



Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) James R. "Bob" Lowe

October 10, 1936 - July 24, 2016

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) James R. "Bob" Lowe

Bob Lowe, age 79, died peacefully in Fayetteville, Georgia after a life of service and sacrifice to - and for - his family, his community, and his country. Born and raised in the South, Bob was heavily influenced with small town values of integrity, academic accomplishments, and honesty. Bob enjoyed outdoor activities including fishing, baseball, reading, and a passion for hard work.

After receiving an academic scholarship, Bob attended Virginia's prestigious Washington & Lee University. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. Bob volunteered for Explosive Ordnance Disposal (E.O.D.) aka Bomb Squad where he would eventually earn his Master E.O.D. Badge.

Colonel Lowe served two tours in Vietnam taking bombs apart with just hand tools and nerves of steel. He served in EOD before robots and protective bomb suits, so overcoming fear while facing certain death was critical. After a decorated and distinguished military career of twenty years, Bob retired in 1980 as a Lieutenant Colonel from Fort McPherson, Georgia. His post-military careers included Merrill Lynch and the American Cancer Society.

Visibly displaying his love for a game that helped shape his character, Bob consistently coached little league baseball teams for many years: His impact and influence left a lifelong impression on so many young boys.

After finally retiring to Newnan, Georgia, Bob enjoyed the opportunity to assist

others. Whether it was serving as a mentor to young children with reading disabilities, helping adults who never learned to read or delivering meals to the elderly, Bob continued his servant-attitude for the rest of his life.

Bob is survived by his adoring wife of 56 years, Anita, Brother Jack Lowe (Shelby) of Loudon, Tennessee, and four proud children: Dr. Bill Lowe (Cathy Lowe), Kathy Lowe McCuiston, Colonel (Retired) Ed Lowe (Suzanne Lowe) & Linda Lowe Bennett (Doug Bennett). He also leaves behind nine grandchildren, Bobby Lowe (Elizabeth Lowe), Rebecca Lowe, Ellen McCuiston, Charlotte McCuiston, Sarah Lowe, Robyn Lowe, Hannah Bennett, Mallory Bennett, Riley Bennett and two great grandchildren, Vivian Lowe and Madison Bogert.

Condolences can be expressed online at www.mckoon.com

The family will hold a visitation on Thursday, 28 July, 5:00 – 7:00 pm at McKoon Funeral Home and Crematory (38 Jackson Street) in Newnan, Georgia. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Warrior Foundation at the following link <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/LTCRBobLowe> to honor his memory of service, volunteerism and the importance of education. The family will hold a memorial service at the Chattanooga National Cemetery on Monday, 21 November, 1:30 pm.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Cemetery Details

Chattanooga National Cemetery

1200 Bailey Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37404

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 28. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com

Service

NOV 21. 1:30 PM.

Graveside

Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) James R. "Bob" Lowe*



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - July 26, 2016 at 12:18 PM

JS

“ *I am one of the EOD friends from the Vietnam Era. We remember Bob. His name still comes during Monthly Lunch Meetings in HSV AL meetings. He was well liked. We remember him.*

John C Scott - April 10, 2023 at 03:08 PM

DM

“ *Bob was so good to my husband James and me. He transported my husband to dialysis for over a year while I was still teaching. Bob was so patient and caring. I thanked him many times for helping us and he always refused payment. I know there will be another gem in his crown! God bless you Anita and family in the days ahead. Love Debra Mooney*

Debra Mooney - July 27, 2016 at 03:54 PM

EL

Thank you Debra for such a wonderful and touching story!!

