



Mr. Robert Walter Dews

March 23, 1939 - December 26, 2015

Robert Walter ("Bobby") Dews, 76, died on December 26, 2015, at Phoebe-Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany, Ga. Honoring Mr. Dews' expressed wishes, a private service is being planned by the family.

Mr. Dews was born in Clinton, Iowa on March 23, 1939, but lived the majority of his life in his beloved Edison, Georgia. He was preceded in death by his father and stepmother, Robert Porter Dews and Margery Killingsworth Dews, and his mother Marian Hiers.

He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Glenda Bolin Dews; his daughter and son-in-law Dana Dews Gates and John Paul Gates of Richmond, Va.; his grandson and namesake Robert Dawson Gates; his sister Patricia MacLean of Trussville, Ala.; his stepsister Marcia Killingsworth of Edison, Ga.; stepbrothers Lawrence Killingsworth of Spokane, Wa. and Scott Killingsworth of Atlanta; and several nieces and nephews. Additionally, Mr. Dews leaves behind numerous cousins who consider him more of an uncle or a brother than a cousin.

Mr. Dews graduated from Edison High School, and played baseball and basketball for the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets before being drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals. He followed in the footsteps of his stepmother and other family members by obtaining his Associate's degree from Andrew College in Cuthbert, Ga., and he later graduated with a Bachelor's degree from West Georgia College.

Mr. Dews' athletic career speaks for itself. He was inducted into the Georgia

Institute of Technology Hall of Fame and was a player, manager, scout and coach in professional baseball, most notably for the Atlanta Braves, for over 53 years. In addition to his love for The Game, he had a lifelong passion for fishing and quail hunting, and he was an accomplished author, having written several novels and books of short poetry and prose. He most recently served as the writer-in-residence for Andrew College in Cuthbert, Ga. A deeply spiritual man, Mr. Dews was a member of First United Methodist Church of Edison, Ga.

Mr. Dews was a natural athlete, a masterful storyteller, a passionate family man, and a beloved friend to all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Bobby Dews Memorial Athletic Scholarship Fund for Calhoun County High School in Edison, Ga. Fund is to be established; please send donations for holding to the Bank of Edison, 476 Turner Street, Edison, Ga., 39846. In addition, contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church in Edison, Ga., or the Albany Rescue Mission in Albany, Ga

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Robert Walter Dews*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mr. Robert Walter Dews*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mr. Robert Walter Dews*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Bobby and I were at Andrew College long enough to become friends.*

He was a gifted athlete and mastered most sports quickly except golf. We were playing the 9 hole course in Cuthbert and Bobby was so frustrated by the 4th hole that he threw his club up in a big pine tree and it stuck. He proceeded to get several more clubs stuck in the tree then stormed off the course. I finished the nine holes then drove my car around the road by the 4th green and watched Bobby climbing the tree to retrieve his clubs.

Couldn't help but smile.

Brooke Brooks - August 25, 2018 at 07:32 AM

CR

“ *Dana and J.P., you're in my thoughts and in the thoughts of many others at Watkins during this difficult time.*



Chuck Rhode - January 07, 2016 at 07:56 AM

RK

“ *I would like to express sincerest sympathies to the family of Bobby Dews. My name is Rudy Kinard. I was most fortunate to have had Bobby as manager in my first year of pro baseball in the Florida Instructional League at St. Petersburg, Fla. in 1972. He left a lifelong positive impression upon me. He was an incredible person. God truly blessed all who had the honor of knowing Bobby.*

Rudy Kinard - January 05, 2016 at 10:15 PM

“ Glenda and Dana,

Incredibly saddened to hear the news of Bobby's passing, and send along my sincerest condolences. Like many others, I had the good fortune of playing for and coaching with Bobby in the Braves organization.

His impact on players, coaches and baseball administrators was significant. So many of us claim Bobby as "the best manager I ever played for", or "the person who influenced me most as a manager, coach or instructor". I certainly fall into that group.

Bobby was a remarkable ambassador for the game of baseball, and teacher of the game of life.

More importantly, it was Bobby's thoughtful, unselfish way that was the real gift. Interactions with Bobby were never about him unless to shed light on mistakes he had made, and lessons he had learned. Always humble, never boastful.

Bobby was a substantive person; intelligent, insightful and reverent. In the business of professional sports where humility comes in small doses, Bobby had plenty for all of us.

