



## Robert W. Burns Jr.

October 20, 1945 - January 1, 2020

Robert W. Burns Jr, 74, of Bonita Springs, FL, formerly of Rochester, NY, passed away at home on January 1, 2020 after a brief fight against pancreatic cancer. He was born on October 20, 1945 in Newark, NY, a son of Robert W. and Muriel (Norton) Burns.

Bob retired from the Rochester Police Department. He spent the majority of his 24 years on the force with the Evidence Technicians Unit, a job that he loved and took pride in. He attended Kentucky Wesleyan College and graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology. Following his retirement from RPD, he began his own business of Accident Reconstruction. He also developed a gift for photography and enjoyed capturing the beauty of the birds and nature of Florida.

Bob is survived by his wife of 47 years, Jo Ann Gifford Burns; his daughter, Tiffany Colleen Burns; his sister Linda Burns Santino and her husband Joseph. Bob was predeceased by his parents and his brother-in-law, Steven Gifford.

Services will be at the convenience of the family at a later date. Those wishing may contribute in memory of Bob to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Blvd, Staten Island, NY 10306 or [www.tunnel2towers.org](http://www.tunnel2towers.org)

Online condolences may be offered by visiting [www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com](http://www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com).

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Robert W. Burns Jr.*

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October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *I am so sorry for the loss of Bob. We worked together in Unit “B”. Good cop, good person, fun to be around. May he rest in peace.*

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**Dane Brown** - April 06, 2021 at 09:34 PM



“ *I worked with Bob in the technicians unit and he was a true professional. After I retired and worked for a large Canadian chemical company with our US headquarters in Houston, I hired him to come there and give a class in Accident reconstruction. He did an excellent job and really impressed the Executive VP of the company. Just a very knowlegable guy. RIP Bob.*  
*Wayne Hadley*

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**Wayne Hadley** - April 06, 2021 at 08:32 PM



“ *My condolences to the Burns family. I met Bob when I was a rookie working midnights in the RPD Maple Section. He had a big smile and I liked him immediately. I always enjoyed our conversations. He was a fine policeman, evidence technician and was liked by everyone.*

*Bob is in my prayers,*

*Kevin Miskell*

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**Kevin** - April 06, 2021 at 05:22 PM

DM

“ Condolences to Bob’s family he was a great guy ,we worked together in RPD’s unit B  
May he Rest In Peace . Sorry for your loss. Doug Macaluso

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**doug macaluso** - April 06, 2021 at 03:58 PM

CS

“ Want to wish Burns Family a sincere condolences for your loss. Bob was an excellent Police Technician and always did the jobs with perfection. I pray for the Family for strength during this challenging time.

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**Carl C Simms** - April 06, 2021 at 01:44 PM

JV

“ So sorry to hear of Bob's passing. He was a police academy classmate, and I had many opportunities to experience his career during the period of time we shared on the Rochester Police Department. Bob was a true professional technician, a gentleman and a willing advisor when needed. Best wishes to the the Burns family, along with good thoughts and prayers always.

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**Jim Volke** - April 06, 2021 at 01:25 PM

GB

“ Bob was always ready and willing to help and teach young officers the art and science of crime scene investigation, and he was very good at it; highly skilled Crime Scene Evidence Technician (and there was a lot of knowledge to be imparted from experts like Bob. He will be sorely missed by his native state of NY and his adopted state of Fla. Our prayers are with the family, Gary and Bonnie Birkahn, RPD Retired.

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**Gary Birkahn** - April 06, 2021 at 12:10 PM

RD

“ Bob was always a welcome sight at a scene. He knew his job and did it well and with a little humor, no matter the situation. That sense of humor made our jobs a little easier.  
I offer my condolences to the family.  
Rob Dewey-RPD retired.

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**Rob Dewey** - April 06, 2021 at 12:03 PM

JB

“ We are sadden to hear of your loss,

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**J Boogaard** - January 27, 2020 at 11:11 AM

LS

“ We at the Museum of Wayne County History were saddened to learn of Mr. Burns' passing. It was so nice that Bob and his sister Linda were able to visit and share their memories of the time spent in this beautiful old building, and of their dad, Bob Sr.'s tenure as the last Sheriff to serve in this old WC Jail. Those connections make the Burns family very special to us. Your loss is our loss.

*Sending our deep condolences to the entire family. You are in our thoughts.*



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**Linda Stevenson** - January 23, 2020 at 01:36 PM

TU

“ I worked with Bob for many years in the Technician’ Unit. He was our class counselor and our first exposure to the professionalism of the RPD. It was a pleasure to know him and our deepest sympathies go out to his family. We will keep you all in our prayers

*Bob & Terry Urtis (Tasso)*

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**Theresa Urtis** - January 19, 2020 at 03:51 PM

KR

“ Bob was an active member of ARPALER South, the group of RPD retirees that meet monthly in Fort Myers, Florida. He is greatly missed.

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**Kenny Rowe** - January 14, 2020 at 03:54 AM

RF

“ I want to send my deepest sympathy to Bob's family. We worked together for many years, and he was always a soft spoken gentleman, and a fantastic technician. I was an investigator, and when I called for a technician and Bob responded, i knew the job was going to get done right. I didn't have to say what I wanted done, Bob knew what needed to be done, and did it. RIP brother and prayers for you and your family

*Richard A. Fantanza  
ARPALER Secretary/Treasurer*

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**Richard A. Fantanza** - January 13, 2020 at 11:52 PM

FA

“ *The Association of Rochester Police and Area Law Enforcement Retirees (ARPALER) sends prayers and condolences to the family of Officer Burns, and we salute him for his service to his community. Rest in peace Brother.*



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**Fellow Officers of ARPALER** - January 13, 2020 at 10:25 PM