



Robert Austin Hawkins

February 19, 2013

Mr. Robert Austin Hawkins, age 81, of Auburn, GA, passed away on Tuesday, February 19, 2013. He is survived by his wife of twenty-nine years, Jean Sims Hawkins, Auburn, GA; son and daughter-in-law, Randall and Cara Hawkins, Woodstock, GA; daughter and son-in-law, Suzanne and Paul Fogleman, Hickory, NC; step son, Jason Harris, Chicago, IL; grandchildren, Eric Hawkins, Nick Hawkins, Austin Fogleman and Paul Fogleman; two great grandchildren, Lily Anne Hawkins and Bo Hawkins; brother and sister-in-law, Jerald and Patt Hawkins, Ft. Myers, FL; and sisters, Francis Farr, Rocksprings, GA and Carol Davis, Marietta, GA.; numerous nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, March 15, 2013, at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel of Flanigan Funeral Home. Interment will follow at 2:30 p.m. at Georgia National Cemetery Columbarium in Canton, GA with Navy Military Honors. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Friday morning March 15, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

A native Atlantan, Mr. Hawkins graduated from Hoke Smith high school. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War, receiving training in electronics and discovering his life-long passion both for photography and for travel. As a Navy veteran, he received his AB in history, with a minor in science, from Oglethorpe University. After teaching for five years at Atlanta's Grady High School, Mr. Hawkins applied his teaching skills and knowledge of science to his work as a lecturer for NASA, traveling across the Southeast with the Space Mobile to educate students and civic groups about the Space Program.

Leaving NASA, Bob Hawkins received his MA in history from Georgia State University and worked for the Georgia Department of Education, demonstrating instructional programs to teachers on behalf of Georgia Public TV, and headed publication of the Georgia ETV Network Program Guide. During this time and following his retirement from the Georgia Department of Education, he taught history at Georgia Perimeter College until 2005 as an adjunct professor.

In his every personal and professional role, with unique warmth, kindness, wit, intelligence, and insight, Robert A. Hawkins shared his extensive knowledge of history, his delight in teaching, his skill and artistry as a darkroom photographer and digital imager, and his love of music and books.

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Austin Hawkins*

November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM

B3

“ *Jean,
I will remember Robert for his knowledge of history and colorful insights into the places he's traveled. He was truly a gentleman and a scholar. May peace be with you always.*

Barbara Cabibi 3/14/13 - March 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *Mr. Hawkins (never knew him as Bob) was one of the first teachers I had when I started Grady High School, transplanted from Brooklyn, NY. I remember him fondly, especially his warm smile and gracious manner.*

Terry (Charyn) Freedman - March 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

HT

“ *He was one of my favorite customers. I will miss his smiling face so much.*

Holland Tomkins - March 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ *Dear Jean and Family,
Andy and I remember Bob as a kind and friendly ambassador for Christ who had a wonderful gift for photography that he generously shared. It was our pleasure and delight to know him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Warmest regards,
Emily Moon*

Emily Moon - March 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ *We'll miss Uncle Bob and his sweet smile. He had so many loves in his life...family, photography, History, NASA, teaching and traveling. His was a life well lived and loved. We'll celebrate the man he was and cherish the memories he has left us. God Bless and save us a spot in Heaven.*

Charlene Hawkins Woolfe - March 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Bob became my friend via his wife Jean, when she worked at Data General. We shared a love of Computers and Photography and especially Photo Shop. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Hawkins family in this time of great loss. You will be missed my friend.
KenH

Ken Hawkins - March 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ These are my heartfelt condolences for your loss. God is near to those calling upon him and he will hear their cry for help. Psa 145:18,19

M Harris - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ A former student from Bob Hawkins' early teaching years at Grady High, I was touched - and honored to read that we Grady students were among his first, and that he went on to such a distinguished career igniting others with his passion.

I remember that he treated us like grown-ups, respecting our choices and supporting our enthusiasms, opening doors, that were -- not only closed to us before his teaching -- but that we never even saw were there.

Linda Secretan - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ I had the pleasure of getting to know Bob over my years at Georgia ETV. Things seemed brighter when he was around the "Stewart Avenue" studios back when. He knew what was important in life and had a great sense of humor. God Bless your family. Sincerely, Steven Panayioto

Steven Panayioto - February 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Don't stop me, if you've heard this one, particularly if you heard it from me. Maybe one day you will be my age, and you may feel different about old geezer jokes, anecdotes, and twice-told experiences.

I have cited previously more than once, and probably will again, that the Monroe Doctrine was the brainchild not of President James Monroe, by whose name this cornerstone of U.S. international policy is known, but rather his Secretary of State, John Quincy Adams. Of the long list of special and interesting things I know about John Quincy Adams, this was the first, and I learned in the American History class of Robert Hawkins at Grady High School in Atlanta.

Equally unforgettable to me from the American History class lecture notes of Robert Hawkins was the anecdote about Calvin Coolidge, sometimes known as "silent Cal." A woman allegedly said to him, "I have a bet with someone that I can get you to say more than three words to me."

President Coolidge is quoted as having said, "Madam, you lose."

General William T. Sherman, after marching through Georgia, was urged to run for President of the United States. His response: "If nominated, I will not run. If elected, I will not serve."

These are not necessarily the most important things I learned from Robert Hawkins. What I really learned was a love of American history. Teachers like Robert Hawkins are the keepers of the flame.

Bill Cotter - February 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LV

“ I met Bob quite a few years back in Photo Barn. Common interests brought us together such as photography, music and literature. With the passage of time, we became good, close friends.

Bob has left us, family and friends, as he flies West toward the sunset. As we say our goodbyes and comprehend our loss, let us also feel joy in our hearts...he is free of all pain and suffering, and having the time of his life in a better place. I believe he will be waiting for those he holds dear, for this is a journey we all must make.

Luis Vallecillo

Luis Vallecillo - February 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ We will miss our friend Bob and send love and prayers to Jeanie and all the family,
Love,
Sam & Susan

Sam & Susan Reynolds - February 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ I was Technical Director at GETV when Bob was working there. He was always a friendly and open person, always serious with his work. The family has my condolences. 73
Neal Browder Elberton, Georgia

Neal Browder - February 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Dear Jeanne,

You will have the strength to do whatever needs to be done. You have been Bob's strength through so much.

He was one of a kind! He was one of the photographers at Fred's and my wedding, in 1981. Before that, I knew him at GETV. He kept us laughing and distracted from the tedium of the days. After retirement, he often joined the rest of the GETV GEEZERS for raucous lunches with reminiscences.

You have a wonderful family together. They will be the support you will need. Wish I could join those in attendance on March 15, but I now live in Pennsylvania and it is a bit of commute. I'll be there in spirit, however.

Love and peace to you and yours.

Sincerely,

Margo Smith Dixon

Margo Dixon - February 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Back in the day, at the Georgia "Educational/Public" Television Network..... Bob and I enjoyed many shared stories about Georgia history and especially bits and pieces of trivia concerning historic Oakland Cemetery. He smiled with his eyes, more than his mouth. I will miss him.

Richard Westaway - February 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ I, too, remember Bob for his smile. I can not think of a time when we talked that it wasn't on his face. You will be remembered in my prayers.

Tommy Schuber - February 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ He was a very good man and friend.

Dr. and Mrs. John W. Stanford,jr. - February 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Although we didn't see each other very often, Bob was one of the Hawkins I was proud to call cousin.

Dorothy Kent Cummins - February 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM