



Mr. Robert Erik Horter

May 30, 1963 - March 18, 2019

“Try and leave this world a little better than you found it, and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate, you have not wasted your time but have done your best.”

- Robert Baden- Powell

This quote rings true as we set Robert Erik Horter off onto his next adventure. Although Rob was well known for never giving up without a fight (or at least giving his two cents) and always expressing his opinion in no uncertain terms, he succumbed to his brain cancer quickly and quietly.

He entered this world in 1963 in Abington, Pennsylvania greeted by proud parents, John Robert Horter and Carolyn (Schaaf) Horter. He developed his unique character growing up in Pennsylvania and Oklahoma. After graduating from his beloved Oklahoma State University (go Pokes!), he moved to Gainesville, Florida which he claimed as his home base for over 30 years. While living in Gainesville he married his high school sweetie, Martha (Tow) Horter and brought into the world (with Martha’s assistance) two children, John and Kathryn. He devoted 20 years to pouring knowledge into the brains of high school students at Eastside High School, and then added another 12 years of devoted service to the School Board of Alachua County as a technology coach, software application manager and student information system administrator. He retired on March 1 confronting the long list of home projects Martha had compiled for him, and that he was eager to begin.

Rob’s second love (family was always first) was the Boy Scouts of America. After reluctantly being thrust into participating in Troop 432 with his son, it quickly became a focal point of his life. He served in various capacities at the local and district level over a period of almost 20 years, the highpoint serving at Philmont Scout Ranch as a climbing instructor. He was immensely honored to become a recipient of the Silver Beaver Award for exemplary volunteer service.

His love of adventure was woven into all aspects of his life. He relished the time spent

hiking, backpacking, snow skiing, kayaking, climbing and anything else that smelled of the outdoors. If there was a mountain to climb, he was ready.

Although he did not quite make it to the top of his last mountain, his exuberance for life lives on in his wife of 31 years, Martha (Tow), 2 grown children, and sources of immense pride; John R. Horter and Kathryn Horter; his mother, Carolyn (Schaaf) Horter; two brothers; Greg Horter and John D. Horter and countless aunts, uncles and cousins.

Although Rob found public affirmation abhorrent, his family will be selfishly hosting a commemoration event open to any and all at Camp Shands, 1453 Baden Powell Road, Hawthorne, FL on March 22 at 3:00 pm.

Since flowers perish, but memorial gifts live on, we are requesting donations to be made to the Boy Scouts of North Central Florida in lieu of flowers.

Events

MAR **Commemoration of life**

03:00PM

22

Camp Shands

1453 Baden Powell Road, Hawthorne, FL, US, 32640

Comments



“ Dear Carolyn,
I am so sorry for your loss - I hope you and your family will eventually manage to come to terms with parting with your son so prematurely.
Thinking of you and your family
Yours Gisela

Gisela Fuchs - April 08, 2019 at 11:34 AM



“ Zana Holley Dupee lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Erik Horter



Zana Holley Dupee - March 22, 2019 at 03:32 PM



“ "The loss is immeasurable. But also immeasurable is the love left behind." --Felicia Moran. With our deepest sympathy, Pat and Jim (in Australia)

Patricia - March 22, 2019 at 12:52 AM



“ Mr. Horter is the answer to my security question on a lot of websites where, "Who was your favorite teacher?" is an option. I took drafting with him for 3 years (93-95), and looked forward to his class more than any other! I loved being able to pick the radio station on Friday's! Although my 3rd year he let me listen to his massive collection of Rush CDs during class on the shiny new Dell we had, which was one of the first on the school with a CD player! I've shared that story many times. He loved Rush and OSU. I loved joking around with him, and learning from him. I'll never forget his impeccable hand writing. He almost always had a smile on his face, and I am a better person for having known him and learned from him. You will never be forgotten Mr. Horter! Rest easy good sir, and thank you for everything!

Michael Hartnett - March 21, 2019 at 07:29 PM



“ Rob Horter was one of the finest human beings I have known. Always joyful even when things weren't necessarily perfect, Rob could bring sunshine into the darkest room. A model teacher, he loved his work and he loved his students. He was happiest not when he succeeded, but when his students excelled both in his classroom and years afterwards. One of the things I missed when I left Eastside was the daily interactions with Rob. He was not just a colleague, he was a true friend. Over the years I was fortunate to see Rob at social events, scout ceremonies, and even at Buchholz where he tried to teach me new technology. I will miss seeing Rob, but I will cherish remembering my friend and his positive impact on me and on hundreds of others forever. Rest in peace, my friend, the world is a brighter place because you have lived.

Sam Welker - March 21, 2019 at 01:14 PM



“ I will always remember as being one of the most caring and hardworking teacher at Eastside High. He poured confidence into his students and allowed them to realize their true potential. My prayers are with his family, friends and colleagues. RIP Rober Erik Horter; you did well!

Dr. Diane Archer-Banks - March 21, 2019 at 12:42 PM



“ Mr. Horter was one of my favorite teachers while I was at Eastside (1997-2001). He fostered a love of graphic design and I didn't do too bad at drafting either. He was down to earth and easy to talk to. He also was a bit silly. My prayers to his family during this time and beyond.

Khadean Young - March 21, 2019 at 09:22 AM



“ I enjoyed working with Rob, and he made it very easy to do so. I worked at Lofton High School and met him when he was a coach around 2009. We often ran into each other at Ward's market, and talked about work. He will be missed. Prayer's to the family.

Debra Lamar-Randolph - March 21, 2019 at 09:12 AM



“ I will continue to pray for his family & friends.
He will forever live in our hearts and will never forget him.
Heaven gained an awesome angel!

Brandi McDowell - March 21, 2019 at 07:56 AM



“ Rob was a dedicated husband, father and leader in our community. His love for life and the outdoors was well known especially in scouting where he mentored many young men. His devotion was inspiring and he will be missed.

Ken Armstrong - March 20, 2019 at 03:37 PM



“ Mr. Horter, I will always remember as a friendly guy to talk to in the hallways at Eastside. Although I never had him as a teacher. He was always very caring and energetic. He will be missed by many that loved him at Eastside. High. School.

Burt Wetherington - March 20, 2019 at 10:07 PM



“ My son was very fortunate to have Mr. Horter as a teacher when he was a student at Eastside High School (class of 2000). I am saddened to hear of his passing. Thoughts and prayers to his family. May God give you the strength you need during this difficult time.

Sandra Gagnon - March 21, 2019 at 08:41 AM