Ed Lowe - July 27, 2016 at 04:22 PM

AG

“ Amy Gallo lit a candle in memory of
Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) James R. "Bob"
Lowe



Amy Gallo - July 26, 2016 at 09:03 PM

EL

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Ed Lowe - July 26, 2016 at 07:25 PM

AG

*We will miss you Mr. Bob!!! You and your lovely wife Anita have been part of our lives only for few years but we have shared so much during this short period of time. I know you are now watching from Heaven over your family! Our condolences to Anita, Ed, Linda, Kathy and Bill. Love and prayers,
Amy, Paolo, Davide and Raffaella Gallo*

Amy Gallo - July 26, 2016 at 09:00 PM

EL

Thank you Amy for those kind words. ED

Ed Lowe - July 27, 2016 at 06:00 AM

KM

Amy, you have been such a blessing to my mother, a true angel on earth to drive her so she could visit Dad. You are such a breath of fresh air, always with a beautiful smile on your face and such a delight to be around. My Mother enjoyed the "therapy sessions" of your time together, as you were both going through difficult times with your husbands at The Benton House and then the Hope Center. Thank you for all you have done for our Mom, Dad and our Family. We all wish you, Paolo and your family all the best. -Kathy

Kathy Lowe McCuiston - July 27, 2016 at 08:42 AM

AG

Thank you Kathy! I also enjoyed riding in the car with your Mom It was our "one on one" support group. I will always be in touch with her. Many blessings to you and your family!

Amy Gallo - July 27, 2016 at 08:38 PM

RB

“ When I had heard that Mr. Lowe (I always had trouble calling him Bob, even when I was an adult) had passed away, I immediately began thinking about my childhood and the things I remembered about him. I remember the Lowe family moving in across the street when I was about 6 year old. He was my first baseball coach. He instilled a love for the game which I would play for the next 12 years, and that I would later pass along to my children. 40 years later I still have my orange A's hat from that year. Along with a wonderful folder that he made for all the kids with our team and individual pictures, stats for the year, and a story someone had written about a young boy overcoming his fears. Obviously Mr. Lowe was not just a regular coach. I doubt he ever did anything half way.

But I think the thought I had more than anything was how fast Mr. Lowe could come and go. I remember my own father telling me stories about how we would be standing out in the front yard after supper and out of nowhere Bob would appear. He would talk for a few minutes, and then, just like he came, he would disappear. We would look away for a moment, and he would be gone, without saying "goodbye" or "see you later." And then later on in my adult life I remember getting things in the mail from Mr. Lowe. Clippings out of a magazine or newspaper about the military, our country, or even articles his children had written. No extended letters, always just a brief contact, and then he was gone. I remember out of the blue receiving phone calls from Mr. Lowe which usually began, "Bob Lowe here, Newnan, GA." He would tell me about Ed coming home from Iraq, or the girls having a child, or Bill getting a promotion. Always proud. And then, just as quick as the communication started, it stopped. Bob was gone. Usually I didn't even know the conversation was over. Usually he didn't say "good bye" that I recall.

And the morning I learned of his passing while my emotions were still racing, I thought about the bigger picture of those memories. How we are really all just like Mr. Lowe. We are here for a little while, and then we are gone. Sometimes we can live to be what

may seem to be an old age, but in eternal perspective, it is but a snap of the fingers. I remember seeing an elderly lady being interviewed on TV one time. I think she was around 109 years old if I recall. And the reporter asked her what was the one thing that stood out in all her years. She thought for a moment and said, "well, it all just went by so fast!" I thought to myself, "109 years....fast.....how?" The Bible says we are sojourners, or temporary residents while on this earth. It was never intended to be our permanent home. The apostle Paul describe our bodies as tents, not permanent structures. In 2nd Corinthians he says, "For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling." Today I am thankful for Mr. Lowe, his family, and the fact that he is in eternity with his Savior. "Coming and going" are now a thing of the past for him, and a cherished memory for me.



