



Robert "Bob" Love

November 26, 1951 - January 16, 2025

Robert "Bob" Mitchell Love, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully on January 16, 2025, after a 2.5-year battle with glioblastoma. His family was grateful for the precious extra time they had with him. Bob was born in Wenatchee, Washington, on November 26, 1951, to Carrolton and Marie (Luebber) Love. He was the third of three children, including sisters Carol Ann Koch (Burt) and Vicki Estes. Bob spent his life deeply connected to the community and the outdoors he loved so much.

Bob married his high school sweetheart, Debbie Bainard, on May 5th, 1969. They celebrated 55 years of marriage. Together, they raised three children: Michele, Rachel, and Nicholas. Their legacy continues with seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Bob professionally helped his parents with their orchard as a teen and young adult, working at Peter Rabbit Grocery, and the Grange Feed Store. He started working at Alcoa in 1972 and retired after 37 years.

Bob's love for the outdoors started at a young age, exploring the hills and forests around Wenatchee. He was active in the Boy Scouts and FFA, and his passion for hunting, fishing, water skiing, and off-roading remained a central part of his life. Bob loved sharing these experiences with his children and

grandchildren, teaching them the value of nature and the joy of being outdoors. Elk camp was an annual family tradition enjoyed by family and friends. Despite his love for hunting, Bob was never an early riser for those 4 a.m. hunts. The real joy of elk camp was the time spent together, sharing “Elk Camp” meals, that Bob had prepared in advance, playing games, and telling stories. Bob’s love for cooking extended to his everyday life, as he often baked treats to share with friends, family, and even local businesses. Bob’s love language was service. He served his community by volunteering as a firefighter for the Squilchuck Fire District, playing Santa Claus for the Squilchuck Grange and Alcoa’s Christmas parties, and helping in his children’s classrooms, whether it was bringing in a Christmas tree or helping a class of kindergarteners build Japanese Getas (Sandals). His love for hunting and shooting led him to volunteer as a Hunter’s Education instructor, where he enjoyed sharing his passion with others. Bob also spent many years as the treasurer of the NCW Gun Club, where he also enjoyed trap shooting and the camaraderie of fellow members.

In addition, Bob had a passion for cooking and often expressed his care for others by preparing food or treats to share. It wasn’t at all unusual for Bob to show up with fresh baked cookies or other treats to folks at local businesses, whether it was a particular doctor he was fond of, or a dear friend where he had his tires changed, or the owner at the corner store. He loved bringing his baked treats to others. If you were one of the lucky recipients of his cookies, brownies, or rice crispy treats, that was his way of saying, you are cared about, and he appreciates you.

Bob loved traveling with Debbie and their families, visiting destinations such as Hawaii, Mexico, and Oregon. He loved experiencing new places, particularly their outdoor activities, such as watching sunrises and snorkeling in coral reefs.

Bob was incredibly quick witted (read as: smart-ass) and loved to talk with everyone. Everywhere he went, he was friendly and would stop to talk to anyone who would chat for 5 minutes or an hour (much to the chagrin of his children who had stupidly tagged along and who now wished they'd just stayed home) - sharing recipes, stories or just a kind word.

Bob's kindness, ingenuity, and devotion to his family and community will be remembered by all who knew him. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Debbie; his children: Michele Love-Wells (Shawn Wells), Rachel Love (Rebecca Hersel), Nicholas Love (Cookie - Kristin); seven grandchildren: Zack (Jenessa), Jordyn, Tyler (Karla), Logan, Lenox, Alex, and Tilly; three great-grandchildren: Emma, Rory, and Theo; his Aunt Minnette Hedges, his sisters Carol 'Ann' Koch (Burt) and Vicki Estes, and many nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service to honor Bob's life will be held on January 24, 2025 at 1:00 pm, at Chapel of the Valley, 378 Eastmont Ave., East Wenatchee. A potluck will follow at Pybus Market in the LocalTel Event Room beginning at 2pm. Please bring an entree, casserole, or dessert. For ease, items can be dropped off in the LocalTel event room between 12-12:30 before the service or brought following the service.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to your local high school FFA chapter.

Our family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to University of Washington Emergency Room staff and Dr. Silbergeld's Neurosurgical team all of whom provided comfort and hope when dad was first diagnosed. Dr. Lynne Taylor for her kindness and support over the last few years and for trying the SPAM sandwich dad made her. Dr. Thomas Carlson for his wit and humor. Stephanie Kairns at Associates in PT for helping dad to stay strong

and for your kindness. Maria at Pacific Northwest Wellness Center, who provided dad with kindness and dignity always. The team at CWH Hospice Care. Rebecca Hersel, loving, kind caregiver. Finally, for all the many other people, friends, and family who have provided prayers, meals, love, and support over the last 3 years.

Arrangements by Chapel of the Valley, East Wenatchee.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 24. 1:00 PM (PT)

Chapel of the Valley
378 Eastmont Ave.
East Wenatchee, WA 98802
(509) 884-3561
info@chapelofthevalleyncw.com

Potluck

JAN 24. 2:00 PM (PT)

Pybus Market LocalTel Event Center
3 N Worthen
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Tribute Wall

RA

“Debbie, I am sorry to hear about Bob's passing. In the 70's I worked with Bob at Alcoa. I don't know if you remember me, but I lived in Entiat. You and Bob came up to the Entiat park once and we and the kids swam and had a fun day. I don't know if it was Michele or Rachel, but the kids were swimming and my daughter Raelynn shouted that one of them was having trouble. We all ran to the water and I remember Bob flying past me and he grabbed either Michele or Rachel and lifted her up and carried her to shore. She had taken a step where the bottom dropped off a foot or so and panicked. We were all shaken, but everyone was fine. We kept a much closer eye on the kids after that. Hard to believe how time has passed. Bob, like me, a grandpa and great grandpa when it seems like only yesterday we were all kids ourselves. I retired from teaching science at East Valley High School in Yakima two years ago. I live in Zillah, WA. Bob was always so much fun.

Randy Andrews - January 24, 2025 at 08:24 PM

DW

“I worked with Debbie in Quincy and would love when Bob would come down and have lunch with Debbie - Of course he always allowed me to tag along!! Bob and I had a fun Smart A friendship as we both were!! He always smiled and make you feel liked. Thanks Bob for the fun times - Debbie you are loved and am always thinking of you!!
Love your friend Debra

Debra Wyman - January 23, 2025 at 12:03 PM