



Robert Melvin Dunn

May 5, 1937 - July 25, 2022

After a full and wonderful life, Robert (Bob) M. Dunn died peacefully on July 25, 2022 at the glorious age of 85. He was born in Chicago, IL to Lillian and James Dunn.

After serving two years as a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Army Bob received recognition for his quick learning and strong leadership. Bob earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics at Rutgers University and his M.S. in engineering and computer sciences from UPENN while raising his family and working full time as a civilian mathematician and engineer for the U.S. Army. Bob was instrumental in growing the capabilities of CAD/CAM, the foundation of computer design systems in use today. Bob was a sought after speaker and teacher, traveling the world and presenting at conferences while, by 1976, raising his children as a single father.

In 1984 Bob met and soon married Karen, the love of his life. They were deeply in love, sharing a life of joy, travel, play, laughter, friendships, and an unmatched respect and admiration for each other. In 2000 Bob "retired" to Asheville, NC where he and Karen enjoyed local craft shows, botanical gardens, chamber music, theater, and seeking out the best bouillabaisse. Bob's mind was too busy and full of ideas, his heart too full of passion for helping people and his soul too full of desire to stop working. He taught classes at Warren Wilson College, OLLI, Western Carolina University and

worked for Mountain BizWorks where he developed and taught classes for young business entrepreneurs, all amidst maintaining his own consulting business.

More than anything, Bob lived his life with integrity. He was a brilliant and attuned man who was sought after by family, friends, and business folks for his wise counsel, engaging and deep conversations, and mentoring. Bob thrived on the beauty of nature, gardening, sunrises and sunsets. He had a deep love of his children and family and was a playful, silly, loving, and ever supportive father and grandfather. Bob loved logic and design. He did the NY Times crossword puzzle in black ink. Always. He had a voracious and gorgeous vocabulary, having read the entire encyclopedia as a youth, and captured his most precious feelings and thoughts in poetry. He had a beautiful, lulling singing voice, a penchant for terribly terrific puns, and an eternally quick wit.

Bob led an enduring life. While his body is gone, his spirit, his deep love for his family, his wisdom and counsel, and his terrific puns will always live on in those that knew and loved him best.

Bob is survived by Karen, his beloved wife of 38 years, his son Jeremy of Becket, MA, his daughter Deb Dunn of Chilmark, MA, his step daughter, Jessica, his sons and daughter in law, Jim Feiner, Matt, and Delsie, his beloved grandsons, Elijah Dunn-Feiner and Liam, and a circle of loving friends from all walks of life.

In honor of Bob's love and devotion to respecting the Earth, donations in his name can be made to: Friends of the Earth (www.foe.org). A virtual celebration of Bob's life will be held on ZOOM on May 5, 2023.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

53 Birch Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 5.

ZOOM virtual meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7742511301>

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Melvin Dunn*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM

SJ

I had been thinking of Karen and Bob when I came across this obituary. I remember meeting Bob, shortly after Karen and Bob met. They were so well suited to each other. Sending our condolences and support to Karen and family. May Bob's memory forever be a blessing.

Susan Josephs - December 29, 2024 at 08:51 PM

JG

“ *Dear Karen, I did not have your address so when Bob passed away, I was at a loss. His obituary in Sunday's paper came as a blessing. Please know that I have thought of you and Bob so often, we always enjoyed your friendship and help over the years. My love thoughts and prayers are with you. John Grooms 108 Dutchman Lane.*

Joan Grooms - February 13, 2023 at 03:04 PM