

The Life Celebration
Of
Robert "Bob" Rafos
July 6, 1935 - March 9, 2018

Beloved

Husband

Father

Brother

Grandfather

Great-Grandfather

Colleague

Friend

Order of Service

- Lighting of the Chalice.....Sandra Rafos, Wife of Bob
- Welcome.....Reverend Wayne Walder
- Song: *You Raise Me Up*.....Spirit Choir
- A Tribute to Grandpa..... Eric Sirmine, Grandson
- A Tribute to Brother..... Marjorie Rafos, Sister
- About a Memorial Service..... Reverend Wayne Walder
- Song: *Amazing Grace*Group, Led by the Spirit Choir
- A Tribute to DadSharon Rafos, Daughter
- A Tribute to DadKim Sirmine, Daughter
- A Tribute to Dad.....Robin Roy, Daughter
- Song: *Blue Boat Home*Group, Led by the Spirit Choir
- Celebrating a Life.....Reverend Wayne Walder
- A Tribute to a Friend and Colleague.....Martha Laird,
Institute of Cultural Affairs
- A Tribute to Friend and Colleague.....David Patterson,
Northwater Capital
- Farewell RitualPlacing of Stones

Bob's family invites everyone
to join us in a post service
celebration.

This celebration is a tribute of
thanks to all of you that have
participated in his life journey.

He would like us all to
join together in

Feasting

Toasting

Laughter

Storytelling

Music

and

Dancing

Thank you Everyone!

I've had a wonderful life!

Bob



The Road Less Traveled

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

~ Robert Frost



Jim Troxel <jtroxel49@gmail.com>

Robert's Memorial Celebration

1 message

Sharon Rafos <srafos@gmail.com>

Fri, Apr 20, 2018 at 12:40 PM

To: Marge Rafos <raufoss@sbcglobal.net>, Shirley Hope <shope1@sympatico.ca>, Sharon Rafos <srafos@gmail.com>, Joan Knutson <jfknutson@aol.com>, Clare Bonnell <ctmbonell@yahoo.ca>, Kirby Chown <kchown@rogers.com>, "Ann St. John" <astjohn@stjohnjobs.com>, Eric Serrine <Eric.Serrine@wisconsin.gov>, Geri Tolman <gdtolman@comcast.net>, Susan Crofts <susancrofts@yahoo.ca>, Heather Broughton <hbroughton@cheerful.com>, Bernard Yeung <TimeShifter2013@gmail.com>, Louise Plusquellec <louise.plusquellec@gmail.com>, Miriam Patterson <pattersonmiriam@hotmail.com>, Susan Binks <smaybinks@gmail.com>, Jeanette Stanfield <jstanfield@ica-associates.ca>, Dan Mills <dmills@northwatercapital.com>, Kerry Hayes <khayes@interlog.com>, Fred Maycock <fredjmaycock@gmail.com>, Duncan Holmes <dholmes@ica-associates.ca>, Laura Thomas <laura_landeen_thomas@hotmail.com>, Robin Roy <robrafosroy@gmail.com>, Stan Gibson <stangibson@ecologos.ca>, Michelle Lalonde <mlalonde33@gmail.com>, Kaze Gadway <kazegad@aol.com>, BRAD WALKER <bradwalker.email@gmail.com>, Lois Smith <lois.smith@cibc.ca>, Kim Serrine <kserrine@gmail.com>, Rex Vaughn <Rex7136@aol.com>, JIM TROXEL <jtroxel49@gmail.com>, Mike Armstrong <mikearmstrong@vision-management.ca>, Gwenne Becker <gbecker1932@gmail.com>, Ike Powell <ikpwll@aol.com>, Ronnie Seagren <ronnie.seagren@gmail.com>, Alex Chua <woodmountainwater@yahoo.com>, Peter MARMOREK <marmorek@mac.com>, Mohamed Khaki <mkhaki@sympatico.ca>, Janine Lewis <janinelewis10@gmail.com>, Wayne Walder <minister@nuuc.ca>, Jim Patterson <jkpatterson01@gmail.com>, LAUREN RENZETTI <president@nuuc.ca>, Peter Papadogianis <ppnd@outlook.com>, Doug Serrine <dosirrin@mtu.edu>, John Patterson <jpatterson@abbeynorth.ca>, MaryWarren Moffett <marywmoffett@comcast.net>, Terry Bergdall <bergdall@gmail.com>, David Patterson <dpatterson@northwatercapital.com>, Ian Robertson <oatsav@interlog.com>, Margot Young <margot.young@sympatico.ca>, Priscilla Wilson <Pris@teamtechpress.com>, Derek Strachan <dstrachan99@gmail.com>, NANCY LANPHEAR <nancy@songaia.com>, JOY DAVEY <joy.davey@gmail.com>, Laird <marthalaidd@icloud.com>, Rachel Holmes <sherluck@hotmail.com>, RUTH ARMSTRONG <rutharmstrong@vision-management.ca>, Gordon Thorne <gordon.thorne2@gmail.com>, Moira MacDonald <moiramacdonald@rogers.com>, Ben Fulgum <ben.fulgum@rogers.com>