Since leaving the game in 1995, I was blessed to see Bobby from time to time. The last time was in spring training 2010. As usual, he asked me about my wife Juliana, and three daughters. Once again, it was about me not him, and that in a word was "Dewsy".

We will miss him dearly, yet his remarkable spirit lives on in all of us. The beat goes on...

*Matt West
Pinehurst, North Carolina*

JB

“ Dear Cousin Glenda, I was saddened to hear of Bobby's passing. I am truly sorry and pray that God's love will carry you through this difficult time.



Although I didn't know Bobby personally, (only meeting him once), I knew of his professional life and his caring charitable ways. He shall be missed and remembered for a long time to come. A friend once told me, "a person is not truly gone until no one is left to remember them." He shall not be truly gone for a long long time.

To you and yours, from Joe and Sue Bolin family, God bless you and keep you love until you shall meet him again.

Love,
Joe V Bolin

Joe V Bolin - December 31, 2015 at 04:42 PM

RB

“ Bobby showed up at some of my baseball games in American legion high school and college I guess I was good enough for a look but not quite pro material. But it was a few years later I went to pick up my white chip in an Albany church he approached me afterwards and congratulated me . I asked him what he was doing there and he said same reason you're here so a deep friendship and understanding of each other began . I would see him in Albany , St. Simons and West Palm Beach during spring training we would go to meetings do dinner talk baseball and life it was always a pure joy . He was a fine man and I will miss him . Reid Baynard

Reid baynard - December 30, 2015 at 07:52 PM

CK

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Bobby only a short time ago through tennis at Doublegate CC. I instantly realized that he was a very genuine person. I went out and bought one of his books and looked forward to playing tennis with him on Wednesdays. He will certainly be missed on the courts.

Cory Kunkle

Cory Kunkle - December 30, 2015 at 05:50 PM

GH

“ There are no words I can say or write to express how much I owed this Man Bobby Dewes, Commander, Dewsey to some of us. I knew him as my manager, my coach, my mentor, even got to coach with him, but Mostly he was My Friend, he was a Loyal Brave, 35+ yrs straight working for the Braves The Best Baseball Man I was ever around, Just knew Baseball. Humble yes accomplished so many things in game of Baseball, a Writer and yet never sounded his own horn.

Servant yes , what a model for me to watch him leave tix for the nuns of perpetual care, willing to go the extra mile for anyone.

Mentor, I can't begin to name all the things he taught me about Baseball,handling situations, Tireless work Ethic, I got to the Big Leagues because of his countless Hours with me as a player and then as a coach for the Braves, what a Joy to be able to Work beside my Mentor,

Friend,, I am so saddened by the loss of my Friend, a True Friend I asked my sons if they remembered Bobby and they reminded me of something he would say, Bad Thoughts behind Me - Good Thoughts in Front of Me,,

Well Commander only Good Thoughts Now For You
Going to miss you

Your Friend Hubby
Glenn Hubbard

Glenn Hubbard - December 30, 2015 at 04:00 PM

MS

“ I worked for the Atl. Braves from 2001-2012 and Bobby was one of the kindest, most wonderful people I ever had the chance to know in my time there. I'll never forget how Bobby would leave group tickets (A LOT OF THEM) in wheelchair accessible seating for the caretaker nuns and patients from the hospice behind Turner Field (Our Lady of Perpetual Help). In his later years with the team, when he could, he would even go visit and sit with the nuns and patients during games. He must have left them HUNDREDS and hundreds of tickets over the years. I once had the honor of coming to speak to one of Bobby's writing classes in Edison, to talk about careers in sports "off the field" and I loved seeing Bobby in that element, with his students. I was so happy to see him as an adoring grandfather in recent years, via Facebook posts and photos he shared. I send my deepest condolences to his wife and daughter and entire family. I will never forget how kind and wonderful Bobby was to me and so many others who knew him through the Braves organization! Very Sincerely, Meagan Swingle

Meagan Swingle - December 29, 2015 at 09:35 PM

JJ

“ Mr. Bobby Was a Good man,I met him when I started as a police Officer In Edison Ga. in 1998.Mr.Bobby Met my two young son's Brandon and Dustin,when I left Edison in 2008 he still would always ask how my two boys were doing. Mr. Bobby also made it possible when I went with the Calhoun County School Special Ed Class to watch the Braves Play that we were greeted and the kids each received a baseball.Thanks Mr. Bobby and May you R.I.P.

