



Errol L. Foss

December 16, 1940 - September 1, 2009

Errol L. Foss, a 41-year resident of Royal Oak, died September 1, 2009 at his Royal Oak residence. He was born December 16, 1940 in Detroit. Errol was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, having served in Battle Creek, Thailand and the Philippines; a member of the Board of Trustees at First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak; and an active volunteer at the Detroit Zoo and Detroit Institute of Arts. A long-time sales executive, Errol spent much of his career with IBM, where he achieved regular honors as a top selling account manager. Errol will be greatly missed by his surviving family, wife, Beverly Foss of Royal Oak; daughters, Alisa Scott Hill of Royal Oak, and Jennifer Foss of Lake Oswego, OR; grandchildren, Benjamin, Katherine and Adam Hill of Royal Oak, and Natalie Foss of Lake Oswego, OR; and brother-in-law, Bill Mary Brinkman of Decatur, AL Visitation will be held Friday 1-8 p.m. at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Road 4 blocks E. of Woodward, Royal Oak, MI 48067. Errol will lie in state on Saturday 10 a.m. until the time of the funeral 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak, 529 Hendrie Blvd., Royal Oak, MI, with the Rev. Dr. Thomas Rice officiating. The burial will take place on Monday 10:30 a.m. at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak, 529 Hendrie Blvd., Royal Oak, MI 48067 or Detroit Zoological Society, P.O. Box 8237, Royal Oak, MI 48068-8237. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Tribute Wall

ML

“ To my cousin Bev. daughters Alisa and Jennifer and their families. John and I are very sadden to hear the news of Errol's passing so sudden. Our condolences to you. Anything we are able to do, please be in touch. I have passed the news on to the rest of the family. May the Lord be with you at this time. God Bless!

Marleen Lovato - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ Dear Bev, Our deepest condolences on your loss. I will truly miss our luncheons at the Royal Oak Brewery. We enjoyed reminiscing about families, our cruise together and new cruise plans. The Internet world has also lost a wonderful intellect. His photo e-mails always took you on an adventure to the far reaches of the world. Errol and I always seemed on the same wave length when it came to exchanging humor. I think I have almost every e-mail that Errol sent me. They were just to darn good to delete. A gentle man that we will dearly miss. Fondly, Ken & Maria

Ken & Maria Wilson - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ To the Foss family, my deepest sympathies. My thoughts our with you.

Brant Hauman - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ Dear Bev, For me Errol will always be as he was when I knew him in the Air Force--bright, funny, charming, skinny as a rail, and 22 years old. He was my best pal at Officer Training School, and I'm proud that we kept in touch over the decades. My deepest sympathy to you and the girls. --Frank

Frank Murphy - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Dear Bev, I am so sad to hear the news about Errol. He was a very kind man and one of my favorite clients. He was very proud of you and his girls and his grandchildren. I loved receiving his emails. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Lynn Heidi Sands

Lynn Sands - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TE

“ Very Sorry to hear of the lost of Mr. Foss. May God Prove to be with the family and may he bless the family very much. Please Read Isaiah 41:10 and Numbers 6:24-26.

Terrance - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FE

“ Our deepest sympathy to Bev & family at this time!

Fran & Rick Elder - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JU

“ Sending peace, love, and comfort to my dear friend Jen and the entire Foss family. Love, Jodi

Jodi Updyke - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ *Bev, We are so sorry for your loss. Errol was one of Tony's favorite co-workers: friendly, fun, smart, and much appreciated. We are so luckily to have worked with both of you. Our heart goes out to you and your family. With love and sympathy. Tony and Lisa Nader*

Tony and Lisa Nader - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RN

“ *Errol will be greatly missed at the Church and among our Gallery Services volunteers at the DIA*

