



Robert Wilbert Pettiford

November 12, 1966 - January 30, 2021

On Saturday, January 30, 2021, Robert Wilbert Pettiford, affectionately known as Rob, loving son, husband, father, brother, uncle, nephew, cousin, and son-in-law, passed away at age 54.

Rob was born on November 12, 1966 in Franklin, Virginia to Joseph B. Pettiford Sr. and Gladys E. Pettiford (Howard). As a young boy, Rob was very lively and adventurous, often emulating the physical and acrobatic antics of his childhood stunt hero while riding his bicycle.

Rob received his elementary education in the Alexandria Public Schools, graduating from T.C. Williams High School in 1985. In high school, he was active in marching band and symphonic band where he played alto and tenor saxophone. Having participated in many sports to include soccer, football and track growing up, Rob excelled academically and in high school became a scholar-athlete, participating in Penn Relays and broke several discus and shotput records at T.C. Williams.

He graduated from Virginia Tech University where he received his undergraduate degree in engineering. He received his executive master's in business administration and an executive master's degree in Technology Management with a minor in Marketing from Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey. He also possessed a project management certificate

from George Washington University.

In July 1996, he married his beloved wife and fellow Hokie, Antoinette Coleman. To this union, two daughters were born: Chase and Jordan Pettiford. Rob was a devoted father and a proud, self-professed #GirlDad. From coaching soccer, to selling Girl Scout cookies or acting in the latest film project, Rob always encouraged and supported his daughters in their various interests.

During his professional career, he worked in several senior executive management Director and Vice President positions using his skills and talents at such organizations as AT&T, Frontier Communications, Time Warner Cable, Cox Communications and Altice USA. Rob was one of those rare individuals who loved every aspect of his profession. Whenever he would travel for a business trip, he would always say: "Remember, I'm doing what I love."

Being of service is a legacy Rob has passed down to his daughters. He was the Vice Chairman on the Board of Directors of the Georgia Symphony Orchestra and served on the Board of Directors of Easter Seals New Jersey. Rob also served his community on the Falls of Autry Mills HOA as a member and also as Board President.

Rob was an avid music and movie lover, golfer, fisherman and loved to travel. His love of music became the girls' love through the song of the week he shared with them. Rob was known for his quick wit, his infectious smile, and his kind and compassionate spirit which won him many friends.

Rob is survived by his parents, Joseph Sr. and Gladys Pettiford of Alexandria, VA, his wife Antoinette and his two daughters, Chase and Jordan Pettiford of Atlanta, GA, his sister Dianna Williams (Kenneth B. Strother) of North Carolina, his brother Joseph Jr. (Kim) of Virginia, son-in-law of Rose and Allen

Hill and Ike and Tootsie Coleman, many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A private graveside funeral service will be held in Aulander, NC.

****In Lieu of Flowers**:**

Info for donation to Georgia Symphony Orchestra:

Donations may be made in Robert Pettiford's memory using one of two methods:

For checks - please make a notation on the check indicating that the donation is made in memory of Robert Pettiford - to be mailed to:

Georgia Symphony Orchestra

PO Box 791

Marietta, GA 30061

Online donation portal at <https://www.georgiasymphony.org/donate/>

If using the online donation portal, please click on the tab that reads "In Memory of/In Honor of." A question is then asked if they would like to dedicate the donation. If they respond "Yes, please", they may then insert Robert Pettiford so that we may know that the donation was made in his memory.

Previous Events

private service

FEB 20. 1:00 PM (ET)

Howard Family Cemetery
339 Wilbert Howard Road
Aulander, NC 27805

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Wilbert Pettiford*

January 28, 2023 at 07:47 AM



“ *I just read about this and want to give my sincere condolences to Rob's family and friends. I only knew of Rob through high school, being in several classes together. He always had a kind word, with an engaging and friendly personality. That is what I remember from a short time in my life I remember interacting with him. I can see you touched all of people, Rob! God bless you! Tim Ferry*

Tim Ferry - March 16, 2021 at 05:31 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Wilbert Pettiford.*



February 18, 2021 at 04:25 PM



“ *Love & blessings, your Aunts & Uncles Smith Family purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Robert Wilbert Pettiford.*



Love & blessings, your Aunts & Uncles Smith Family -
February 11, 2021 at 11:54 AM

ST

“ Rob was fun, polite, smart, and kind. He was a good friend to my son Marc, and then to our family. I think he "adopted" us at a difficult time in our lives. I have special memories of Rob traveling with us to the Junior Olympics and enjoying beach vacations at Cape May. I am grateful for all the times we shared and for the joy he brought to our lives. My heart goes out to all his family. We will miss him.

Suzanne Tillman

Suzanne Tillman - February 09, 2021 at 07:04 PM

MT

“ Rob was a great friend at a time when I needed one most. I was entering a new school system in junior high and didn't know anyone. Rob welcomed me with that energetic personality and started a bond that lasted a lifetime. Throughout junior high and high school, we were best friends. No one had more fun than we did be it playing video games or cards, going bowling or fishing, attending computer camp or just hanging out. All the while, I was trying to figure out how to absorb just a little of that undeniable charm he had to round out the nerdy-ness he somehow looked past in me. Even now, when I go to my closet to pair a sport coat with a turtleneck for dinner, I realize that it's because of Rob that the thought even occurs to me while knowing all along I could never make it look half as good as he did. While geographic distance limited our time together after college, it did not diminish the friendship we had. Three years ago, Rob traveled across the country to celebrate my 50th birthday and he displayed the same kind spirit to me then that he had from the very beginning. I will miss his seemingly endless source of positive energy, but I am eternally grateful that I got to experience so much of it.



