



Robert Harrison Lollar

January 26, 1934 - October 26, 2022

Robert Harrison (Bob) Lollar, whose kindness, wit, and ready generosity enriched the lives of all who knew him, died on October 26, 2022, in Loveland, CO. A former business executive and life-long artist with hundreds of works to his name, he was 88 years old.

Born in 1934, Bob grew up in Illinois farm country, the son of two educators, Max and Emilie (Kerstine) Lollar, and the younger brother of actor Nancy (Lollar) Sergel, who preceded him in death. At Hampshire High School, he was a popular athlete and reliable good-time pal who worked summers in the local canning factory or pitching hay. At Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, he earned his room and board as a food server without skimping on fun, playing the ukulele at his Phi Delta Theta fraternity parties and drums in a friend's jazz trio. As a communications major, he also helped broadcast the occasional live concert. Jazz would be a life-long passion.

Bob met his future wife, Sarah Booth of Webster Groves, MO, at a college dance. They became each other's north star, marrying shortly after graduation in 1955 and moving to Arlington Heights, IL. Bob sold life insurance until 1961, when he joined W.W. Grainger, a national industrial supply store. He rose steadily through the ranks, becoming vice president of branch operations. His philosophy was that money was good if it was doing good, for his family and friends and for his staff. He would later bemoan today's greed-driven gap between workers' and executive salaries.

At age 49, and after nearly 25 years of service, Bob was replaced at work with

a younger man. However, he turned the injustice on its head by embracing an early retirement, taking art classes at a local college and ultimately, moving with Sarah to Fort Collins, CO where their youngest daughter Susan was living. Sarah became a pastel artist while Bob took up oil painting and assemblage art, incorporating small “found objects” into his work as commentary on the value that even discarded things can have. Over the years, his work was displayed in a variety of local coffee shops and art galleries.

In January 2012, Sarah, Bob’s partner of 56 years, died following a 10-year journey with ovarian cancer. Bob remained in their Fort Collins home for another 5 years prior to moving into an independent living apartment at Good Samaritan Village in Loveland, CO to be closer to Susan and her husband Josh. The three collaborated on creating the kind of elder years that every family dreams of, full of humor and meaning. Bob was decisively his own man until his untimely passing.

Bob adored spunky women (they know who they are). In addition to three nieces, Bob is survived by three daughters, their spouses, and a step-granddaughter: Julie (husband Tracy Learner, stepdaughter Sarah Learner); Cindy (wife Greta McVey); and Susan (husband Joshua Moore). Other survivors include everyone who served him coffee, a martini, or a meal; loved discussing art and politics; passed him in the hall at Good Samaritan’s; and celebrated the Chicago Cubs’ World Series win in 2016. Bob never met a stranger and always left them with a smile they hadn’t known they needed. Bob’s spiritual views can be summed up by the song lyrics, “I believe in love, and I live my life accordingly. I choose to let the mystery be.” That said, his family will be planning a jazz- and martini-fueled party to celebrate his life in 2023.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Bob’s name to the National Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, which for years helped cover his medication needs.

Tribute Wall

EG

“ I remember the first time I had dinner with you and your parents and your Dad explained his artwork and how he collected items and developed concepts. It was fascinating. So glad I have a piece which is a commentary on how we are not taking care of Mother Earth. I will always remember his creativity and kindness.



Elaine Gazdeck - November 07, 2022 at 10:25 AM

SM

Thanks for sharing, Elaine. So glad you have one of his works as well... many cherished memories.

Susan L Moore - November 08, 2022 at 09:09 AM

DM

“ Bob was a neighbor of my Mother's, Willa, I got to know him over the 3 1/2 years that she lived at Good Samaritan when I would come to visit from Michigan. Being an artist Bob and I connected right away over Art. I loved his artwork--his "en plen aire" paintings of favorite places in the mountains, such color and feeling of light, and his philosophical explorations with found object collages. When I came out for 5 months this spring to stay with my mother, our friendship deepened and the talks we would have on his back porch in the sun became explorations of Life--deep and meaningful. He helped sustain me through the death of my Mother. He had such insight and he encouraged me in my writing and art. He continues to be an inspiration in my life. What a treasure of a person! You are so lucky to have such a Dad!

Debbie Mues - November 06, 2022 at 01:38 PM

SM

You became an adopted daughter Debbie... I look forward to meeting you in person soon. Much love, Susan

Susan L Moore - November 08, 2022 at 09:12 AM

SA

“ *Our in-person meeting was brief, memorable, and wonderful but I've known you through the life and the words of Susan. The original Whiz Bang, what a wonderful wonderful man! I am grateful for the chance to have known you.*

Sabrina - November 05, 2022 at 07:07 PM

SM

Thank you, my friend... he was so impressed by you. I too am thankful for that brief, memorable meeting.

Susan L Moore - November 08, 2022 at 09:15 AM

KS

“ *So true that he never met a stranger. His smile was contagious and always at the ready. His artwork was amazing and he was just talented. And his love for his family was something we should all aspire to. Love you Susan! Thank you for sharing your beautiful father with me. I am so so lucky to have known him.*

Kris Stegner - November 04, 2022 at 08:25 PM

SM

No words, Kris... just love. Thank you for sharing.

Susan L Moore - November 08, 2022 at 09:16 AM

SS

“ I have such wonderful memories of Bob and spending time in the Lollar home. Bob’s Old Fashioneds were second to none and his sense of humor and love of the Cubs drew me in. I was profoundly moved when he gifted me a piece of his phenomenal artwork called “Cast Me Not Aside.” While terribly unfortunate that I have not seen him in years, he made a positive impact on my life.

Gobs of love to you, Susan, Greta, and Julie and your families as you walk this path of missing and remembering this phenomenal human you all called “Dad”

Staci Clemmons Sears

Staci Sears - November 04, 2022 at 08:38 AM

SM

Hey beautiful, thanks for sharing. Glad to be reminded that you have a piece of his artwork... makes my heart happy.

Susan L Moore - November 08, 2022 at 09:17 AM

JL

“ I am so very sorry and saddened for the the loss of Robert. I first met Robert five years ago when I became his housekeeper and lifelong friend here at Good Samaritan. I absolutely loved him from the first day I met him. He was so kind, funny and such an amazing artist !!! Robert was cool, smart and hip, and his love for his family was amazing! I will miss our long talks, laughing hard, him rearranging his artwork, hearing his jazz music (I could just keep going on!!) RIP sweet Robert I will Never forget you.



Jane Lennon - November 01, 2022 at 11:34 PM

JL

There's a funny story behind this picture!!

Jane Lennon - November 01, 2022 at 11:47 PM

SM

Dearest Jane - this is Susan (Moore), Bob's local daughter. I would love to talk with you so if willing, please get my phone number from Holly Turner and give me a call. My dad LOVED you, thank you for all you did for him.

Susan L Moore - November 03, 2022 at 05:19 PM

WF

Mr. Bob Lollar: neighbor extraordinaire, kind, gracious, witty, humorous, creative, but most important of all: A GOOD MAN. I'll miss him as I know all of you will too. I imagine that your parents and my parents are now playing charades together and laughing the rear-ends off! Donation made to the National LLS, as it's the least I can do.

William J Fasth - November 12, 2022 at 01:52 PM