



Robert R. (Bob) Dawson

April 2, 1947 - March 28, 2021

Robert R. (Bob) Dawson, Jr., age 73, of rural Anna passed away at 5:10am on Sunday, March 28, 2021, at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri surrounded by his family.

He was born on April 2, 1947, in St. Louis, MO, the son of Robert Richard and Wanda (Winsel) Dawson, Sr.

The Lord blessed our small family with Bob in 1967. His personality was unique and infectious. He proudly served his country in Vietnam from 1969-1970. He served with the 25th Infantry Division as an M-60 gunner and was wounded while on patrol around Cu-Chi where he earned his Purple Heart and Combat Infantry Badge.

When Bob returned from the war, he joined the IBEW Local 702 and started a career as an electrician at Belcher Electric in Anna. After his career at Belcher, he was then a foreman on the electrician's crew at Southern Illinois University where he retired in 2009. Bob earned a reputation as one of the best electricians in the area. There was never a problem that he could not fix. He was a perfectionist and a master trouble-shooter. Every person that met Bob loved and respected him. In the electrical field, the common phrase was "CALL DAWSON" for a problem that could not be solved.

Bob loved his country, worshiped his family and was everyone's friend. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, basketball and helping anyone with a problem they couldn't solve. He was the absolute cornerstone and foundation of this small family. He will be missed every hour of every day by all of us. The Lord gained a warrior and a talented man. PFC Robert R. Dawson is standing in formation in Valhalla. We will meet again.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Jean; son, Brad (Samantha) Dawson of Anna; daughter, Amanda (Cory) Kelley of Beaufort, SC; grandchildren, Kayma and Sawyer Dawson; sister, Sharon (Ray) McBride of Park Hills, MO; brother-in-law, Chip (Patty) Young of Anna; nephews, Dustin (Marissa) Young, Dylan Young, Robert (Mindy) McBride; and Baby, his beloved dog.

He was preceded in death by his parents and niece, Rayanne McBride-Smith.

At his request, no services will be held. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to The Vietnam Veterans of America by visiting their website, www.vva.org or by mail at 8719 Colesville Rd. Suite 100, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert R. (Bob) Dawson*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Bob was my best friend. He was best man at our wedding. I met him in 7th grade trying out for the basketball team. He was a great shooter and great scorer, but the best score he ever made was when he married Jean. He was adored by his family and admired by his friends. He will be sorely missed. We love you man. Diana and John Piatchek.*



john Piatchek - April 12, 2021 at 05:38 PM



“ *Ghirardelli Gift Basket was purchased for the family of Robert R. (Bob) Dawson.*



April 06, 2021 at 08:36 PM

WB

“ I work as an Engineer at SIU. I had the pleasure of working with Bob in 2004-2006 as we converted ALL of the T12 fluorescent fixtures to T8 for all campus buildings. It was a major project that continues to save about a million dollars per year in energy cost savings. I admired the example that he set by always putting out a great attitude, his do it right work ethic, and overall concern for his crew.

Walter Bogard - March 31, 2021 at 04:33 PM

MS

My thoughts and prayers are with the Dawson family.

Michael Richard Scott - March 31, 2021 at 09:31 PM

ER

Bob was a great friend and neighbor. He will be missed. Your family is in our hearts and prayers.

Everett and Judy Rhine - March 31, 2021 at 10:24 PM

JH

What a great man. He will be missed by so many people. Prayers going up for the family.

julie hopkins - April 01, 2021 at 10:59 AM

CU

Our sympathy is extended to Jean and family. We are saddened to hear about Bob. Scott and Carolyn Ury

Carolyn Ury - April 01, 2021 at 01:16 PM

MY

There are no words for this great loss. Our families have been a part of each other's for over 50 years. Bob was an example of what every man should strive to be. The best husband, father, uncle and friend. He will be forever missed by our family. We love you.

Myra - April 04, 2021 at 06:13 PM

JW

Jean, I got a memorial plaque for Bob and attached it to a pingpong table, I have pics to send to you but I need your phone number, text it to me 765-578-0066, Jim Wasson

jim Wasson - April 06, 2021 at 08:27 PM