Dear Friends of Robert,

My sisters and I are looking forward to sharing our Father's Memorial Celebration with those of you who are able to make it next Friday, April 27th. We wanted to let you know that this is a two part event and we are encouraging you to stay and participate in both parts if you are able.

We will begin the afternoon/evening at 4:00 PM with a Memorial Service led by Wayne Walder, Dad's friend and the pastor of the Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation where Mom and Dad attended. If you can't make the Service portion, please feel free to join us for the Celebration part which will start about 5:30.

After the Service, we will transition the space for part two of the evening to the Celebration Event that Dad wanted his daughters to host for his family, friends, neighbors, congregation and coworkers. Dad wished this to be a "tribute and thank you for all the people that have been in his life". We have asked Duncan Holmes, a long time friend, to help host informal story telling, laughs and Bob toasting time. Following that, we will relax into an evening of music, visiting and dancing. Dad requested good and ample food, beer and wine and we wanted to make sure that you know that we are counting on all of you to bring your appetites and join in the festivities. Dad loved a good party, so please help us let him throw this one last shindig for you.

Dad's Celebration will be held on Friday, April 27th at 4:00 p.m. at the Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation. The address there is [79 Hiawatha Rd, Toronto, Ontario](#). There is limited parking so we encourage you to Uber, cab or take public transportation if possible.

We look forward to celebrating Dad's completed life with you.

In gratitude,

Kim, Sharon and Robin

Cell Phone for Sharon - 231-340-0634

Cell Phone for Robin - 906- 458-4710



Jim Troxel <jtroxel49@gmail.com>

Fwd: [Oe List ...] Memorial Celebration for Robert Rafos

1 message

Karen Snyder <karen.snyder10@gmail.com>
To: Jim Troxel <jtroxel49@gmail.com>

Thu, Apr 12, 2018 at 6:45 AM

You may have seen this -

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sharon Rafos via OE <oe@lists.wedgeblade.net>
Subject: [Oe List ...] Memorial Celebration for Robert Rafos
Date: March 28, 2018 at 1:52:57 PM CDT
To: Order Ecumenical Community <oe@lists.wedgeblade.net>
Cc: Sharon Rafos <srafos@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Order Ecumenical Community <oe@lists.wedgeblade.net>

Dear Friends of Robert,

My sisters and I are planning our Father's Memorial Celebration and are trying to get a feel for the number of people that will be coming from out of town. If you're planning on attending, and haven't already been in touch with one of us, can you send me an email or give me a phone call to let me know.

Dad's Celebration will be held on Friday, April 27th at 4:00 p.m. at the Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation. The address there is [79 Hiawatha Rd, Toronto, Ontario](#).