Rod Burnette - July 26, 2016 at 05:41 PM

BL

Rod, THANKS for the memories of Dad and the impact he had upon your life! I laughed out loud because when Dad was done talking on the phone with me, he just hung up. I think it is a testament to his demanding military career. In Dad's retirement years he softened that a whole lot. THANKS again, Bill

Bill Lowe - July 26, 2016 at 07:08 PM

EL

Rod--Wonderful tribute and beautiful words. Thank you for sharing and incredible you still have that hat!! That is awesome. Thanks again brother. Ed

Ed Lowe - July 26, 2016 at 07:28 PM

KM

Thank you Rod. He loved our life on Shancey Lane and of course coaching baseball.

kathy mccuiston - July 27, 2016 at 10:56 AM

TM

“ *Tony McGee sent a virtual gift in memory of Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) James R. "Bob" Lowe*

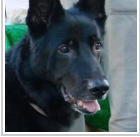


Tony McGee - July 26, 2016 at 03:36 PM

EL

Tony--Thank you CSM!! Very much appreciated.

Ed Lowe - July 26, 2016 at 07:29 PM



“ I was privileged to grow up with Bob during a time of innocence in Loudon, Tennessee, a small town beside the Tennessee River. Typical of small towns, you quickly learned the qualities and character of your schoolmates and identified role models to emulate. Bob was very smart and a standout model for calm discipline, determination and integrity. His word was his bond. Trustworthy and dependable, Bob never passed by an opportunity to influence success. We had become great friends by his junior year at Loudon High School. His gift for public speaking got me elected County Sherriff for a day in a mock election for county offices. Bob was an avid baseball player and fan and served as the Student Manager of the football team. He took every opportunity to exercise leadership in sports and in the classroom. I was immensely proud of Bob’s academic achievements and his decision to attend Washington and Lee University. That year, I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. We were able to connect again after he was commissioned in the United States Army. He and Anita were graceful hosts to me and Gail, my bride, as we transferred home from Iraq through Germany where Bob was serving. Our paths crossed again in 1969 when he and I were invited along with Edward Headlee, United States Army, as Vietnam Veteran Co-Marshalls in a Patriotic Youth Day parade and ceremonies conducted by the Interact Club of Loudon High School. Bob thrilled the audience with his superb public speaking skills. His words resonate today with my memory of deepest respect for Bob and his service to our country.

My condolences to Anita, Bill, Kathy, Ed, and Linda and your families and brother Jack

*Kenneth Gardner
Major USMC (Ret)*

Kenneth Gardner - July 26, 2016 at 03:35 PM

BL

Major, THANKS for sharing your memories of my Dad! It's so very much appreciated, Sir! Bill

Bill Lowe - July 26, 2016 at 04:52 PM

EL

Sir--Wonderful tribute and echo what my brother said - so very much appreciated. God Bless. ED

Ed Lowe - July 26, 2016 at 07:30 PM

KM

Well spoken and yes, that was our Father.

kathy mccuiston - July 27, 2016 at 10:55 AM



I worked for Bob in Vietnam and at Redstone. What a great Man and EOD Officer. Very sad to hear of his passing. MSG John Scott.

John Scott - July 27, 2016 at 11:13 AM

JH

“ Heaven has one more Angel. My love goes out to each of you.

Jeannie Herber Hicks - July 26, 2016 at 02:53 PM

EL

Thank you Jeannie - Amen to that!

Ed Lowe - July 26, 2016 at 07:30 PM

KA

Thanks Jeannie. Shancey Lane childhood has such great memories for all of us.

kathy - July 27, 2016 at 11:22 AM



“ 88 files added to the album Life Tributes



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - July 26, 2016 at 12:01 PM

BL

“ Some twenty-plus years ago I fondly recall Dad, Mom, Cathy, and I driving to Rome, Georgia to attend my graduation from Shorter College. I am the oldest of Mom and Dad’s children but the last one to earn my four-year degree at 35 years old. Dad was so proud to attend and watch me graduate. I attended classes exclusively at Shorter College’s Atlanta campus and had never been to the main campus in Rome. As we approach Shorter College, there was a huge arch over the roadway saying “Shorter College! A Baptist Women’s College” Dad had a look of shock and yelled out loud to everyone in the car “YOU WENT TO A GIRL’S SCHOOL?!?!?” I am grinning ear-to-ear now just recalling Dad’s shocked reaction.

