



Robert (Bob) Furman

October 7, 1930 - January 1, 2023

Robert (Bob) Furman, age 92, of Sarasota, passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 1, 2023. He was born to the late Royal and Maude Furman in Illinois, on October 7, 1930.

Bob was a proud army veteran who served at the Berlin Brigade in Germany. He was a member of the 10th Mountain Division during his active service years. He also played an important role in restoring the U.S. Army postal service which was vital for soldier morale and wellbeing. After returning from overseas, he and his father opened Burger King #12 in 1959. He moved to Chicago to expand the brand. He opened restaurants in Illinois and Florida and was a true pioneer for Burger King. He spent the past 63 years operating his restaurants and became a mentor and invaluable advisor to so many along the way. He maintains the title of longest running Burger King franchisee in company history and was affectionately known as “Burger Bob”. He wholeheartedly enjoyed his life’s work, but truly treasured the lasting friendships it brought him throughout the years more than any achievements.

Bob had called Sarasota his home for the past 46 years. He enjoyed spending time with his friends and family, golfing, cooking, wine collecting, and extensive world travel. He will be remembered for his tireless work ethic, loyalty and passion for business, and his unforgettable sense of humor.

He is preceded in death by his parents and sisters Gwen Huebert, Carolyn Stewart, and Virginia Eickleman.

He is survived by his brother Richard Furman (Melissa); daughters, Kimberly Furman Cox and Jennifer (Todd) Furman Fairly, both of Sarasota; grandchildren, Kassandra Devlin of Sarasota, Jonathan (Alisha) Devlin of Sarasota, Kayla (Miles) Anderson of Sarasota, Alexandria and Zachary Fairly, both of Sarasota; great grandchildren, Royal and Poet of Sarasota and Isla and Owen of Sarasota; and many close friends he considered family.

Family will receive friends on January 16th at 11 am at the Siesta Key Chapel for a funeral service. The address is 4615 Gleason Avenue Siesta Key, FL 34242.

In lieu of flowers, contributions would be appreciated in honor of Robert to The Burger King Foundation.

These can be made at: <https://www.burgerkingfoundation.org/donate>

Previous Events

Family will receive friends

JAN 16. 11:00 AM (ET)

Siesta Key Chapel
4615 Gleason Avenue
Siesta Key, FL 34242

Tribute Wall

MH

“ *What can I say as a tribute to Robert G. Furman. Nothing anyone would say can do Bob justice. I worked for Bob for 25 years, started as a part time receptionist and retired as his executive assistant.*

It is interesting. I had two Bob's in my life. My husband of fifty years went to his heavenly reward in 2020. The second Bob, Mr Furman had a tremendous influence on my life. Both of these men were such great, caring, sensitive, humorous human beings that no one can do them justice by mere words.

My wish for them is that they are encircled in Love in God's heavenly home.

margo hunt - January 14, 2023 at 08:02 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert (Bob) Furman.*



January 13, 2023 at 02:53 PM

MF

“ *It was such a pleasure to work for Mr. Furman. Working for him at Burger King and Woody's BBQ shaped my work ethics. I'm so glad to have gotten to know the family. Thank you Mr. Furman for being who you were in my life.*



Madelia Felder - January 13, 2023 at 06:47 AM

MT

“ Bob was a man of high standards, gracious and kind to those he met and employed. He was a true pioneer of the fast-food industry and always up to the challenge of improving that market. Bob you will be missed. Thank you for your leadership and hospitality. It's been a great ride. What a life

Mark Trush

Mark Trush - January 12, 2023 at 05:46 PM

NV

“ Burger Bob was a client of my former law firm, Kirk Pinkerton, for many years. He and my deceased partner, Bob Carr, spent much time together on the golf course. Maybe they now can get in a quick 18. Always a gentleman Bob was a pleasure to represent. The business world needs more Bob Furmans.

nornan vaughan-birch - January 11, 2023 at 08:40 AM

DG

“ It seems like yesterday we were having lunch at the Bijou and enjoying new friendships. Jane and Bob were constants in my life for over 30 years. I will miss terribly my birthday mate come Oct 7th. Rest in piece my friend. You I'll be missed.

Deborah Gestner

deborah gestner - January 10, 2023 at 09:06 AM

KD

“ A great man. A wonderful Grandfather. He has given us wisdom and strength. What a massive loss. He lived a tremendous life full of adventures and stories. I can hear his laugh now. Such a great sense of humor! He will be greatly missed. Proud to be his granddaughter.

Kassandra Devlin - January 09, 2023 at 07:27 PM

KA

“ *The best Papa! Grateful for his example of leadership, tenacity, and strength. He lived a wonderful life and will be immensely missed.* ”

Kayla Anderson - January 09, 2023 at 06:06 PM