The celebration will be in true Robert fashion. In his words "I want this to be a tribute and thank you for all the people that have been in my life. If possible I would like to have a celebration of my completed life organized at our Neighborhood Congregation. Invite the Congregation, my neighbors, all my ICA friends, my extended Northwater Capital family, my brokers, men's group and Sandra's women friends. I would like it be catered, with good and ample food: like oysters, shrimp, sliders, canapes, cheeses, sliced beef, etc. Wine and beer, music, and jokes and stories over a life well lived and in appreciation for each other for helping me on my journey."

If possible, please join us in celebrating our Father's beautiful life. We would love to see you and share in your stories.

I apologize if you've received this in duplication...as I'm sending this out to both the OE and Dialogue lists.

In love and kindness,

Sharon
on behalf of Kim, Robin and Sandra

Sharon's Cell - [231-340-0634](tel:231-340-0634)

srafos@gmail.com (Sharon)
robrafosroy@gmail.com
ksirriner@gmail.com

ICA Colleagues I met at Bob Rafos' Memorial Service
And with whom I have brief conversations with
April 27, 2018

Sharon Rafos and her partner Helen, professor of Music at North Park College

John Patterson, and his daughter Miriam

David and Anne Patterson

Martha Laird, former staff and board member who represented ICA in the service, Atlanta

Stan Gibson and his wife, Miriam, and their daughter Shara

Kay Hayes, Albuquerque

Duncan Holmes, MC of the post-service celebration, and his daughter, Rachel Holmes, Dir. of
Sustainability, City of Toronto

Ronnie Seagran

Terry Bergdall

Joan Knutson

Jeanette Stanfield

Jo Nelson

Suzanne Jackson, Chair, ICA Canada Board – said we'd do a board member exchange

Michael May, Bloomington, IN- I told him we would like to visit the Bloomington colleague net and he
said he'd set it up

Jan Sanders and Dick Sims

John Miller

Reflections on Robert

I was shocked to realize a few months ago that I had met Robert almost 50 years ago when he and his family and I became involved with the Institute of Cultural Affairs (known as the ICA) in Cleveland, OH. So, I will be telling you of the Bob I know through the ICA.

I.

Robert always brought a calm, steady thoughtful presence to any situation. He basically saw that it was possible to solve any challenge and he would go about doing exactly that. One example of this was when he was in Kenya. When he arrived in Kenya, he found that the ICA was in need of its first financial audit in order to keep getting international funding for its village development work. So, he set about figuring out how to get the books in shape for the audit. The audit was successful and the systems were put in place for the future.

Now all this may seem relatively easy BUT:

1. money was being spent in Nairobi and in 10-15 small villages throughout the countryside
2. records were being kept by local staff probably on bits of paper
3. there was nothing even resembling a computer

And he did it!

II.

Sometimes meeting a challenge took him having the determination and courage to truly risk action. This quality can be seen when an international staff member was gravely ill and in a coma in Kenya. Over the protests of the doctors in the Nairobi Hospital, Robert got her transferred to a much superior medical facility and then to the states and basically saved her life.

III.

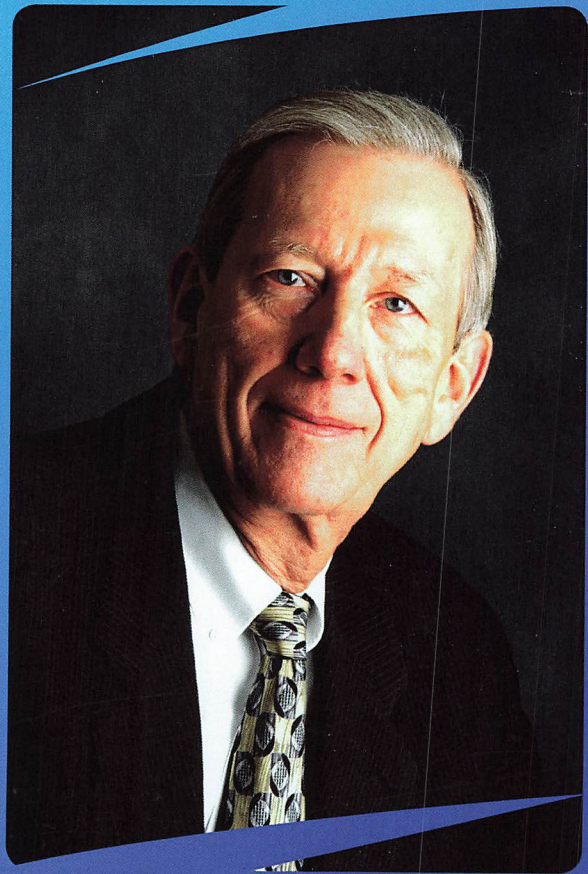
Robert was in touch with his own vulnerability, compassion and humanity which allowed him to truly see the gifts of others and nurture those gifts.