Jimmy Jackson

Jimmy Jackson - December 29, 2015 at 08:47 PM

ER

“ TO THE FAMILY OF COACH DEWS, 1973 TO 1976 HE WAS PART OF MY LIFE AT CCHS! HE WILL BE TRULY MISSED! HEAVEN GAINED AN ANGEL! TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

Emma Jean Harris Roddy - December 29, 2015 at 08:07 PM

HA

“ A college fraternity brother and friend, Bobby became a welcomed correspondent with me in our older years as we discussed poetry, books, fly-fishing, and baseball. In addition to a stellar baseball career, Bobby was a published poet, a Shakespearean scholar, and an accomplished writer, publishing four books along the way. When I hear the term “Renaissance Man,” I immediately think of Bobby, and I will always think of him as one of a kind...an extraordinary athlete, coach, teacher, and gifted writer... an artist in every sense of the word, but there are no words to express how much we will miss him. Rest in peace, Brother.

Henry Arnold - December 29, 2015 at 05:13 PM

WT

“ I feel so lucky to have had the opportunity to get to know Mr. BOBBY while teaching at Andrew College. We often discussed leadership & writing. He knew a lot about both but he was a living example to me of what a servant leader is. I will always remember our times and the leadership qualities he practiced.
Wanda Torbert

wanda torbert - December 28, 2015 at 10:33 PM

CS

“ To the family of Bobby Dews sorry for your loss ! Bobby Dews will be greatly missed at Bishop Cleaners and Laundry , we all thought highly of Bobby Dews ! I am so glad that I had the opportunity to meet him ! I will forever cherish his signed book " Legends Demons Dreams " that he gave to me in December 2014 ! Prayers to the family ! God , please give this family the strength to carry on ! Til we meet again ! RIP ANGEL COACH BOBBY DEWS !

Diane Shores

*Bishop Cleaners and Laundry
12 / 28 / 2015*

Cynthia Diane Shores - December 28, 2015 at 06:31 PM

PF

“ Bobby managed the Modesto Reds, California League, (St. Louis Cards) in the early '70's. His old friend, Bobby Cox, was a pretty fiery Manager (holds the record for being tossed out of more MLB games). But, take it from an old umpire, Cox takes a back seat to Bobby Dews for bringing fire and brimstone down on umpires!!!.....we'll miss BD's personality.

paul frank - December 28, 2015 at 05:19 PM

HF

“ Glenda, Dana and Family: We are so sorry to hear of Boby's passing. He truly was such a wonderful person and a friend to everyone who ever met him. We are praying for each of you for God's amazing daily grace to keep you. And we are thanking the Lord for all the lives that Bobby touched along the way. God bless you. Dr Hal and Judy Fulmer and Jonah; Riney and Lynnell Fulmer; Dr John and Kathy Beasley and Katie; and Karen and Josh Kimsey

Hal Fulmer - December 28, 2015 at 05:16 PM

GS

“ So much could be said about Bobby. He was such a special person to so many people and touch many lives by the way he lived. He was a caring and loving friend, always concerned about others. The Stanfill family was blessed to have him part of our life, and he will certainly be missed my many. Sending our deepest heartfelt sympathy to Glenda, Dana and the entire family along with our thoughts, many prayers, and much love. Praying God will give you comfort, strength and courage as you face one day at a time.
Gail and Bill Stanfill

Gail Stanfill - December 27, 2015 at 01:54 PM

PB

My deepest sympathy goes out to all of the family. Bobby was a great friend and baseball associate to my late husband, Jim Beauchamp. All who knew Bobby loved and admired him. He was a great man.

Pam Beauchamp - December 27, 2015 at 08:37 PM

CB

Bobby was my Assistant Basketball Coach at West Georgia 1968-1970. I would visit with him when he came to Florida with the Braves during Spring Training. We spent many nights traveling in a car with no air conditioning, to small rural Georgia towns watching bad basketball players! I played Basketball 1956-58 in Ft. Gordon Ga. Bobby's Daddy was the Baseball Coach at Ft. Gordon. I was FORTUNATE to know them BOTH. GOD BLESS HIS FAMILY. I LOVED HIM. Thank God for giving me the opportunity to spend two years of my life with such a fine gentleman.

