach. Great man! Thanks Coach!

Greg Tidwell - November 28, 2018 at 12:41 AM



“ My dad taught at judice while me adamson was principal and I also attended judice when he was prinicipal. Those years were some of the best for the school. He will be remembered. Rip

sara - November 27, 2018 at 10:22 PM



“ Bob was such a good fellow with a warm heart and a good sense of humor. We always enjoyed his "stand-up act" for the Lafayette Schools Federal Credit Union annual meeting and dinner. He fought a long and good fight. May he rest now in God's tender care and may fond memories of him bring you comfort.

With sympathy and thankfulness for knowing him,

G & Genie Duhon

Gervis Duhon - November 27, 2018 at 10:13 PM



“ There are no words to truly describe this amazing man. I had the blessing of being part of this family for over 30 years. I never felt like a guest in the Adamson home, always family. He was so funny and quick witted. He was kind and generous. I think his greatest legacy are his children and grand children. I'm blessed to call Taina my best friend ever and she adored her Daddy and he adored her. Never ever saw him not laughing or smiling except when he was cooking, then he was laser focused and it was always the best meal you ever had. Go rest high Bob, you will be missed but never ever be forgotten.

Mona Kelly - November 27, 2018 at 10:04 PM



“ He called me his “adopted daughter “ and I loved him like a dad. God speed Mr Bob. Your memory will live on forever.
Susan Lueck Pruitt

susan pruit - November 27, 2018 at 10:01 PM



“ Such a wonderful man ! Met him by accident at his camp when we got lost down in Pecan Island ! Can honestly say I never saw him without a smile! Had the pleasure of working with with his son Lance , one apple who didn't fall far from the tree! Another man that's a pleasure to work with, who has a wonderful Family I know his Dad was proud of!

Patrick Costello - November 27, 2018 at 09:32 PM



“ My husband Phillip wanted me to leave a comment for him. Bob was such a gentleman. My wife and his daughter were already best friends when I came into the picture. He made everyone feel like they were his best friend. He turned me on to stuffed pork chops and so many other wonderful dishes. We would talk for hours about sports and laugh until our bellies hurt. You were one in a million Bob, always in my heart forever. Thanks for the laughs Coach and all the wonderful food you turned this Chicago boy onto.

Mona Kelly - November 27, 2018 at 09:11 PM



“ You were the very best teacher I ever had .. besides the amazing way you always held our attention in class, you managed to give this 9th grader self confidence I never knew I had .. never giving up on me you continued throughout my high school years to keep that confidence going .. I'm so thankful for having you as a teacher, a basketball coach and most importantly, as a genuine friend ..

Charlotte Romero - November 27, 2018 at 07:55 PM



“ Mr. Adamson believed in me and always encouraged me as a young teacher at Judice. Rest in Peace, Sir.

Jody Kovarik - November 27, 2018 at 07:40 PM



“ Uncle Bob aka Uncle Donald Duck was an amazing spirit. I am truly blessed to have had the privilege of calling him Uncle. I love you Uncle Bob

Darla Ockman Tschantz - November 27, 2018 at 06:59 PM



“ Working as a teacher under Mr. Adamson’s leadership was a joy. He encouraged us to be creative and enjoy teaching the kids. He led with kindness but we all knew our limits. He would often show up in my class unannounced and immediately know what you were teaching. The kids loved him! Ultimately, the goal was for the students to reach their full potential in a loving and caring environment.

One amusing note I recall was him coming on the PA system asking for the coffee cup holders. We would constantly fail to return them to the coffee counter where he made sure coffee was always fresh. The office staff had ordered an over-abundance of red coffee cup holders. We, on purpose, did not return our holders and had several on hold until that announcement came, “Teachers, I need my coffee cup holders!” Enmasse (sp?) we sent students holding hundreds of those red cup holders to a waiting Bob Adamson who couldn’t control his laughter and appreciation for making his last week of “work” such an enjoyable one! Of course, I don’t think it was really work for him... he loved what he did and made a career of it! We’ll always remember you!

Rick Latiolais - November 27, 2018 at 06:21 PM



“ At Lafayette High we called him Uncle Bob ! He was a great Principle and positive person. He really knew how to treat people. RIP Uncle Bob

Rick S.

Ricky - November 27, 2018 at 09:29 PM



“ Are you the Richard latolais that worked and lived in judice with my dad, Pat Bouillion?

sara - November 27, 2018 at 10:20 PM



“ I had the honor of having him as principal of LHS my freshman year. Always smiling and positive. He felt like one of us. He is very loved and respected.

Glenn - November 28, 2018 at 08:00 AM



“ Lance: I am so sorry to get the news about Coach passing away. He was one of the best human beings that I had the pleasure of knowing. I will always remember him from our fantasy football leagues at Pete's. Always had a kind word & smile on his face. One of the best!! RIP Coach Adamson!!

Lew Rigaud - November 28, 2018 at 08:25 PM



“ Glenn: Were you and your brother my students at Lafayette High? --Ms. Spencer--

BARBARA SPENCER - November 28, 2018 at 08:37 PM



“ The world will surely miss Coach Adamson! He was such a funny guy! He taught our first hour Social Studies class in our senior year and we started the day off laughing every day! It was so much fun! He was a terrific educator and person!
Sending love and prayers!

Diana Curley Trahan

LHS Class of 68