1. He took a 'quirky' bunch of folks (which I can say because I was one of them) and helped us become an effective team caring for and maintaining an old 8 story barely renovated insurance building that was the international headquarters of the ICA.
2. He could authentically connect with:
 - wealthy US donors
 - local village leaders in Kenya
 - high school and college student children of ICA staff
 - to mention only a few

It was a true honor, privilege and joy to have worked with, been a friend of and to have just been in this world with Robert Rafos.



Bob's
10 Pillars



Bob Rafos

July 6, 1935 – March 9, 2018

Was one of the founding partners at
Northwater Capital Management Inc.

In June of 1994, he laid out the
underpinnings of the firm in a
presentation to staff and friends at a
company retreat at Minaki Lodge in
Northern Ontario.

This is a summary of that presentation.



1

LET IT UNFOLD

Allow intuition to play a role in developing the direction and decisions of the organization. This means trusting your judgment and life experience as well as rational thinking and information.

2 HIRE GOOD PEOPLE

Our greatest asset is our people. “Good” is not an allusion to morality, but rather describes people who exhibit creativity, responsibility, clear thinking, and independence.

3 ESTABLISH THE FIRM'S PHILOSOPHY AND ETHIC

This has to do with the fundamental beliefs of how to treat clients, employees, shareholders and suppliers. It is about the image and operating mode that we intend to project.

4 FOSTER TEAMWORK

This stems from the belief that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. There is no star system, but a team effort focused on maximizing the whole.

5 INTENTIONAL DESIGN OF CORPORATE SPACE

Space can care for people. It can create an atmosphere that is inviting instead of discouraging. Consciously reflecting on the messages that the space communicates is important.

6 FOLLOW YOUR BLISS

Enable people to follow their “heart’s desire”. This means paying attention to yourself and others about what you and they really want. Encourage people “to go for it”, both within and outside of the organization.

7 BUILD PARTNERSHIPS WITH CLIENTS AND SUPPLIERS

This is the understanding that we intend to create win-win situations for everyone – that all are on a larger team for mutual benefit. This facilitates trust and fairness among all parties.

8 BE CONFIDENT IN YOUR CAPABILITIES

When things are going smoothly, it is easy to be confident. It is when adversity strikes that confidence is tested. It is at these times that the firm's people must be strong in believing that they have the intellect, resources and will to carry on.

9 CELEBRATE AND SIGNIFICATE

Individual and team efforts are frequently recognized and celebrated to honour team members' contributions. Celebration also strengthens our sense of team and community – the heart of our culture.

10 CONTINUALLY INNOVATE THE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Resting on one's laurels is a sure way to fall behind. The world constantly changes, and clients continually seek solutions for existing and emerging problems and ways to address new opportunities.

The logo features a blue gradient background at the top, transitioning to a white background at the bottom. A thick, light blue curved line spans across the middle. Below this, a thin blue arc is positioned above the text. The text 'NORTHWATER' is written in a large, grey, serif font, and 'CAPITAL' is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font below it.

NORTHWATER

CAPITAL