



## Robert F. Rustick

September 5, 1944 - February 2, 2023

Robert “Bobby” Francis Rustick, born September 5, 1944, passed away February 2, 2023 at his home in West Ghent, at the age of 78. He was born and raised in Hudson, NY to Frank Rustick and Catherine “Kosh” Rustick (nee Popesckie). He also had an older brother, James “Jimmy” Rustick, who passed in 1974.

Bobby graduated Hudson High School in 1962. While attending Hudson High, he played football on both the defensive and offensive sides of the ball; referred to in the Hudson High School year-book, as a “fearless guard” and a “swell guy” by many of his classmates. After graduating high school, Bobby joined the United States Air Force where he served his country honorably during the Vietnam War for two tours of duty. In the Air Force, Bobby served as a Crew Chief on the F-100 Super Sabre, rising to the rank of Technical Sergeant.

After serving in the Air Force, Bobby worked as a union carpenter, then for ConRail, ultimately working with the United States Postal Service for the remainder of his working days. During this time, Bobby also enlisted in the Air National Guard and once again honorably served his country as a member of the 109th Airlift Wing of the New York State Air National Guard out of Schenectady, NY. Bobby regularly flew on missions to service the Distant Early Warning (DEW Line) radar sites in Greenland on the polar ice cap.

In his retirement years, Bobby traveled extensively, making life-long friends along the way. He was a part of various organizations, including the German Shepherd Rescue of New England. He took many classes after his retirement, including meditation, dream study, Reiki, and was continually interested in pursuing a higher knowledge of spiritual practices.

Bobby always had a smile on his face and he was quick to put a smile on the faces of others, often with a joke or a wild story from his youth in Hudson. He was a New York Giants fan and could be found watching the ball game on Sundays during football season. Bobby was also an avid hunter and fisherman.

Bobby was a loving father to his four children. He was pre-deceased by Karen Rustick (d. 2012), and is survived by John Rustick of Delmar, NY Joseph Rustick and his wife Erin Russell and their son Henry Rustick of Washington D.C., Nellie Rustick Meier and her husband Matthew Meier of Chatham, NY and two grandchildren, Sydney Boles of Boston Mass, and Henry Rustick (born to Joseph and Erin).

Calling hours will be held at Bates & Anderson Funeral Home on Thursday, February 9, from 2:00-5:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the German Shepard Rescue of New England, Inc.

# Previous Events

## Visitation Hours

FEB 9. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler  
110 Green Street  
Hudson, NY 12534  
(518) 828-3371  
<http://batesandersonredmondkeeler.com>

## Funeral Service

FEB 9. 4:30 PM (ET)

Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler  
110 Green Street  
Hudson, NY 12534  
(518) 828-3371  
<http://batesandersonredmondkeeler.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ I worked with Bob at GSRNE. I always looked forward to seeing him at events and getting wrapped up in his big bear hugs. He never failed to greet me with a smile and a kiss on the cheek and he loved being the first one to grab one of my brownies. We also had so many great conversations about anything and everything. My sincerest condolences to his family and friends. Rest easy, my friend. I love you and miss you. -Remy

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**Remy Tankel Carroll** - February 08, 2023 at 01:58 PM

JM

“ Where to begin! “Big Bob” was like the “mayor “ wherever he went He connected with all and shared stories He became a great friend ; driving a truck from PA to MA with no horn , going on a crazy cruise, helping and attending our German Shepherd event , fun at Lake George , parades and so many more good times We shared the sad times too.... Losses of our friends Sharon and Hank and Bobs eldest daughter I will miss you, my friend

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**jeannie McMahon** - February 07, 2023 at 09:36 PM

JF

“ Always the first person I would talk with at our reunions and lunches. There was no one like him. Bob walked me home some many days after work and nights from the Blue Anchor. We found so much to laugh about. These are the memories of Bob I will always cherish. He is gone too soon. My condolences to his family. Jean Earley Fox

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**Jean Earley Fox** - February 07, 2023 at 06:19 PM

RZ

“ Bob was a 62 'classmate of mine at Hudson High School , great guy, many memories from Hudson. Prayers to his family . Ray Zempko

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**Ray Zempko** - February 07, 2023 at 01:31 PM

MT

“ So sorry to hear of Bobby's passing. He and I played HS football together and in recent years have seen each other quite a bit at HHS Class of 62 reunions, luncheons and picnics at the River. Bobby always had a great story and never failed to make me smile. I am currently in Florida so am so sorry that I will be unable to attend services. I know he will be missed. Marco Tomaso

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**Marco Tomaso** - February 06, 2023 at 05:45 PM

RT

“ "Telstar", "Major Dundee", "Breezly Bruin".....Bob had many nicknames over the years. Always quite the character. Many funny memories and stories that I have repeated 100 times. Will miss our conversations at the Claverack Post Office about our Giants, his HHS Class of 62, his travel itinerary and visits with his "shaman" ! RIP there "Telstar" Bob and Patrice Tomaso

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**Robert and Patrice Tomaso** - February 06, 2023 at 03:02 PM