



## Philip Swing Robertson

February 11, 2018

Philip Swing Robertson, of Milton and Falmouth, Massachusetts, passed away suddenly at home on Sunday, February 11, 2018, at the age of 80. He was the loving husband of Anne Newell Robertson for more than 55 years and the proud father of Phil, Jr. (Rachaneekorn), Meg (Sheila), and Nan who pre-deceased him, leaving son-in-law Francis McLean. He was a loving grandfather to Colin McLean, Annie Robertson, Banti and Rutesh Jaswal.

Philip is survived by his siblings, Cynthia S. Robertson (Terrace Park, OH), Michael S. Robertson (Milwaukee, WI), and Elizabeth R. Whitters, (Boston and Falmouth, MA), as well as his beloved nieces and nephews.

The son of Charles Stuart Robertson and Elizabeth Swing Robertson, he was raised in Taunton, graduated from Milton Academy and Harvard University (1960). Phil worked his entire career at Robertson Factories, retiring as Senior Vice President and Treasurer of the company.

Phil took great pleasure in joining with friends and family in competition - sailing with his father and siblings, and later his wife, out of the Falmouth Yacht Club in his earlier years and curling with teams from The Country Club (TCC), in Brookline, for more than fifty years. Phil was a member of the U.S. Men's Curling team that competed in Scotland in 1992, and served as doyen of the TCC Brotherhood with the Royal Montreal Curling Club. Phil was a loyal and dedicated participant in many organizations: a long-term member and former President of Rotary Club of Taunton; current President of the Belvidere Plains Neighborhood Association, in Falmouth, a past Trustee of Milton Academy, an enthusiastic member of the Harvard Class of 1960 and a member of the "Happy Committee" for many years.

He was an accomplished tenor singer and a founding member of the Boston Saengerfest Men's Choir in 1992, which performed throughout New England and overseas. He sang in his final Saengerfest concert, in Wellesley, on the day he passed away.

Phil took much pride in being a “Mr. Fix-it”, taking up tasks large and small to care for the family’s homes, maintaining the gardens and landscaping. He was deeply committed to his extended family and a loyal friend to many. Family and friends remember how much he loved parties, always being one of the last to leave the dance floor and ending many gatherings with song.

A Celebration of the life of Philip S. Robertson will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2018, at 2:00 pm, in the Pilgrim Congregational Church, 45 Broadway, Taunton, MA, with a reception to follow downstairs in the fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, please consider memorial donations to: The 300 Committee Land Trust (157 Locust Street, Falmouth, MA 02540) or ShelterBox ([www.shelterbox.org](http://www.shelterbox.org)).

Arrangements are in the care of Crapo Hathaway Funeral Home, 350 Somerset Avenue, Taunton, MA.

# Events

---

**APR** **Celebration of Life** 02:00PM

**7**

Pilgrim Congregational Church  
45 Broadway, Taunton, MA, US

# Comments

---



“ On behalf of Harvard's Committee for the Happy Observance of Commencement may I offer my sincere condolences to the Robertson family. Phill was a prominent, loyal, and long-time member of the Committee and will be missed directing or confusing at subsequent Commencements. We "Top Hats" were not happy to receive the news.

Warren M. "Renny" Little

Warren M. Little - March 06, 2018 at 01:15 PM

---



“ "Service above self" epitomizes Phil in all respects. He was a wonderful role model for all of us.

Anne - Robin and I send our love and prayers to you and your family.

Tom and Robin

Tom and Robin Jackson - February 20, 2018 at 08:29 AM

---



“ Dear all the Robertson family,

I'm so terribly sorry about this loss. As I told Meg, your family is part of my life's quilt, and all of you helped form me in small important ways, the way a piece of cloth is sewn into a colorful patterned warmth. Phil's way of nodding acknowledgement, the shape of his square shoulders as he walked through the hall in your house one afternoon to go fix something (a lamp, I think it was?) both the mystery of a friend's parents and an intrigue that he knew how to do that kind of thing!, a memory of him in a chair reading and the books all around, the tip of the dapper top hat with a smile as we saw each other at a reunion on Commencement Day, and the warm welcome of your Cape and Milton homes open to me at a formative time. I know words are inadequate, so please know that you are in my heart

with much love,

Gabrielle (Burton)

Gabrielle Burton - February 18, 2018 at 04:41 AM

---



“ Dear Anne, Mike and family ,

On behalf of the Harvard Class of 1960 ... and as a more than appreciative classmate ..., my and my wife Jean's condolences to all of you. No doubt that Phil was "an enthusiastic member of the Harvard Class of 1960"; however, his support -- for example, his sponsorship of Class events, his contributions as a member of the planning committees for all of our reunions, his care filled "keeping" of the Class banner since Rod Hardy's passing, his continuous encouragement of me and the other contributors to the Class -- went way beyond his always present enthusiasm. I and his fellow classmates will dearly miss Phil.

Veritas and Amor. Henry Marcy

Henry Marcy - February 16, 2018 at 12:08 PM

---



“ Dear Anne and family,

My condolences to all on the passing of Phil. I'll always have fond memories of Phil coming to the house and going into the kitchen to see if I baked him his favorite cookies. Anne, you and Phil were always the first to open your home to Rotary GSE team members from all over the world.

Love,

Caryn and Donald

Caryn Smith - February 16, 2018 at 10:53 AM