



Robert F. Lauer Sr.

September 16, 2023

Robert F. Lauer, 94, of Portsmouth, died peacefully at his home on September 16, 2023.

Bob was born in 1929 in Baltimore, MD., to Frederick Baldwin Lauer and Augusta Pauline Matthia Lauer, the eighth of nine children. Bob was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Norma Lee Nixon Lauer, his parents, and eight siblings. He is survived by his three sons: Rob Lauer, Chris Lauer, and Mark Lauer; daughter-in-law, Robin Preziotti Lauer; granddaughter, Sydney Lauer Wantz, and husband, Jeffrey Wantz, of Taneytown, MD; grandson, Nicholas Lauer, of Los Angeles, CA.; and 14 nieces and nephews.

Moving with his family from Baltimore to Portsmouth in 1939, Bob graduated from Wilson High School in 1948. A Korean War combat veteran, he served in the Cavalry from 1951 to 1953, earning a Korean Service Medal with three battle

stars. Returning to Portsmouth, he married the love of his life, Norma Lee, in 1954

and worked in the Norfolk Naval Shipyard while attending college at night under

the GI Bill. After graduating from ODU in 1964, Bob began a career as a computer programmer

for NAVMAASO (Navy Management System Support Office) at Naval Base Norfolk.

He worked on the development of SNAP (Shipboard Non-Tactical ADP Program),

one of the first US Navy shipboard computer systems.

Bob was a founding member of New Creation/ Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Chesapeake, where he served as Sunday School President for several

years in the 1970s and was an active founding member of the Joy Class.

Bob loved sports, was a lifelong fan of the Yankees and the Orioles, and was also a

champion ping-pong player.

For Bob, family always came first; he loved them all unconditionally. He was a devoted husband to Norma, father to his three sons, grandfather to his two grandchildren, and uncle to his 14 nieces and nephews. His grandchildren, Sydney

and Nicholas, called him Pop-Pop—a name he was known by among all their friends, for whom he served as a loveable grandfather figure. Quick-witted, good-

natured, and kind, Bob was always singing and whistling. He will be sorely missed

by his family and friends, who will remain eternally grateful for having had such a

wonderful, loving man in their lives.

A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 pm on Monday, October 2, at New Creation/Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 4320 Bruce Rd,
Chesapeake, VA 23321

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

New Creation United Methodist Church
4320 Bruce Road
Chesapeake, VA 23321

Tribute Wall

AS

“ I only met Bob Lauer once or twice, and the imprint of his kindness has never left me. Heaven has truly gained an angel. I would like to give the family, and especially my dear friend, Rob, my deepest sympathies and condolences during this difficult time.

Angela Slevin - October 01, 2023 at 10:02 PM

RL

Thank you so much, Angela.

Rob Lauer - February 28, 2024 at 10:17 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert F. Lauer Sr..



September 27, 2023 at 03:00 PM

JL

“ A few years ago, several of my cousins, my sister, and I decided that Uncle Bob was everyone's favorite uncle...and, in a large family, we had quite a few!
For several years, and ending only a few years ago, he called me on my birthday each year. I can't think of a time when he wasn't open and positive in his manner. Living a few hundred miles away, I did not get to see him much at all, but...he WILL be missed.
Joan Muth Levin

Joan Levin - September 23, 2023 at 05:14 PM

RL

Thanks for sharing this, Joan.

Rob Lauer - September 23, 2023 at 05:46 PM

BO

Uncle Bob and I would talk on the phone pretty regularly. We had a running joke that he would call my cell phone every time I was on vacation (of course he didn't know my vacation schedule). I remember getting his call in Bieblenheim, France as I was parking a rental car outside of a restaurant and getting a call in the middle of the night (Europe time) at a hotel in Rothenburg, Germany. He always had a great one-liner, usually about one of his siblings, including my mother. He was the last surviving sibling among mom's family of nine. He will be missed.

Bill Opfer

Bill Opfer - September 24, 2023 at 09:53 AM

RB

Bob was my former Boss and became a lifelong friend. I sure enjoyed being around him at work and after we retired. We went to lunch many times the last few years and kept in touch by phone. I'll sure miss our conversations. Ray Bohlken

Ray Bohlken - September 24, 2023 at 10:38 AM

MF

The competition was stiff, but, Uncle Bobby was my favorite! He was absolutely hilarious. The stories he made up-did everyone hear the one about him coming out of the elevator in his swim trunks? His delivery & timing was unmatched. Most of his siblings (including my mom, Aunt Alvera, Aunt Ruthie & Aunt Gin) had great senses of humor. I think their humor was a gift from their mother. He was a kind & loving man. We talked a couple of times a year & those conversations will be missed. Uncle Bobby was the guy who made you want to be a better person...he was very special indeed.

Mary Fabiszewski

Mary Fabiszewski - September 24, 2023 at 03:29 PM

MJ

I worked with Bob decades ago. A great guy. Always in a good mood and willing to share a joke or funny story.

Michael Jacobs - September 24, 2023 at 05:38 PM