



Robert A. "Bobby" Drude

December 5, 1930 - March 2, 2017

Robert "Bobby" Drude, a loving father, husband, grandfather, brother, and friend to all, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 2, 2017. Bobby believed in living life to the fullest and did until the very end. He was a lover of life and family and never met a stranger. He loved passing on his knowledge to younger generations and helping others realize and fulfill their dreams. He served three years in the Coast Guard, which he'd joined right after high school. After the Coast Guard, Bobby re-established his roots here in Ponchatoula by joining with family members and starting his first business – Drude's Hardware, Inc. He became an avid member of the community by first joining the Jaycees and later an active member of the Lions Club, Crime stoppers, and American Legion Post 47. While running the Hardware store, Bobby developed a love of real estate and grew his small office in the back of the store into a still-thriving real estate corporation. In 1972, Bobby opened Bobby Drude Real Estate. Soon after, he became President of the Tangipahoa Board of Realtors. Bobby's outgoing, ambitious, and caring personality brought him far in life, both personally and in his career. He loved to travel, experience new things, meet new people, and most of all he loved family and friends. Bobby's legacy will live on in his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild. He will never be forgotten and will always be remembered smiling, loving life, and having the most generous heart one can be blessed with.

Bobby is survived by his wife, Beverly Anne Ross Davies Drude; daughters,

Laurie D. Allen (Bobby Allen); step-daughters, Cecelia McGregory, Theresa Tillotson, and Mary Jean Davies; sons, Brent Drude; step-sons, Billy Davies, and Paul Davies; brothers, Jake Drude (Mary Ellen), and David Drude; grandchildren, Kenny Barnes, and Luke Allen; great-granddaughter, Lily Barnes; as well as numerous step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Ms. Margie Battles Drude; parents, Louise L. Drude and Carl F. Drude, Sr.; brothers, Melvin Drude, Carl Drude Jr, Alvin Drude and Raymond Drude; and sisters, Rita Walz and Carleen McClendon.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the visitation from the chapel of Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home, Ponchatoula, on Sunday, March 5, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Visitation will resume at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Monday, March 6, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. until the Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. Fr. Cayet Mangiaracina will officiate the service with interment to follow in Parklawn Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Parklawn Memorial Gardens

41372 Thompson Dr.
Hammond, LA 70403

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 5. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - Ponchatoula, LA
1190 Highway 51
Ponchatoula, LA 70454
(985) 370-9296

Visitation

MAR 6. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
255 North 8th Street
Ponchatoula, LA

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
255 North 8th Street
Ponchatoula, LA

Tribute Wall



“ He first called me the Bicycle Lady, and then one year rolled up his sleeves and helped me make the Toys Giveaway a huge success, by donating 24 bikes in various condition. That was just the beginning of his generosity. He loaned me the 2 car garage he and his brother owned, over near Walmart, to store all the bicycles. During this 4 month project, I learned a lot from Bobby. He was passionate about making sure that all kids had a bike to ride, no matter the condition, saying he was one of 9 kids, and was so grateful to get a hand-me-down bike to ride when he was a kid. We ended up giving away 150 bicycles thanks to the kindness and generosity of Mr. Bobby Drude. What a guy. What a wonderful human being he was. His light will shine forever. Gone, but ever forgotten. Rest in Peace. You have touched my life in ways I cannot express. Love you, miss you. Nancy Lowentritt

Nancy Lowentritt - March 08, 2017 at 11:49 PM

CP

“ Mr. Bobby was a fine man. He and Joe and a few more kept Crime Stoppers alive in Tangipahoa Parish from '92 on. He will be missed.

Chester Pritchett - March 06, 2017 at 01:16 PM

MH

“ I remember Bobby when I was a 15 kid playing in the woods and a man on tractor was mowing. It was Bobby making Nellwoods Drive. He stopped and talked to me friendly. Years later I became his dentist, and respect and cherish friendship to this day. Bobby will be missed by many he met and I sadly miss him. Mike Haight

Mike Haight - March 06, 2017 at 07:32 AM

PA

“ My condolences to the family,
One of the hardest times we face is the loss of a loved one. During this time the grief can seem unbearable, but when we draw close to God through prayer we feel a sense of relief. (James 4:8) Draw close to family and friends for comfort also. Remember all the fond memories of Robert, and cherish them. May God grant you peace and comfort.

