



# Mr. Robert Louis Guzman

JAN 21, 1950 - APR 23, 2021



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## **Mr. Robert Louis Guzman**

JAN 21, 1950 - APR 23, 2021

**M**r. Robert Louis (Bobby) Guzman age 71, of Cosby, Tennessee died suddenly in a car accident on Friday, April 23, 2021.

Bob was an adventurer and world traveler, having lived for months at a time in places most of us only dream of: Greece, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Mexico, China, Sri Lanka, Ecuador and Thailand. He was the first (and maybe only) person to ride a bicycle the entire perimeter of the Mediterranean Sea. Bob leaves behind close friends all over the world. As Covid had curtailed his world travels, he put his energy into building a home on his beloved mesa in Hartford, Tennessee one of the most beautiful spots on this earth and we will continue its construction in his honor.

Bob was a graduate of Oakland University and taught English as a second language internationally. He was also co-owner of the Front Porch Restaurant.

Bob is survived by his six siblings Linda Guzman (Jerry Lane), Michael (Alma) Guzman, Arnold (Donna) Guzman, Joseph (Carmen) Guzman, Maria Guzman, Alicia Guzman (Tim Brooks) and a host of nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will meet at 1:45 pm Thursday, April 29, 2021 at Union Cemetery for the 2:00 pm graveside service with Brother Utsumi and Sister Denise of Smoky Mountain Peace Pagoda, Donna Guzman, Minister, Monsignor Bob Hoffstetter of Church of the Good Shepherd.

A Celebration of life will be held 2:00 pm on Friday, April 30, 2021 at Standing Bear Farm, 4255 Green Corner Road, Hartford, Tennessee, Vegetarian Pot Luck. We would be honored to see you there.

In consideration of the health and safety of all those attending services, Costner-Maloy strongly encourages that all CDC guidelines be followed, including the use of face masks.



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Funeral arrangements entrusted to Costner-Maloy



## Tribute Wall

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SG

**Scott Goodman** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Bob and I were fellow travelers in what really can be a small world. We got to know each other in San Blas, Nayarit and stayed in touch by email. A few years later, we both ended up in Bangkok where Bob was living and teaching. I went to Thailand for a long work break and Bob played a big role in helping me to reset. Bob was a charismatic, caring, intelligent, and intellectually challenging person who helped me to further expand my view of the world by presenting opposing perspectives in good natured-but-passionate argument. He relished a good verbal dust-up informed by clear thinking and sincerely held beliefs! In the picture, Bob and I are enjoying a few beers at Wong's Place, a legendary expat bar in Bangkok. Bob helped to keep me on a road of adventure and travel! Thank you, Bob.

January 16 at 6:47 PM

DR

**Dale And Nancy Raines** posted:

So sorry for your loss. We have fond memories of Bobby from the Front Porch. Love and prayers.

September 23 at 11:11 AM



## Tribute Wall

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MM

**Michael Mlejnek** posted:

Nice to have one last adventure together, Roberto. \r\nI had the chance to visit Tennessee a few times. It was a blast meeting Robert's friends and family. One thing I learned was that Roberto's family called him "Bobby." If you call Robert's family home, you can hear someone put the phone down and yell, "BOBBY! PHONE!" I had no idea people called him "Bobby" back in Tennessee. \r\nI spent two nights and three days on the Appalachian trail with Bobby. I now know what a "thru-hiker" is. I also now know what a "trail angel" is. We found a cache of beer along the trail one afternoon. When we got to camp that night, Robert recommended putting it in a cold spring for a half-hour to get it nice and chilly. We shared the beers with the other hikers at the camp site. Robert being Robert, he was able to entertain everyone all evening.\r\nRobert and I decided to do a Hash House Harriers run down in Asheville while I was in Tennessee. The Hash was a big part of Robert's life, and I am sure there are many members all over the world that will miss "Forget-Me-Not", a name which is now all too ironic. We won't forget you, Forget-Me-Not. I'm bummed we won't get a chance to run and drink together again in this life. \r\nRobert convinced me to go to Sri Lanka for his 70th birthday last year. It is zero wonder why Robert loved it there. The place is amazing. Robert took Dilip, Ishankha, and their family under his wing, and he used his experience and money to help them get their restaurant "up to code". If you search now, you will find the Reggae Shark in Tangalle still has a 4.9-star rating on Google Maps, and a 5.0-star rating on TripAdvisor. Robert was a huge part of that. \r\nIf you ever found yourself getting into an argument with Robert, you knew you better bring your A-game. The guy was extremely well-read, and he was beyond passionate in his beliefs. He was also very articulate and pointed when expressing his opinions. That is probably what I will miss the most about Robert, our intellectually stimulating conversations that still remained civil. It is getting harder and harder to find people like Robert in this world. He was peaceful, caring, smart, and fearless in sharing his thoughts. He has been a big part of carving out my particular world view, and I am sure he was a part of many others. The guy positively influenced so many people all over the world. \r\nI am content knowing that Robert was home when he passed away. He loved his family, and he loved Tennessee. Thanks to all of you that were so kind when I visited. I'm sorry I won't be able to attend his celebration of life. I'll be thinking about all of you. \r\nI'll go have a vegetarian meal, a beer, and think about my buddy now.

September 23 at 11:11 AM

KK

**Kate Kennedy** posted:

Bob was a unique person with an adventurous spirit unequalled by most and a thirst for arcane knowledge and friendship.\r\nNo one who met him could forget him.

September 23 at 11:11 AM



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WH

**Wendy Hogan** posted:

Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

September 23 at 11:11 AM

PS

**Pat Stephenson** posted:

So sorry for the loss of Mr Guzman..I got to know him while working at Lowes in Newport. He was a good man. My deepest sympathy to his family..

September 23 at 11:11 AM

KW

**Karen Williamson** posted:

So sad he was a great guy

September 23 at 11:11 AM

LW

**Laura Wozniak** posted:

We love you, Bobby, and will miss your amazing presence. God rest you.\r\nWe pray comfort and peace to all Bobby's family and loved ones 🙏❤

September 23 at 11:11 AM

FH

**Frank And Sandra Hoilman** posted:

We are so sorry to hear of your loss. We know that he be sorely missed by many.

September 23 at 11:11 AM



## Media

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Scott Goodman shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

January 16 at 6:47 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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