Marc Tillman - February 09, 2021 at 02:28 AM

OK

“ Oscar King lit a candle in memory of Robert Wilbert Pettiford



Oscar King - February 07, 2021 at 01:49 PM

BK

“ Robert you where such a good friend and the laughs and jokes we shared during high school are moments I will always remember - May God welcome you into his ever lasting love. God bless you in enteral peace.



Brian L Kerns - February 07, 2021 at 09:00 AM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Wilbert Pettiford.



February 06, 2021 at 07:41 PM

RI

“ Rob, I'm embarrassed to say that it's probably been since high school last time we spoke. I'll remember fondly our time in marching band but most important our time together in the neighborhood. Playing football with Joe, Brian, Toby... Rest In Peace old friend.
Rob Ittig

Rob Ittig - February 06, 2021 at 07:19 PM

TE

“ Rob, I know it has been since high school since I have last seen you but between band and track, there was always be that bond. I will always remember that smile and hearty laugh and nothing but positive vibes. I know this has hit our Titan Family real hard because you exemplified what it meant to be a Titan and you will be missed. Prayers out to your family. Rest in peace my friend.

Tracy Edwards - February 06, 2021 at 06:56 PM

BR

To the Pettiford family, it's saddens my heart to hear about the loss of your loved one Robert Pettiford. I remember your him very well and my good friend Joseph Pettiford Jr. I am praying for your family as you go through this difficult time. Please give me a call Joe jr. 703-725-7395 B. Agurs

Brenda - February 06, 2021 at 11:22 PM

MP

“ Rob I am sorry I haven't seen you since high school but I am not surprised you have live such an extraordinary and purposeful life. I mourn for your family's loss and for the lives you won't be able effect. I will be comforted knowing your spirit will live on in your daughters. Rest in peace Titan!

Mike Porterfield - February 06, 2021 at 05:15 PM

RF

“ Robert, you were always a gentle Giant!! Enjoyed Titans Track! You will truly be missed. Your Spirit will be missed!!

Regina (Jones) Ford - February 06, 2021 at 03:57 PM

TS

“ Rest in peace, classmate.

Tamara L Smith - February 06, 2021 at 03:27 PM

SB

“ Rob it was an absolute pleasure knowing you as a classmate, teammate and more Importantly a friend. You will truly be missed. This one is hard. Rest Easy My Brother until we meet again.

Sam Butler - February 06, 2021 at 03:15 PM

OK

“ To Toni, Chase and Jordan. May god bless you in your time of sorrow. Rob will be missed I remember many christmas and thanksgiving gatherings with the Pettiford family.

Oscar and Linda King

Oscar Kong - February 05, 2021 at 08:41 PM

TT

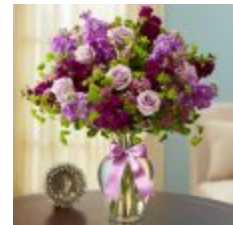
“ The Cox Product Leadership Team purchased the White Sympathy Baskets for the family of Robert Wilbert Pettiford.



The Cox Product Leadership Team - February 04, 2021 at 01:08 PM



“ Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of Robert Wilbert Pettiford.



February 04, 2021 at 12:49 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Wilbert Pettiford.



February 04, 2021 at 10:10 AM



“ *Caring Condolences Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Wilbert Pettiford.*



February 04, 2021 at 10:01 AM



“ *Rob, we thank "GOD" for giving us a chance to meet you and enjoying you. Rob, you were an outstanding "MAN" in everything you did. We know that the family will be alright because the 'LORD' said it. Keep the 'FAITH'! Love You, James&Ninette Ward Sr. & Family.*

James Ward Sr. & Family - February 03, 2021 at 06:29 PM



“ *Your cheerful smile, endearing spirit and welcoming personality will truly be missed my friend.*



R.K Gopinath - February 03, 2021 at 05:32 PM



“ *Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." was purchased for the family of Robert Wilbert Pettiford.*



February 03, 2021 at 04:56 PM

JH

“ *Your beautiful soul will always be cherished.
Honored to have been a part of your life.* ”



Julie Howard - February 03, 2021 at 03:02 PM

MA

“ *My nephew, Rob, was kind, helpful,
compassionate and stood for truth and right
because he knew and followed the Lord
Jesus. He will be remembered for the fruit
(Matthew 7:15-20) he produced.* ”



*His smile always make a person comfortable and that they are of
value.*

*FATHER GOD, Toni, Jordan and Chase, Joe Sr., Gladys, Joe Jr.
and Diana:*

*Thank you for sharing Rob with us. We are blessed to have been a
part of Rob's well lived life. GOD'S GRACE will see us through.*

Thank YOU FATHER GOD for allowing me to be one of his aunts.

Minister Breathette (Aaut Ann) - February 03, 2021 at 01:52 PM

RF

“ *Roberto Castillo & Family purchased the Cherish
ed Memories - All White for the family of Robert
Wilbert Pettiford.* ”



Roberto Castillo & Family - February 03, 2021 at 10:57 AM



“ Who could ever forget Rob's infectious smile, and warm humor. He is going to be greatly missed by all who knew him, he was such an awesome man. It is with a heavy heart that I pray for his family in this devastating time.



Louise Plagman - February 03, 2021 at 10:55 AM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Wilbert Pettiford.



February 03, 2021 at 10:23 AM