Bill Lowe - July 25, 2016 at 07:41 PM

PA

Awesome memories last forever.

paul - July 26, 2016 at 08:57 AM

NK

I haven't been in touch for years but do remember cousin Bob with fondness. I visited their home in Redstone and was very impressed with military life and it made a lifelong impression on me. Wish we had kept in touch. My condolences to Anita, Bill, Kathy, Ed, and Linda and your families. Peace and love to you. Nancy (Lowe) Knuth, LTC, USArmy Retired

Nancy (Lowe) Knuth - July 26, 2016 at 10:34 AM

RW

I went to Bob's graduation at Washington-Lee with Aunt Lillian and Uncle Elbert in maybe 1959 or 60.? I got a new dress and was so excited about going. He was always so kind and always had a smile. So sorry you have lost him. H[e he is in heaven with Jesus. We wi all see him again.

Rosemary Lowe Watson - July 26, 2016 at 12:07 PM

BL

“ Bill Lowe lit a candle in memory of Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) James R. "Bob" Lowe



Bill Lowe - July 25, 2016 at 07:23 PM

PA

Thoughts and prayers with you and the family.... P.Sasso

paul - July 26, 2016 at 08:57 AM

BL

THANKS Paul!

Bill Lowe - July 26, 2016 at 04:53 PM

BL

“ 7 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Bill Lowe - July 25, 2016 at 07:04 PM

BL

“ When I was in the 9th grade in high school, I found a female teacher's purse in the men's room where it had been discarded after being stolen. I carried the purse and contents to the teacher and gave it to her. She was not even aware the purse was missing from her desk drawer. She thanked me and I went to class.

An hour later, the principal and assistant principal came and took me to their office and asked "where is the teacher's money?" I said I had no idea because I just found the purse. I was told to think about "telling the truth" because the Fulton County Police was coming to arrest me soon if I did not admit to stealing the purse. I asked if I could call my Dad and was told NO! However, when they left the room I used the phone on the desk to call my Dad who was working at Fort McPherson about 25 minutes away. Dad said he was "inbound"

About 30 minutes later, I heard Dad's Sergeant Major screaming "Attention!" and scaring the entire front officer staff. Dad stormed into the Principal's office and closed the door. About ten minutes later, the Principal came out and told me it was a huge misunderstanding and I could return to class. As I left, Dad gave the Principal the "stare" and me a thumbs up. Dad's Sergeant Major was pacing back and forth like a raging bull, He would have attacked ISIS single-handed if Dad gave the order. This event was some 40 years ago.

THANKS again, Dad for believing me and supporting me!

Love!

Bill

Bill Lowe - July 25, 2016 at 07:00 PM

PA

What a testament of character Bill. He set an example for you and set the bar high.

paul - July 26, 2016 at 09:00 AM

EL

Bill--What a great, great story brother. Thanks for sharing such a wonderful tribute. Ed

Ed Lowe - July 26, 2016 at 07:32 PM

BL

“Dad's proudest moments was when he would ride with me when I was a shift supervisor with Clayton County Fire Department. He was most interested in meeting the firefighters and paramedics and thanking them in person for their service. Dad was always a soldier's officer!



The higher Dad rose in rank the more effort he placed on taking care of the troops. Dad commended all EOD units in the United States. This was way before the Secret Service had their own EOD assets so the Army supported the mission of protecting the President. Dad's proudest award was from the Secret Service acknowledging Dad's efforts for years ensuring the President's safety.

The family visited Washington DC for a trip and Dad got everyone a behind the scenes tour of the FBI HQ. I remember standing with Dad's FBI friends getting the VIP tour while the "public" was behind the glass walls. I remember getting to shoot a Tommy Gun in the FBI firearms range in the basement. I was like ten years old and the FBI agent helped me hold the machine gun. Today, OPS would investigate the FBI agent and sustain probably a dozen policy violations. Good times back then!

Bill Lowe - July 25, 2016 at 06:59 PM