



Robert Wright

January 20, 1945 - June 10, 2012

WRIGHT, COLONEL (USAF-Retired) ROBERT "BOBBY" McCLELLAN Age 67, a resident of Albuquerque, NM, since 1999, died Sunday, June 10, 2012. He is survived by his wife, Marcia Wright of Albuquerque, NM; children, step-sons, Greg Allen of Albuquerque, NM, Kirk Allen of Albuquerque, NM; step-daughter, Shelly Allen of Albuquerque, NM; step-son, David Stone Los Gatos, CA; step-daughter, Janae Brill and husband, Shawn of Georgetown, TX; brother, David Wright, Jr. and wife, Darleen of Oklahoma City, OK; sister, Lillian Wright Futch and husband, Harry of Houston, TX; brother, Captain (USN-Retired) O.W. Wright and wife, Doni of Chesapeake, VA; sister, Laurie Wright O'Neill of Lewisville, TX; and numerous nieces, nephews and grandchildren. A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, June 14, 2012 at 11:15 a.m. at Santa Fe National Cemetery, 501 North Guadalupe Street, Santa Fe, NM. Please visit our online guest book for Bobby at www.RememberTheirStory.com. FRENCH10500 Lomas Blvd NE 505-275-3500

Tribute Wall

JR

“ It has been a year since my good friend Col (call me Bobby) Wrigt has passed. I was one of his Shirts while here at Kirtland and had the honor to have him retire me from my service in 2005. We always got together from time to time to share a cup of coffee in his Wayland office and talk about current events. He was such an encourager and a developer of future leaders to include myself. I miss our talks about this and that but know he dancing in heaven with Christ. God Speed Colonel! You are truly missed.

James A. Gutierrez (SMSgt Ret.) - June 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ I saw Bobby briefly about 10 years ago when he was here in DC supporting his flag officer while making presentations. I am glad that we did have one more time to share a few moments. There was a time when he was the love of my life. He was going through a divorce and I was going through a breakup with my fiance. I still have momentos from our relationship which was over as fast as it began. We ordered a corvet (I kept the brochure we used to customize it) and he drink Chevis and eat dinner at my house in Belen. And, when I did the La Luz trail and got ill after reaching the top, it was Bobby who came and got me. He wanted everyone to like him. I remember the Dallas Cowboy Cake he ordered for my Mother's birthday...she NEVER watched football. Bobby could make you feel so special because he enjoyed and lived to impress all those around him. He wanted to be the best he could be and if you were his friend he expected NO LESS from you. He loved the USAF and his family. Bobby may God bless you and that you rest in peace. You did a job well done.

Cheri Smith Beadner - August 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

R(

“ *Bev and I send our condolences to Marcia and the family. We were stationed at Kelly AFB in San Antonio with Bobby & Marcia and have only great memories of our time there.*

Reg & Bev Rider, Brig Gen, USAF (ret) - June 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ *BOBBY WRIGHT: Eulogy; June 14, 2012* Our personalities are defined by the interactions we have with other people. Because Bobby interacted with many people, he was many things, many people. I will speak of the Bobby I knew. I know there are overlaps in our remembrances of his traits and behavior. I will highlight a few of his special traits: • A goal-oriented organizer; • His love of the Air Force; • His belief in strong presentations; and, • His demand for integrity and justice. I will illustrate each with a personal anecdote. I apologize in advance for omitting your favorite tale.

Organizer As an organizer, Bobby was quick to assess a situation, determine the tasks it required, evaluate the talent available, make assignments, and implement the process to achieve the goal. Having achieved success, he delighted in and shared the glory. Imagine yourself in one of his escapades. Of course, we siblings knew his organizational ability from an early age. As for example, when putting up the annual Christmas tree, Bobby would dictate: “Stand that tree erect; back an inch; string those lights; now the bulbs; more icicles and hang them straight!” Occasionally, he would look up from the couch where he was watching *Gilligan’s Island* and tell us to adjust an ornament or two.

Air Force Bobby brought his organizational skills to the Air Force where he perfected them. He dearly loved the Air Force and his career in the Air Force. With hindsight, we can see that he was destined to be a “fly boy.” We knew this when he flew out of a tree after purposely disturbing a hornets’ nest, and when he tried for a helicopter ride with a smoke grenade – the helicopter hovered overhead, but no ride. But, for me, the indicator was one Halloween when he donned a towel – err, CAPE – and announced that he would fly from the garage rooftop to the next building. Off into space he flew. When he awoke in the hospital, he wanted to know how well his flight looked.