Robert & Barbara Nelson - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

“ *Old Barns, Old People & Old Friends! A stranger came by the other day with an offer that set me to thinking. He wanted to buy the old barn that sits out by the highway. I told him right off he was crazy. He was a city type, you could tell by his clothes, his car, his hands, and the way he talked. He said he was driving by and saw that beautiful barn sitting out in the tall grass and wanted to know if it was for sale. I told him he had a funny idea of beauty. Sure, it was a handsome building in its day. But there's been a lot of winters pass with their snow and ice and howling wind. The summer sun's beat down on that old barn till all the paint's gone, and the wood has turned silver gray. Now the old building leans a good deal, looking kind of tired. Yet that fellow called it beautiful. That set me to thinking. I walked out to the field and just stood there, gazing at that old barn. The stranger said he planned to use the lumber to line the walls of his den in a new country home he's building down the road. He said you couldn't get paint that beautiful. Only years of standing in the weather, bearing the storms and scorching sun, only that can produce beautiful barn wood. It came to me then. We're a lot like that, you and I. Only it's on the inside that the beauty grows with us. Sure we turn silver gray too... and lean a bit more than we did when we were young and full of sap. But the Good Lord knows what He's doing. And as the years pass He's busy using the hard weather of our lives, the dry spells and the stormy seasons to do a job of beautifying our souls that nothing else can produce. They took the old barn down Tuesday and hauled it away to beautify a rich man's house. And I reckon someday, like you I'll be hauled off to Heaven to take on whatever chores the Good Lord has for us on the Great Sky Ranch. And I suspect we'll be more beautiful then for the seasons we've been through here.....and just maybe even add a bit of beauty to our Father's house. May there be peace within you today Bev. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. And I do sincerely thank God for wonderful friends like Errol who cared about us all even though we showed signs of weathering. Even for those of us who showed lots of weathering!*

Paul Daelemans - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HL

“ *Mr. Foss made possible one of the greatest friendships I have -- his daughter, Jen. For that I am so grateful. Much love and peace to the entire Foss family.*

Heidi Rehak Lovy - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ *So sorry to hear about your loss. Errol always made me feel welcome, even when I overstayed, which I remember doing quite often. I wish you strength and peace at this most difficult time and in the days ahead.*

Theresa Mohr - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WH

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you always. Wendy, Phil, Joshua and Christian Hoekwater*

Wendy and Phil Hoekwater - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *Unassuming, courteous, level, thoughtful and always making people feel welcome are the immediate qualities that come to mind regarding Errol. His smiling face will be forever remembered at Spider Lake. Our condolences to not only you Bev, Alisa and Jenny, but to your extended families and the children he made possible. His legacy lives on. God bless you Errol.*

jack and sue leishman - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Errol was the founder and CEO of the "Friday Morning Marauders" a group of five volunteer "Zoo Amabassadors" at the Detroit Zoo. I had the pleasure of working with him for four years. He was The Model Zoo Ambassador. He sort of "wrote" the job description by his words and by his actions. He was very friendly to zoo visitors and extremely helpful. He thoroughly enjoyed meeting people. We often joked about the Marauders' "secret handshake" which really didn't exist. We had many lunches together at the Royal Oak Brewery. He called me Marauder Mike and I called him Boss Foss. We did some volunteer work downtown for the zoo once; on the way back we had lunch in Hamtramck. He liked the Polish food...or at least he said that he did! He sent many nice e-mail messages, often with decent jokes, beautiful pictures of nature, and military-related material. He was very proud of his daughters and his grandchildren, his M.S.U. Spartans, and his military background. This is still quite a shock, Beverly. We will dearly miss him.

Mike Poterala - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Oh how saddened we were to hear of your families loss. We will keep you in our prayers and if you need anything please give us a call. Love, the Sementkowski Family

Chris, Lisa, Amanda and Max Sementkowski - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Sending lots of love your way. Our hearts are saddened by the loss of such a sweet soul. Blessings to you all.

The Hasley Family - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dear Beverly and Family, We sincerely enjoyed working with Errol at Battle Creek. He was one of our finest weapons controllers and this allowed our Air Division to achieve many top honors. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless Errol.

Don and Bev Bunce - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you and your family. Paul, Kelly, Jacob & Samantha Bekemeyer

Paul Bekemeyer - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Dear Bev and Family, I shall always treasure Errol's freindship and kindness. He was truly a wonderful neighbor and lived his life to the fullest. He shall be missed but his memory will live on. Know you are in my prayers. love, denise

Denise Eakins - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Errol, Bev, and I were USAF buddies and longtime friends. We will miss Errol tremendously, however all the memories will live on.

Mac and Karen McMullin - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Our hearts are heavy. Errol's smile, generosity of spirit, love and concern for all brightened our lives. Our love and prayers are with you all. He will be greatly missed! Love you, Joe, Debi and Family

Joe & Debi Charbonneau - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ *Bev & Family: Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this very sad time. Ron, Monica & Zachary*

Ron Maurer & Family - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM