



## Robert Leroy Nape

June 25, 1951 - January 2, 2021

Robert Leroy Nape passed away in Upstate New York on January 2, 2021. Bob was born on June 25, 1951 in Scranton, Pa. where he first developed his lifelong love for basketball. This love for the sport led him from being a star on the court at Scranton Preparatory School to being one of the organizers of the Scranton summer league to his college career at Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY. Bob's love for the sport and desire to instill this in others motivated him to volunteer as a youth basketball coach in Ithaca, NY where he lived at the time of his death and where he continued to love playing pickup ball with a group of men who play well into their seventies.

Bob was devoted to and is survived by his mom, Patricia Nape and his siblings, Mary Ann (Edward) Pietrowski, Patricia (Jerry) Jennings, Madelyn Pfleckl and his close companion, Elizabeth Salon and her daughter, Kristen Steele. Bob is predeceased by his dad, Robert Leo Nape and his sister, Nancy (Kevin Lavelle).

Bob loved a good adventure, whether it be hitchhiking all over Europe or riding his ten-speed bike from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean with a close friend. Passionate about the environment, Bob moved to Philadelphia, Pa. and became an advocate for alternative energy starting his own business, Solar is Hot, installing systems for hot water heating and swimming pools. During his eighteen years in Philadelphia, Bob helped to organize and ran the Philadelphia Junior Solar Sprints, a competitive solar car contest for junior high school students. While in Philadelphia he developed a love for Ultimate Frisbee, a game that he played with PADA (Philadelphia Area Disc Alliance). In his honor the Spirit of the Game Award is given each year exemplifying Bob's belief that the joy of playing the game and the treatment of one's opponent should not be sacrificed for the sake of competitiveness.

Due to health reasons, in 2002, Bob moved to Ithaca, NY. Seeking a less stressful lifestyle he wanted to live where he could look up and see all the stars in the nighttime sky. He hiked in the woods, swam in the falls, biked around town, and sailed on the lake. In Ithaca, he continued to spread the word of alternative energy through Solar is Hot. Bob was a

peace activist willing to march for human right's issues including participation in the bus caravan for humanitarian aid to Cuba.

Bob loved music, teaching himself how to play the guitar, the piano and singing with an adult group in Ithaca. Bob will be missed by his many nieces and nephews who will always remember him for the sing-alongs, the roundabout ping-pong games, the water balloon tosses and the basketball games.

Bob was passionate about basketball, ultimate frisbee, nature, solar, the environment, and music but his greatest love was his love for people. He connected and engaged with everyone he met in a genuine caring and empathetic way. He was a great listener who excelled at drawing others out and sharing his compassion and wisdom. His generosity and kindness touched many lives. His was a life well lived.

Contributions in Bob's memory may be made to Loaves and Fishes of Tompkins County, Ithaca, NY.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held on Saturday, June 26, 2021 at 2 pm at Amazing Grace Bed & Breakfast 136 Hunt Hill Rd., Ithaca, NY.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN **26.** 2:00 PM (ET)

Amazing Grace Bed & Breakfast  
136 Hunt Hill Road  
Ithaca , NY 14850

# Tribute Wall

LR

“ This is a wonderful interview with Bob on the radio a couple of years ago.

<https://www.weatherofthemind.org/wisdom-of-scranton-bob/>

Liz Robinson - October 30, 2021 at 03:01 PM

JL

“ I was Bobby's 8th grade basketball coach at Cathedral High School. From the moment I first met him you knew he was a genuine talent; respectful, caring, aggressive but kind as well, We visited several times when he lived in Philadelphia. God Bless You, Bob. Your life was well lived. We will miss you. John "Jets" Lyons

john Lyons - January 25, 2021 at 11:26 AM

CG

“ A beautiful smile. A beautiful person. My heart breaks for Mrs. Nape & family and all of us who knew the "Cavalier Cutie." I have never spent a moment with Bobby that we didn't laugh. Rest in peace. - Cissy

Cissy Gavin - January 20, 2021 at 07:38 PM

RS

“ I can't think of anything bad to say about Bobby.. Not that I'd want to , and especially in this memorial . I've tried , but I just can't . What an upbeat , positive guy Bobby was . Every person whose path he crossed was better off for having been fortunate enough to have known him. Way to go Bobby!! Your life was truly well lived . I am sad you are gone , but your positive energy will resonate within me until it is my time to go elsewhere. Thanks for the memory . My heart goes out to his Mom , Pat , and all of the Nape's. You were the " Man in the arena .....Who knew the triumph of high achievement.....But., when you failed , you failed while daring greatly so that your soul will never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat " - an excerpt from Teddy Roosevelt 's poem "The Man in the Arena " .....Peace and love , Bobby-----  
Bob Shlesinger

Robert E Shlesinger - January 12, 2021 at 12:07 PM

CC

“ I will never forget the day that Bobby and my brother Gregg left on their bikes in the summer of 1976 for their trek cross country from the George Washington Bridge in New York City to the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. I was just back from Paris where I was living for a brief visit. Their blue eyes were full of excitement and energy. We ate at our parents' table in Montclair, New Jersey, because our family believed that every venture must begin with a good meal. And off they went. That's how I'll always see Bobby.

*Cheryl Carlesimo and family*

---

**Cheryl Carlesimo** - January 11, 2021 at 12:37 PM

JM

“ I'll never forget how kind Bobby was to me as a freshman at Prep. Bob was a senior and always greater me with a smile and an encouraging word.

*Thank you Bobby!*

---

**Joe McDonald** - January 11, 2021 at 10:44 AM

BO

“ One of the nicest guys I ever met. Always positive attitude. Smart, funny and of course terrific basketball player, the best of our era. I am greatly saddened by his passing.

*Bob O'Brien  
Huntington, NY*

---

**Bob O'Brien** - January 10, 2021 at 12:38 PM

RG

“ Bobby was the very representative of our high school class, Scranton Prep 1969: Smart. Friendly. Athletic. Witty. Human. So glad we had the chance to catch up at our 50th reunion. Rest in Peace.

---

**Richard Garofalo** - January 10, 2021 at 11:17 AM

LR

“ Bob was the beating heart of the Junior Solar Sprint every year in Philadelphia. Even after he moved to Ithaca he came back every year to manage the race. His calm, generous spirit inspired and motivated everyone. We all felt at ease with Bob at the helm. He was truly a wonder. We love you Bob, Liz Robinson and everyone at the Philadelphia Solar Energy Association.

---

**Liz Robinson** - January 09, 2021 at 05:39 PM

LR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



---

**Liz Robinson** - January 09, 2021 at 05:36 PM

BN

“ Bobby was a friend to me and my entire family since high school. The obituary was a perfect description of this very gentle and kind soul who was loved and admired by everyone who had the fortune to know him. His passing is heartbreaking. My thoughts and prayers go to his family and to those with whom he shared his life and his love. Billy Nealon

---

**Billy Nealon** - January 09, 2021 at 01:06 PM

LK

My husband, Frank and I had the great fortune of meeting up with Bob every five years at the Prep reunions. We are so saddened by the news of his death. He will always be remembered as one of the special people who was loved and valued by so many. His obituary was a perfect description of his outstanding qualities. May his family and closest friends keep his bright light shining as they grieve this tremendous loss.

*Laila McGee Kane*

---

**Laila Kane** - January 10, 2021 at 01:33 PM

RB

Wow, I've knew Bob for almost 30 years in the solar energy field. He was one of the kindest people I have ever met and I am already missing him very much.

*Rich Bonte*

---

**Rich Bonte** - January 11, 2021 at 03:18 PM