Presentation Of course, style of presentation was important. Bobby believed attention to detail and image set the stage for lasting accomplishments. One could see this in his high school graduation as he paraded across the stage to accept his diploma – standing straight, almost marching, formal, serious, perfect handshake. And, extremely high-water pants to display fluorescent lime-green socks. *Integrity/Justice* Bobby

demanded integrity, accountability, and justice of himself and his charges. In short, he was a real “straight shooter.”He had perfected these traits by the age of six, when, one night as he and I were emptying our water pistols, he boasted that he could hit both porch lights with one shot each. I scoffed. He shot – squirt, squirt. Solid hits.Both hot lights exploded from contact with the cold water.Our father, immediately at the door, demanded to know: “Who did this?”Mr. Accountability Bobby, without hesitation stated, “David --- (long pause) (low voice) --- and I shot out the lights.” Very egalitarian in his sharing.ConclusionI could go on all day, but . . . I hope to have accomplished this: to jostle your memory into recalling an event involving you and Bobby in some task, its accomplishment, and its humorous elements.Above all, for Bobby, life was a celebration, a celebration with laughs, including those at himself; a celebration of problems solved; a celebration of goals attained.But, above all else, a celebration of people – a multitude of people to help, mentor, and advance. As an example of his desire to help others, Bobby was proud to be an organ donor, and donated all his major organs. His liver and kidneys have already been transplanted to recipients in need.Well, it is 5 o’clock somewhere, so I will close.Please, with me, raise a symbolic toast to Bobby and a life well lived, with beloved family and friends.Thank you.

David Wright - June 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ Thank you for taking me to see Captain Kangeroo when I was 5 years old. Thank you for taking me 'trick or treating'. Every time I see a blue corvette, I will think of you and the time that you made me get down on the floorboard while you cruised MacArthur HS parking lot looking for the cute girls. I will miss all your favorite sayings..."blasovia, sommersby, neener-neerer, punyetah." You truly were Mother's "little monkey". I love you, Maynard! My heart is so empty without you here but I know that you are helping God plan many social events and I know that you will get that 'hole in one' in Heaven!

Laurie - June 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I am terribly saddened by the sudden passing of Col Wright. He was an incredible person to work with at the Education Office at Kirtland. My visits to play golf at four hills as his guest and gather at his house after the round will always remain as fond memories of him. Marcia, my prayers are with you and your family.

Jim Haley - June 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RU

“ I was stunned and deeply saddened to hear of Bobby's passing. Seems like only a few weeks ago that we last saw each other at Four Hills CC although it must have been a little longer than that. While we only saw each other 4 or 5 times a year I've considered him a true friend since he first came to Kirtland. He was a superb sounding board providing outstanding advice and counsel to a fellow Colonel and probably kept me from doing something foolish more than once. He will be greatly missed by all those who had the privilege of knowing him. My sincere condolences to Marcia and his entire family.

Ronne Mercer, Colonel (Ret) USAF - June 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ We couldn't wish for better neighbors. Bobby has always been so incredibly thoughtful, and warmly welcomed our children's backyard visits. We are so saddened to not be able to have summer evening chats with Bobby, and grieve with Marcia and all of his family. His love for the Lord has always shown through, may he know true joy with the Lord.

David, Cecily, Anya and Aaron Sokoloff - June 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BV

“ Dear Marcia ~ our heart is breaking for you. Bobby was such a great person and it was apparent how very much he loved you. The times he spent with Mama were special to her and she always looked forward to visits from Bobby & your 'youngest son'. My grandsons especially enjoyed visiting with him about sports and we'll all miss him very much. Our prayers surround you and the children. We love you very much.

Betty & Jimmie Ellis & Vada - June 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ I have had the pleasure of knowing Bobby my entire life. As a close family friend, I had the privilege of his company for 30 plus years. He always had a “can do attitude” and would lift you up if you were down. I could always count on Bobby to point me in the right direction and give me sound counsel to meet my goals and the expectations that I had for myself. As an active duty Marine, I never stopped asking his advice and help. I like to think his mentorship helped me to achieve what I have accomplished and I hope to provide the same positive influence in others that he has been for me. He was a man among men and he will truly be missed.