Pat - March 06, 2017 at 06:54 AM

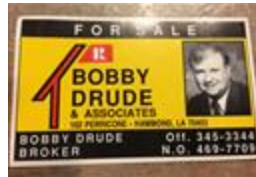
BY

“ I met Mr Crude years ago.I waited on him at the job I worked.He was all ways friendly to everyone and everyone respected him.He was a pillar of our community and would help a person if he could.Rest in peace Mr Drude.

Barbara Helg Young - March 05, 2017 at 03:39 PM



“ These were Dad's business cards in the early 90's



Brent Drude - March 05, 2017 at 12:03 PM

SH

“ My wife and I met Bobby when er were planning our move into Tangipahoa Parish. We couldn't have been luckier to have found such a nice person. We have run into Bobby over the years and have always been warmly greeted. He will be missed by many. Brent Sheryl and I send our condolences for your loss.



Sheryl and Bill Hauck - March 05, 2017 at 10:30 AM

Jacquelyn Hoover

“ I talked with Bobby Drude a number of times before I actually moved into Tangipahoa Parish and had the chance to meet him. I eventually went to work at his office and had the privilege of his friendship. He often called me "stepdaughter" - I saw that as a big compliment. He was one of the good guys, and will be greatly missed.

Jacquie Hoover

Jacquelyn Hoover - March 05, 2017 at 09:07 AM

GA

“ So sorry for your loss and the loss of a long time dear friend. He used to tell me stories about my dad every time I would see him. And our prayers are with you.

Gordon Anderson - March 05, 2017 at 12:52 AM

TF

“ The GAUMOND family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Robert A. "Bobby" Drude.



The GAUMOND family - March 04, 2017 at 08:04 PM



“ From the Bertha Ourso Family purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Robert A. "Bobby" Drude.



From the Bertha Ourso Family - March 04, 2017 at 06:03 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Brent Drude - March 04, 2017 at 05:41 PM



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Brent Drude - March 04, 2017 at 05:12 PM

BM

“ I am so sorry Uncle Bobby is no longer with us, but am so glad I got to see him last year before I left for an extended visit out of state. I always enjoyed hearing my Dad (Alvin Drude) talk about the fun he had on Blind River with Uncle Bobby many years ago. My Dad's time was destined to be short, so memorable times with his family were especially important. After my Dad died in 1978 I was devastated; I loved and missed him terribly, so Uncle Bobby threw a trip together for my mother and me. It was so nice to be with family; every day Uncle Bobby remained positive and upbeat for us. Gosh-- we needed that! I was only 22 but that short trip helped me get back into life again. My sincere condolences to everyone who loved and enjoyed having Uncle Bobby in our family!

With sympathy from

Bonnie Drude Marin, Dave Marin and Family

Bonnie Drude Marin - March 04, 2017 at 05:05 PM

FM

“ I remember those early days when Bobby and I went to 7:00 am mass then went and had coffee and "shot the bull" for about hour or so. Really enjoyed all our talks , Bobby gave me a lot of guidance during my early years. W

He was a good friend

Francis Martino

francis martino - March 04, 2017 at 08:39 AM

BL

It's quite true that he never met a stranger. A one of a kind absolutely fine man who will be missed. My condolences to the entire family.

BlaineCarruth - March 04, 2017 at 02:20 PM

VF

Bobby was another of those older cousins that my father told me about and who I would see at the family funerals and weddings, he and Raymond both, but they were definitely two of the best. Bobby always had a "cute" joke, a pleasant word and a sincere way of making you feel like part of the group. He was definitely one of the Good Guys and will be greatly missed. My deepest sympathies to the family on his loss.

Veronica Fannaly - March 04, 2017 at 03:49 PM



So Sorry to learn of Bobby's passing the other day. I had only known Bobby for a short period of time, but was so delighted when he agreed to re-activate himself in our American Legion Post 47 this year. I was looking forward to working with him on many projects for our Legion. He was so proud of his daddy's American Legion membership in our Post.

God Bless Him and his entire family,

Sincerely,

Jack Catalinotto, Commander, AL Post 47, Ponchatoula, LA

Jack Catalinotto - March 05, 2017 at 04:42 PM