Coach Jan Bennett - December 28, 2015 at 06:41 AM

CC

*To Glenda and Dana, we were certainly saddened by the death of our friend, Bobby. I played against Bobby in high school, with him in American Legion baseball, hunted and fished with him. He was a great friend to me and I am so thankful that he included me in his circle of friends. He was a great guy. He cared about people and did so much for people that most of us don't even know about. We will be remembering you and your family in prayer during this special time.
With love, Chuck & Kay Cowart*

Chuck & Kay Cowart - December 28, 2015 at 08:23 AM

SC

Such sad news. I have been very fortunate to have worked with Bobby (and Glenda) for the last twelve years. Even though it was usually tax season, I always looked forward to Bobby coming in as I knew we would spend some time just chatting about life. He always had the best stories. Such a dear, sweet man. I will miss him as will countless others whose lives Bobby touched. My thoughts and prayers will be with Glenda and the rest of Bobby's family. Sincerely, Sandi Cannon

Sandi Cannon - December 28, 2015 at 09:30 AM

RS

*I was so saddened to hear this news today. Bobby was such a sweet man. He will greatly be missed! He would tell me stories of him and my dad (Merritt Ranew) playing ball together and we would just share in some great laughs and memories. He came to dad's funeral 4 years ago. I know that daddy is having one heck of a reunion with a great friend. See you on heavens great diamond one day. Prayers for his wife and family! God bless you and comfort you in this time.
Sincerely,
Rebecca (Ranew) Sheltra*

Rebecca (Ranew) Sheltra - December 28, 2015 at 11:05 AM

TA

Prayers and thoughts for the family. Bobby was a superior competitor in high school sports and a respected team mate during our American Legion baseball years. A great guy leaving a worthy legacy.

Tony Adams - December 28, 2015 at 02:24 PM

RM

I enjoyed getting to know Bobby in a special way over the last 2 years playing tennis at DCC on Sundays, in fact we played just a few months ago. I would ask baseball questions, mostly about the Braves, and he would always share his insight. I recall he was talking about a book the last time we played. I first got to know Bobby several years ago when my brother, dad and I hunted with him on the farm in Edison, shooting quail and talking baseball! Glenda and Dana, our thoughts and prayers are with you. Robert and Marianne Moss and family.

Robert Moss - December 28, 2015 at 07:06 PM

PE

My prayers and thoughts to Glenda, Dana and Family on the passing of my Very Good Friend and Mentor Bobby Dewes. Bobby will always be very special to me. He believed in me early on in my Baseball Executive career and continued to mentor me to where I am now. I learned so much from him about Baseball and life and we always had a great time together. I will continue to hold the things he taught me close to my heart as I cherished the friendship that we shared. Bobby was such a wonderful person and I as well as many others were blessed to have him in our lives!

*Paul Egins/Colorado Rockies
Columbus, GA*

Paul Egins - December 29, 2015 at 11:37 AM

DP

Randy and I send our deepest sympathy, thoughts, prayers and love to the family of Bobby! The last time I saw him was at my father's funeral (Calvin Harpe). He was a great friend to daddy and they had a mutual respect for each other. He will be missed by lots of folks, not only in Edison, but around the state.

donna harpe powers - December 29, 2015 at 11:36 PM

CJ

My mom (Bobbie Buffi) and myself send our deepest sympathies for your loss. The last time I saw him was here at St. Joes and he had a smile on his face and said it was good to see someone from Albany so far away from home. Our prayers are with you Glenda and family.

Charesse James - December 30, 2015 at 04:05 AM



Bobby was an inspiration in so many ways. Enjoyed our conversations regarding life and writing. R. I. P. Cappy

Tom Seegmueller - December 30, 2015 at 02:54 PM

CF

My dearest Glenda and Family, I was so sorry to hear about Bobby. What an important part he played in our lives. I still see him as a young boy sitting in our living room watching ball games with Dub. How Dub loved him. He always counted it his claim to fame for having coached him in high school. I appreciated it so much for Bobby to have taken the trophies , etc. they won when Dub was coaching in Edison for the Museum. Truly my love, thoughts, and prayers are with you and your family. Carleen Flowers

Carleen Flowers - December 31, 2015 at 11:44 AM