Capt Brad Creedon - June 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ I am so sorry to hear of the sudden passing of Bobby Wright, stepfather to my cousins David Stone and Janae Stone Brill and their families. I got to know him very well in the early 80's when he was stationed at Kirtland and I lived in nearby Roswell. There are many great memories of his friendship, his love of cars, Texas, and was such a great inspiration to David and Janae during their teen years. I will never forget his mandatory rule that every man should own at least one Corvette in his lifetime, and I did just that many years later! It is even more ironic that later on I lived in the same subdivision as his younger sister in Midland, Texas. Small world! There are many people in Texas, New Mexico, the USAF, and the whole world that will remember Bob's enthusiasm, drive for success, and charisma for making new friends and keeping them. We will all forever appreciate his dedication to our lord and savior and his country. Bobby Wright will be missed but honored forever. Raymond Hedman Madison, SD

Raymond Hedman - June 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ We will miss Bobby and especially hearing from him about our Yankees!! He was a very sweet man and we are sorry he had to leave so soon. God Bless you Marcia and your family.

Mike and Mary Korbass - June 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Bobby was the person at FHCC that always had a kind word for you and truly made the day better. His calm voice and mannerism put us at ease every time we spoke with him. We can all learn from his gentle nature and hope that we can pass along to someone else the common courtesy he granted everyone he encountered. He will be sorely missed by all that knew him. Our condolences to his family.

Ken & Kristi Meunier - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Wright family. Bobby was a fellow 'lefty' at Four Hills. Both my son Ryan and I got to know Bobby over the years. Bobby was always so kind to us and was always asking me about my son. Bobby had to have the latest golf equipment and I was always there to take his old equipment off of his hands.....I am currently playing with some of his old clubs and will think of him with every swing. He was a dear friend and I will miss him.

Aaron Hillhouse - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Our condolences to the entire Wright family. Standing at the 15th tee box at Four Hills we will always remember, what an honorable man he was. We are sure his family will miss him dearly.

Melanie and Jim Pendergast - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ It is with great sorrow learning of the loss of Col. Wright. I am a Wayland Baptist graduate and took several classes with Col. Wright. I thought the World of Col. Wright. He mentored the class towards achievement. I cannot say this about many people in my life but I feel comfortable saying this about Col. Wright; "You made a difference in my life." I salute you Sir!

Joseph Byers, Lt. (Ret.) APD - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ We recall many good to=imes over the last 32 years that we served and knew Bobby as a consummate professional in all things Military and Civilian. Our thoughts and Prayers are with Marsha and the family in this sad time.

Mikeand Sam Creedon - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ It was my privilege to know Bobby both while stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base and following his retirement. His professionalism, dedication and positive attitude were hallmarks of truly an outstanding person. His enthusiastic approach to life and outgoing personality made each meeting a pleasurable experience. He was truly an outstanding officer, gentleman, and individual, who left us much too early, and will be greatly missed.

David Scott, Colonel, USAF(Ret) - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ To the entire Wright Family, We are so very sorry to hear of Bobby's passing. He was a remarkable and enjoyable person and educator to be around. We knew him from the KAFB Ed Center and his affiliation with Wayland Baptist University. We will miss him dearly. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you all.

Preston & Melissa Garner, Jane Bell - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DU

“ Col Wright was like a father to me. About 12 years ago I went through a terrible time in my life and I had the opportunity to work directly for Col Wright. He had always treated me with respect and dignity and was a silver lining in a dark cloud for me. Without his caring, compassion and support, I don't think I would have every made it through the difficult time. I would see him at church (Calvary) every now and then and shake his hand and wish him well and go on my way. I really never got the chance to really sit down privately to thank him for all he did for me, but I believe he knew how much I appreciated his support and his caring attitude. He was one of the most respected men that I have ever knew in my life and will be forever grateful to him. My wife and I will miss him, but I know that he is now in heaven and I'm sure God has a special place just for him and deservedly so. My condolences to his family and I pray for God's comfort for his family. I feel a piece of me is missing when I heard of his passing and I'm sure others will feel the same way. Again, Col Wright, thank you for everything, you will be sorely missed and loved by all.

David Olsen (Lt Col Retired - USAF) - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

Buck Dyck - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ My condolences to the Wright family. Col Wright was a man of honor and I credit him for redirecting me on the right path as a young Staff Sergeant assigned to Kirtland Air Force Base. He had the foresight to see where I was headed, and called me into this office for a little “man to man” encouragement. Looking straight in my eyes, he asked me “what are your dreams?” He encouraged me with strong words of wisdom and told me that whatever I wanted out of life I could achieve it, with hard work and effort. I will never forget that conversation because it was pivotal to my career and life. I am certain, I am only one of many men and women this Distinguished Officer influenced throughout his life and service. He had a passion for helping Airman like me and it was reflected in his leadership. It was an honor serving under his command. I am saddened by his death, but know the he is rejoicing with our heavily father.

Mark Maes - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM